

**Virginia Board of Psychology**  
**Minutes**  
**April 15, 2008**

- TIME AND PLACE:** The meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m. on April 15, 2008, in conference room 1 of the Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia.
- PRESIDING:** Ann Tolbert Benson, Ed.S., Chair
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jeffrey L. Clark, Ph.D.  
Robert S. Falk, Ph.D.  
Mary B. Gregerson, Ph.D.  
Desideria S. Hacker, Ph.D.  
Sonia H. Price, Esq.  
Michael L. Stutts, Ph.D.
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Nadia B. Kuley, Ph.D.  
Lorene Martin
- STAFF PRESENT:** Elaine Yeatts, DHP Senior Policy Analyst  
Evelyn B. Brown, Executive Director  
Howard Casway, Esq. Sr., Assistant Attorney General  
Patricia Larimer, Deputy Executive Director  
Beverly Hutson-Bryan, Administrative Assistant
- OTHERS PRESENT:** Dr. Jennifer Morgan, Chair, Regulatory Affairs Committee, Virginia Academy of Clinical Psychologists
- PUBLIC COMMENT:** Dr. Jennifer Morgan of the Virginia Psychological Association reminded the Board of the VPA conference in Charlottesville, from April 16th-19<sup>th</sup>.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Dr. Gregerson made a motion to approve the January 8, 2008 minutes with corrections noted by Dr. Clark. Dr. Falk seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** Ms. Brown reminded the Board of travel restrictions.

Ms. Brown reported the mandatory suspension of Dr. David Sabatino, School Psychologist-Limited by Director Sandra Ryals in accordance with Section 54.1-2409 of the Code of Virginia as a result of Dr. Sabatino's license suspension by the Tennessee Board of Examiners in Psychology. Dr. Sabatino failed to include information of the suspension on his application when he applied to be licensed as a School Psychologist-Limited in Virginia.

Ms. Brown reported that representatives of the Boards of Counseling, Psychology and Social Work have formed an ad-hoc committee to discuss "distance therapy". Their first meeting will be on May 2, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### **Regulatory Committee: Michael Stutts, Ph.D.**

Dr. Stutts reported that proposed regulations for Certified Sex Offender Treatment Providers were discussed by the Regulatory Committee on February 29, 2008. The Committee approved the CSOTP amendments to allow previous supervised experience obtained for another mental health license to count towards supervised experience for the Sex Offender Treatment Provider certification, if the experience involved treating sex offenders. The Committee also approved proposed continuing education requirements for the CSOTP's.

The Board reviewed several comments in support of Dr. Michel Kohn's Petition for Rulemaking in which he proposed that the Board's regulations be amended to require at least twelve months of continuous physical presence for students in a degree-granting institution. A motion was made by Dr. Stutts and properly seconded to formally decline to initiate rulemaking but to refer his request to the Regulatory Committee for continued consideration. The motion carried.

Dr. Stutts reported that the Regulatory Committee discussed the issues relating to pre-doctoral practica experience versus post-doctoral supervision required for licensure and noted that members and staff were assigned research topics to report on at the Regulatory Meeting on May 21, 2008.

**Credentials Committee: Jeffrey Clark, Ph.D.**

Dr. Clark reported that an Informal Conference was held on March 25, 2008, at the request of applicant Brent Peterson. Dr. Clark recommended that Brent Peterson's application for licensure as an applied psychologist be denied. Dr. Hacker seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**Discipline Committee: Ann Benson, Ed.S.**

Ms. Benson provided the following discipline update:

1 informal conference has been held since the last Board meeting.

12 complaints are in investigation (not at Board level).

14 cases are at Board level (under review for probable cause).

3 Informal Fact of Finding conferences are to be scheduled.

1 Case has been sent to Administrative Proceedings Division for a Notice of Informal Conference to be prepared.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The Board discussed the feasibility of requiring

Criminal history background checks for all new applicants. A motion was made by Ms. Benson to table the discussion. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hacker. The motion passed with one opposing vote from Dr. Gregerson.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Distance Therapy Meeting: May 2, 2008.  
Regulatory Committee Meeting: May 21, 2008.  
Board Meeting: July 8, 2008.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

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Ann Tolbert Benson, Chair  
Board of Psychology

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Evelyn B. Brown  
Executive Director  
Board of Psychology



