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**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Division of Occupational Licensure  
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**Public Meeting Minutes**

December 17, 2021

**Board Members Present:**

Bill Ahearn, Acting Chair  
Cynthia Belhumeur, Public Member  
Amy Vercillo, Member  
Frank Gomez, Member  
Susan Egan, Member (left meeting at 12:46 p.m.)  
Ashley Williams, Member (left meeting at 12:58 p.m.)  
Kristen Woodbury, Member  
Jacqueline Gagliardi, Member (left meeting at 11:57 a.m.)  
Jennifer Paine, Member

**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 10:08 a.m.

**Board Business**

- **Public Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2021:** The Board will consider these minutes at the January meeting.
- **Executive Session Minutes of November 19, 2021:** The Board will consider these minutes at the January meeting.
- **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. Paine, seconded by Ms. Gagliardi,



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 November data concerning applications reviewed under the Board's Application Review Policy. He explained that staff saw an increase in applications from 2020 to 2021, and that the data next month will report on December 2021 and January 1, 2022 to January 20, 2022.

### **Discussion**

- **Policy on Appropriate Sites for Post-Master's Degree Experience:** The Board discussed the draft policy that would clarify characteristics of appropriate sites for post-master's degree experience for LMHC and LMFT applicants. After a brief discussion, including with representatives from Thriveworks and MaMHCA, a MOTION was made by Ms. Woodbury, seconded by Ms. Paine, to approve the draft policy as presented. 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 from MaMHCA asked for an update on the process for approving the revised LMHC and LMFT regulations. Ms. Read stated that she would ask for one.

**Executive Session** (Closed Session under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1), individual character rather than competence, 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, and under G.L. 30A, § 21(a)(3), to discuss strategy with respect to litigation)

At 10:59 a.m., a MOTION was made by Ms. Paine, seconded by Ms. Belhumeur, to exit the public meeting and enter into a closed executive session under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1), individual character rather than competence, 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, and under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(3), to discuss strategy with respect to litigation, then enter into investigative conference under G.L. c. 112 § 65C to review a settlement offer and review cases, 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 12:08 p.m.

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

## Settlement

2020-001137-IT-ENF (JS):

Gave direction to prosecutor

## Cases

2021-000451-IT-ENF (JM):

Invite respondent to meeting  
for interview

2021-000484-IT-ENF (MC):

Dismiss

2021-000812-IT-ENF (HJ):

Refer to Office of  
Prosecutions

2021-000829-IT-ENF (TC):

Invite respondent to meeting  
for interview

2021-000327-IT-ENF (LB):

Dismiss; open CE complaint

Dr. Egan left the meeting at 12:46 p.m.

2021-000405-IT-ENF (MS):

Dismiss

2021-001015-IT-ENF (MD):

Refer to Office of  
Prosecutions

Dr. Williams was recused from 2018-000272-IT-ENF and left the meeting at 12:58 p.m.

2018-00272-IT-ENF (SH):

Dismiss

## Adjournment

At 1:00 p.m., a MOTION was made by Ms. Woodbury, seconded by Mr. Gomez, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

The above minutes were approved at the public meeting held on January 21, 2022.



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Brian Bialas, Executive Director

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

- Agenda for Meeting of December 17, 2021
- Applications Reviewed Under Application Review Policy: April 5, 2021 through December 16, 2021 and November 2021
- Draft Policy on Appropriate Sites for Post-Master's Degree Experience
- Documents from Thriveworks re: Policy on Appropriate Sites for Post-Master's Degree Experience