



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
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Board of Allied Mental Health and Human Services Professions
Public Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2023

Board Members Present:

William Ahearn, Acting Chair
Cynthia Belhumeur, Public Member
Frank Gomez, Member (arrived at 10:20 a.m., left the meeting at 1:00 p.m.)
Amy Vercillo, Member (left the meeting at 11:15 a.m., returned at 11:36 a.m.)
Jennifer Paine, Member (left the meeting at 11:15 a.m., returned at 11:36 a.m., left the meeting at 12:35 p.m., returned at 12:49 p.m.)
Kristen Woodbury, Member
Ashley Williams, Member (left the meeting at 12:47 p.m.)

Staff Members Present:

Brian Bialas, Executive Director
Marine Jardonnet, Board Counsel
Lauren McShane, Investigator Supervisor
Doris Lugo, Investigator
Ellen D'Agostino, Investigator

All board members and staff appeared by videoconference.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m.

Roll Call for Attendance

Mr. Bialas called the roll of board members. William Ahearn, Cynthia Belhumeur, Frank Gomez, Amy Vercillo, Jennifer Paine, Kristen Woodbury, and Ashley Williams all present by videoconference.

Board Business

- **Public Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2023:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Belhumeur, seconded by Ms. Paine, to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2023 as drafted. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.
- **Executive Session Minutes of November 17, 2023:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Paine, seconded by Ms. Belhumeur, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of November 17, 2023 as drafted. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.
- **Ratification of Decisions by Board Staff to Approve Applications:** The Board considered whether to approve the decisions made by staff on applications processed since the last meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Paine, seconded by Ms. Woodbury, to approve the decisions made by staff on applications processed since the last Board meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.
- **Application Processing Under Application Review Policy:** Mr. Bialas presented application review data and stated that application reviews have been going well in the new eLX system.

Hearings on Denials of Application

- **Peyton Grant, Applicant for LMHC:** Mr. Grant appeared for the continuation of the hearing on the denial of his application. Mr. Grant stated that he completed a practicum and internship, but they were not part of his master's degree program.

Mr. Gomez arrived at 10:20 a.m.

Board members explained that those work experiences were employment and not part of a curriculum which would include specific supervision and coursework tied to the work experience overseen by the university.

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Woodbury, seconded by Ms. Paine, to deny Mr. Grant's application because he did not complete a pre-master's degree practicum under 262 CMR 2.04(3)(c) and internship under 262 CMR 2.04(3)(d). The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

- **Samantha Reis, Applicant for LMHC:** Ms. Reis appeared for the continuation of the hearing on the denial of her application. Ms. Reis provided documentation that the two-credit psychopathology course she completed is nearly identical to the three-credit course currently offered at her university.

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Woodbury, seconded by Ms. Paine, to allow Ms. Reis to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

LMHC Application Reviews

- **Olivia Duball:** The Board reviewed Ms. Duball's application. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to ask Ms. Duball for the syllabus from the "GCNE 673: Diag & Trtmt Plan Prof Couns" course she completed.
- **Yesenia Garcia Velez:** The Board reviewed Ms. Velez's application. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Woodbury, seconded by Ms. Paine, to deny Ms. Velez's application because she did not complete an internship under 262 CMR 2.04(3)(d). The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

LMFT Application Reviews

- **Shannon Pickett:** The Board reviewed Ms. Pickett's application. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to ask Ms. Pickett to obtain a signed pre-master's degree experience and education form from her university or explain why the university will not complete it.
- **Mark David Roseman:** The Board reviewed Dr. Roseman's application. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to ask Dr. Roseman to obtain a signed pre-master's degree experience and education form from his university or explain why the university will not complete it.

NCMHCE ESL Accommodation Request

- **Debora Barbosa:** The Board reviewed Ms. Barbosa request. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Paine, seconded by Mr. Gomez, to allow Ms. Barbosa 50% extra time and the use of a word-for-word translation dictionary. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Monitoring

- **Kathleen Brennan, 2021-000311-IT-ENF, Approval of Proposed Supervisor:** The Board reviewed Ms. Brennan's proposal that Dr. Laura Delaplain be approved as her supervisor for her consent agreement. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Paine, seconded by Ms. Woodbury, to approve Dr. Delaplain. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting

Midge Williams and Jami Osborne from the Massachusetts Mental Health Counselors Association offered suggestions to help licensees renew their licenses in the new licensing system and encouraged the Board to appoint a delegate to the American Association of State Counseling Boards conferences.

Executive Session (CLOSED under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 4, § 7, ¶ 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, § 1B; specifically, the Board will discuss and evaluate examination accommodation requests that involve medical records and information of patients.)

At 11:15 a.m., a MOTION was made by Mr. Gomez, seconded by Dr. Williams, to exit the public meeting and (1) enter into a closed executive session under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 4, § 7, ¶ 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, § 1B, to discuss and evaluate examination accommodation requests that involve medical records and information of patients; then (2) enter into investigative conference under G.L. c. 112, § 65C to conduct a case interview and review new cases; and then, after the conclusion of investigative conference, (3) not return to the public meeting and adjourn. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Board maintains separate minutes of executive session.

Dr. Vercillo and Ms. Paine left the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Dr. Vercillo and Ms. Paine returned to the meeting at 11:36 a.m.

Investigative Conference (Closed Session under G.L. c. 112, § 65C)

The Board entered investigative conference at 11:38 a.m.

During the investigative conference, the Board took the following actions:

Case

AMH-2023-0009 (SP):	Refer to office of prosecutions
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Case Interview

AMH-2023-0002 (JW):	Interviewed complainant; invite respondent to a meeting for an interview
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Cases

INV7357 (JW):	Dismiss
FAMH-2023-0001 (SM):	Invite respondent to a meeting for an interview

Ms. Paine left the meeting at 12:35 p.m.

AMH-2023-0011 (GC):	Dismiss
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FAMH-2023-0004 (TH):

Refer to office of
prosecutions
Invite respondent to a
meeting for an interview

AMH-2023-0022 (SP):

Dr. Williams left the meeting at 12:47 p.m.

AMH-2023-0010 (NL):

Refer to office of
prosecutions

Ms. Paine returned to the meeting at 12:49 p.m.

FAMH-2023-0003 (LP):

Dismiss; open complaint for
continuing education
violation

AMH-2023-0008 (ES):

Dismiss with advisory letter;
open complaint for
continuing education
violation

Mr. Gomez left the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

AMH-2023-0035 (ES):

Dismiss

Adjournment

At 1:10 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Belhumeur, seconded by Ms. Paine, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

The above minutes were approved at the public meeting held on January 19, 2024.



Brian Bialas, Executive Director

List of Documents Used by the Board at the Public Meeting:

- Agenda for Meeting of December 15, 2023
- Public Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2023
- Executive Session Minutes of November 17, 2023
- Applications Reviewed Under Application Review Policy: January 1, 2023 through December 14, 2023 and November 1, 2023 through November 30, 2023

- Documents from LMHC Application of Peyton Grant
- Documents from LMHC Application of Samantha Reis
- Documents from LMHC Application of Olivia Duball
- Documents from LMHC Application of Yesenia Garcia Velez
- Documents from LMFT Application of Shannon Pickett
- Documents from LMFT Application of Mark David Roseman
- NCMHCE ESL Accommodation Request of Debora Barbosa
- Kathleen Brennan, 2021-000311-IT-ENF, Documents re: Submission of Proposed Supervisor