



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
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**Board of Allied Mental Health and Human Services Professions**  
**Public Meeting Minutes**  
May 19, 2023

**Board Members Present:**

Cynthia Belhumeur, Public Member  
Frank Gomez, Member  
Amy Vercillo, Member  
Jacqueline Gagliardi, Member (left meeting at 12:03 p.m.)  
Jennifer Paine, Member  
Ashley Williams, Member  
Kristen Woodbury, Member (left meeting at 11:21 a.m., returned at 11:23 a.m.)

**Staff Members Present:**

Brian Bialas, Executive Director  
Sheila York, Board Counsel

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. Cynthia Belhumeur, Frank Gomez, Jacqueline Gagliardi, Ashley Williams, Kristen Woodbury, Jennifer Paine, Amy Vercillo all present by videoconference.

**Board Business**

- **Public Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2023:** After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Woodbury, seconded by Ms. Gagliardi, to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2023 as drafted. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

- **Executive Session Minutes of April 21, 2023:** After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Paine, seconded by Dr. Williams, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of April 21, 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 Mr. Gomez, seconded by Ms. Paine, 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.

### **LMHC Application Reviews**

- **Hang Yin Candy Yo:** The Board reviewed Ms. Yo's application, including her post-master's degree experience supervised by a social worker in Hong Kong. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Gomez, seconded by Ms. Paine, to deny Ms. Yo's application preliminarily because a social worker in Hong Kong is not required to have a master's degree and thus is not equivalent to an approved supervisor under 262 CMR 2.02 and 2.07. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.
- **Linda Leah Emanuel:** The Board reviewed Dr. Emanuel's application, including her education. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Williams, seconded by Ms. Gagliardi, to deny Dr. Emanuel's application preliminarily because her graduate education is in medicine and not a related field under 262 CMR 2.02 and 2.04(1). The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

### **Discussion**

- **Policy on Teletherapy for Applicant Experience and Supervision Hours:** The Board considered whether to allow the policy to remain in effect indefinitely. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Gagliardi, seconded by Dr. Williams, to amend the policy so that it remains in effect indefinitely. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

The Board directed Mr. Bialas to place draft regulatory changes that are necessary to allow teletherapy permanently for applicant experience and supervision hours on the next agenda.

### **Monitoring**

- **Cassandra DeQuevedo, 2020-001070-IT-ENF, 6th quarterly monitoring report:** The Board reviewed the report. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Gomez,

seconded by Ms. Paine, to accept the report. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

- **Charlene Kelly, 2020-000430-IT-ENF, 3rd quarterly monitoring report:** The Board reviewed the report. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Paine, seconded by Mr. Gagliardi, to accept the report and to invite Ms. Kelly and her supervisor to the next meeting for an interview. 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**

Mr. Bialas announced that board members whose terms have expired or are about to expire and wish to be reappointed may submit a resume, cover letter, and optional demographic form to him for consideration by the Governor's Office.

Jami Osborne from the Massachusetts Mental Health Counselors Association (MaMHCA) asked for notification when LMHC application forms change.

Michael Lynch, the new President of the New England Association for Family and Systemic Therapy, introduced himself to the Board.

Midge Williams from MaMHCA asked whether she may have access to board packets before meetings. Ms. York explained that, although staff can be accommodating, they cannot practically post packets online. Ms. Williams also asked about board member candidates she has submitted to Mr. Bialas for consideration by the Governor. Mr. Bialas explained that he has submitted those applications to the Commissioner's Office for transmission to the Governor. Finally, Ms. Williams asked whether meetings regarding the report on the cost and feasibility of creating an LMHC Board due on June 30, 2023 must be open to the public. Ms. York stated she would investigate.

**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 11:10 a.m., a MOTION was made by Mr. Gomez, seconded by Ms. Gagliardi, 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 review sensitive medical information in NCMHCE accommodation requests; then (2) enter into investigative conference under G.L. c. 112, § 65C to review a settlement offer and 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.

Ms. Woodbury left the meeting at 11:21 a.m. and returned at 11:23 a.m.

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

The Board entered investigative conference at 11:24 a.m.

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

**Settlement**

2021-001025-IT-ENF (RR): Gave direction to prosecutor

**Cases**

2022-000999-IT-ENF (LA): Refer to Office of Investigations

Ms. Gagliardi left the meeting at 12:03 a.m.

CASE-2023-0017 (CM): Dismiss  
CASE-2023-0114 (Family Service Association): Refer to Office of Investigations

**Adjournment**

At 12:13 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Paine, seconded by Ms. Belhumeur, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

The above minutes were approved at the public meeting held on June 16, 2023.



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Brian Bialas, Executive Director

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

- Agenda for Meeting of May 19, 2023
- Public Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2023
- Executive Session Minutes of April 21, 2023
- Applications Reviewed Under Application Review Policy: January 1, 2023 through May 18, 2023 and April 1, 2023 through April 30, 2023
- Documents from LMHC Application of Hang Yin Candy Yo
- Documents from LMHC Application of Linda Leah Emanuel
- Policy on Teletherapy for Applicant Experience and Supervision Hours
- Cassandra DeQuevedo, 2020-001070-IT-ENF, 6th quarterly monitoring report 3.16.23
- Charlene Kelly, 2020-000430-IT-ENF, 3rd quarterly monitoring report