



CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

MIKE KENNEALY
SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Occupational Licensure
Board of Registration of Allied Mental Health
and Human Services Professions

1000 Washington Street, Suite 710
Boston, Massachusetts 02118

EDWARD A. PALLESCHI
UNDERSECRETARY OF CONSUMER
AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS
REGULATION

LAYLA R. D'EMILIA
COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF
OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

Public Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2022

Board Members Present:

Bill Ahearn, Acting Chair (left meeting at 1:15 p.m.)
Cynthia Belhumeur, Public Member
Amy Vercillo, Member
Frank Gomez, Member (left meeting at 1:00 p.m.)
Susan Egan, Member (left meeting at 11:00 a.m.)
Ashley Williams, Member (arrived at 10:37 a.m.)
Kristen Woodbury, Member
Jacqueline Gagliardi, Member
Jennifer Paine, Member (arrived at 10:36 a.m.)

Staff Members Present:

Brian Bialas, Executive Director
Lynn Read, Board Counsel
Doris Lugo, Investigator

All board members and staff appeared by videoconference.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m.

Board Business

- **Public Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2021:** After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Gagliardi, seconded by Ms. Woodbury, to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2021 as drafted. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.
- **Executive Session Minutes of November 19, 2021:** After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Mr. Gomez, seconded by Ms. Woodbury, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of November 19, 2021 as drafted. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.
- **Public Meeting Minutes of December 17, 2021:** After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Woodbury, seconded by Ms. Gagliardi, to approve the Public Meeting



Minutes of December 17, 2021 as drafted. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

- **Executive Session Minutes of December 17, 2021:** After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Dr. Vercillo, seconded by Ms. Gagliardi, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of December 17, 2021 as drafted. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.
- **Adjudicatory Hearings:** Mr. Bialas reported on the scheduling of an adjudicatory hearing in 2020-000446-IT-ENF (CC) for April 26-28, 2022.
- **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. Woodbury, seconded by Mr. Gomez, 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 reported on the 2021 to date and January data concerning applications reviewed under the Board's Application Review Policy. Dr. Ahearn stated that the Board should keep in mind when considering whether additional staffing is needed that, with the increase in applications during 2021, the overall number of licensees who were renewing in 2021 increased as well.

Monitoring Interview

- **Laura Schroeder, 2019-000864-IT-ENF, Petition to Terminate Stayed Suspension**
 - **Interview of Supervisor Aimee Rozum:** Ms. Rozum appeared to discuss her supervision of Ms. Schroeder. Ms. Rozum explained that Ms. Schroeder better understands the boundary violation that caused her discipline and the implications of working in a small community like Martha's Vineyard. She does not believe Ms. Schroeder will have problems like this in the future because, after reviewing all of Ms. Schroeder's cases over past year with her, she has seen Ms. Schroeder decline new cases because of potential boundary issues.

After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Gagliardi, seconded by Ms. Woodbury, to accept Ms. Schroeder's petition to terminate stayed suspension. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Application Reviews

Ms. Paine arrived at 10:36 a.m.

Dr. Williams arrived at 10:37 a.m.

- **Nancy Staelens, LMHC Applicant:** The Board reviewed Ms. Staelens' application. After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Woodbury, seconded by Mr. Gomez, to deny Ms. Staelens' application under 262 CMR 2.04(1) and (2) because her

master's degree and certificate of advanced graduate studies programs only total 58 credits. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

- **Elana Schechtman-Gil, LMFT Applicant:** The Board reviewed Ms. Schechtman-Gil's application. After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Paine, seconded by Ms. Belhumeur, to deny Ms. Schechtman-Gil's application under 262 CMR 3.03(2)(a)(2) because her master's degree program only totals 50 credits. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Monitoring Reports

- **Charlene Kelly, 2020-000430-IT-ENF, Petition to Terminate Suspension:** The Board reviewed Ms. Kelly's petition to terminate suspension, including her proposed supervisor for probation, Laura O'Meara. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to ask Ms. Kelly and Ms. O'Meara the following questions:
 - Whether Ms. O'Meara is being employed by Catholic Charities to supervise Ms. Kelly? What does Ms. O'Meara do for Catholic Charities?
 - Where is Ms. Kelly working or planning to work under Ms. O'Meara's supervision? At Catholic Charities?
- **Maxine Orocofsky, 2019-001041-IT-ENF, 3rd Quarterly Monitoring Report:** The Board reviewed Ms. Orocofsky's report. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to invite Ms. Orocofsky and her supervisor to a meeting for an interview. The Board took no action on the report.

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

Midge Williams from MaMHCA asked whether the Board will be conducting a continuing education audit this year. Mr. Bialas explained that the Board may conduct an audit, and that he will tell Ms. Williams if the Board does.

Ms. Williams also asked for an update on the process for approving the revised LMHC and LMFT regulations. Ms. Read stated that she will ask for one.

Dr. Egan left the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Executive Session (Closed 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 review sensitive medical information)

At 11:00 a.m., a MOTION was made by Ms. Paine, seconded by Dr. Williams, to exit the public meeting and 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 review sensitive medical information in NCMHCE accommodation requests and CE extension requests, then enter into investigative conference under G.L. c. 112 § 65C to conduct a case interview, review settlement offers, and review cases before issuance of an order to show cause, and then, after the conclusion of the

investigative conference, not return to the public meeting and adjourn. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

See separate minutes of Executive Session.

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

The Board entered investigative conference at 11:32 a.m.

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

Case Interview

2021-000533-IT-ENF (CS):	Interviewed respondent; refer to Office of Prosecutions
--------------------------	---

Settlements

2021-000229-IT-ENF (JS):	Gave direction to prosecutor
2021-000360-IT-ENF (AC):	Gave direction to prosecutor

Case Update

2021-001015-IT-ENF (MD):	Board counsel provided update to Board; no action taken
--------------------------	---

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

Cases

2021-000816-IT-ENF (ML):	Invite respondent to meeting for interview
2021-000926-IT-ENF (PB):	Dismiss
2021-000973-IT-ENF (RS):	Refer to Office of Prosecutions

Dr. Ahearn was recused from 2021-000326-IT-ENF (KM) and left the meeting at 1:15 p.m.

2021-000326-IT-ENF (KM):	Refer to Office of Prosecutions
--------------------------	---------------------------------

Adjournment

At 1:34 p.m., a MOTION was made by Ms. Paine, seconded by Ms. Gagliardi, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m.

The above minutes were approved at the public meeting held on February 18, 2022.



Brian Bialas, Executive Director

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

- Agenda for Meeting of January 21, 2022
- Public Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2021
- Executive Session Minutes of November 19, 2021
- Public Meeting Minutes of December 17, 2021
- Executive Session Minutes of December 17, 2021
- Applications Reviewed Under Application Review Policy: April 5, 2021 through December 31, 2021 and January 1, 2022 through January 20, 2022
- Laura Schroeder, 2019-000864-IT-ENF, Petition to Terminate Stayed Suspension
- Documents from LMHC Application of Nancy Staelens
- Documents from LMFT Application of Elana Schechtman-Gil
- Charlene Kelly, 2020-000430-IT-ENF, Petition to Terminate Suspension
- Maxine Orocofsky, 2019-001041-IT-ENF, 3rd Quarterly Monitoring Report