

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Board of Allied Mental Health and Human Services Professions
Public Meeting
June 19, 2020
1000 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02118

Board Members Present:

Bill Ahearn, Chair
Susan Egan, Member
Amy Vercillo, Member
Jacqueline Gagliardi, Member
Jennifer Paine, Member
Cynthia Belhumeur, Public Member
Heidi Creighton, Public Member

Board Members Not Present:

Kristen Woodbury, Member

Staff Members Present:

Brian P. Bialas, Executive Director
Erin Murphy, Associate Executive Director
Lynn Read, Board Counsel

Pursuant to Governor Charles D. Baker's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, s. 20, dated March 12, 2020, all board members and staff appeared by videoconference.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

Executive Session (Closed under G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(1), good moral character rather than competence, and under G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 4, s. 7, para. 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, s. 1B to review sensitive medical information)

At 10:03 a.m., a MOTION was made by Ms. Paine, seconded by Ms. Vercillo, to enter into a closed executive session under G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(1) to review an applicant's good moral character rather than competence, and under G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 4, s. 7, para. 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, s. 1B to review sensitive medical information in NCMHC Examination accommodation requests. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote. See separate minutes.

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

At 10:21 a.m., a MOTION was made by Ms. Paine, seconded by Ms. Vercillo, to exit executive session and enter into a closed investigative conference under G.L. c. 112 s. 65C to review settlement offers and cases. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

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

Settlements:

2019-000934-IT-ENF (KL):	Direction given to prosecutor
2020-000117-IT-ENF (RP):	Direction given to prosecutor
2019-000401-IT-ENF (LO):	Direction given to prosecutor

Cases:

2020-000449-IT-ENF (KO):	Dismiss
2020-000330-IT-ENF (RB):	Refer to Office of Prosecutions
2020-000400-IT-ENF (CS):	Refer to Office of Investigations

Quasi-Judicial Session (Closed under G.L. c. 30A, s. 18)

At 11:19 a.m., a MOTION was made by Ms. Gagliardi, seconded by Ms. Creighton, to exit investigative conference and enter into closed quasi-judicial session. The motion passed unanimously.

During the quasi-judicial session, the Board took the following action:

20151214MH005-IT-ENF (JD):	Determined sanction for final decision and order
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At 11:24 a.m., a MOTION was made by Ms. Gagliardi, seconded by Ms. Paine, to exit quasi-judicial session and return to open session. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Business

Public Meeting Minutes of May 15, 2020

The minutes for the public meeting of May 15, 2020 were discussed. A MOTION was made by Ms. Gagliardi, seconded by Ms. Vercillo, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session Minutes of May 15, 2020

The minutes for the executive session of May 15, 2020 were discussed. A MOTION was made by Ms. Gagliardi, seconded by Ms. Belhumeur, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Subcommittee Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2020

The minutes for the subcommittee meeting of May 28, 2020 were discussed. A MOTION was made by Ms. Belhumeur, seconded by Ms. Gagliardi, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Ratification of Decisions by Board Staff to Approve Applications

After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Gagliardi, seconded by Ms. Paine, to ratify Board staff's issuance of licenses to certain applicants who applied since June 15, 2018, including 1,288 LMHCs, 756 LABAs, 94 LMFTs, 27 Educational Psychologists, 4 Rehabilitation Counselors, and 2 Assistant LABAs. The motion passed unanimously.

Election of Acting Chair

After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Belhumeur, seconded by Ms. Egan, to designate Dr. Ahearn as Acting Chair until such time as a Chair is appointed by the Governor, or the Board designates a different Acting Chair. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion

- **Emergency Policy on Teletherapy for Experience and Supervision Hours – Extend to December 31, 2020:** After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Egan, seconded by Ms. Gagliardi, to approve the policy as drafted. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Approval of Revisions to 262 CMR 2.00: Requirements for Licensure as a Mental Health Counselor:** After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Gagliardi, seconded by Ms. Paine, to approve the changes to the regulations as drafted. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Delegation of Authority to Impose Sanctions for Default Decisions:** After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Creighton, seconded by Ms. Gagliardi, to delegate authority to the Board's Executive Director, Associate Executive Director, or the DPL Deputy Commissioner for Boards to find respondents in default based on failure to respond to Orders to Show Cause or otherwise appear in an adjudicatory proceeding, and to impose sanctions and issue Final Decisions and Orders consistent with the Board's usual guidelines for revoking licenses, upholding fines previously recommended by the Board, or fining for unlicensed practice, which delegation of authority shall remain in effect unless and until overridden by a subsequent vote of the Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Application Review

- **Michael Tiano, Applicant for LMHC:** After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Belhumeur, seconded by Ms. Paine, to reject the applicant's experience at Norfolk Counseling because it is a private practice. The motion passed unanimously.

Monitoring Reports

- **Jessica Goldstein, 2018-000635-IT-ENF, 6th Quarterly Monitoring Report:** After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Paine, seconded by Ms. Vercillo, to accept the report. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Priscilla Griffin, 20151106MH022-IT-ENF, Petition to Terminate Suspension:** After a brief discussion, the Board directed staff to invite Ms. Griffin and her supervisor to the next meeting for an interview.

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

Ms. Gagliardi asked Mr. Bialas to invite former Board member and current Massachusetts Delegate to AMFTRB Scott Cohen to the next meeting to discuss AMFTRB's Teletherapy Guidelines.

Adjournment

At 12:17 p.m., a MOTION was made by Ms. Gagliardi, seconded by Ms. Paine, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

The above minutes were approved at the open meeting held on July 17, 2020.



Brian Bialas, Executive Director

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

- Agenda for Meeting of June 19, 2020
- Draft Public Meeting Minutes of May 15, 2020
- Draft Executive Session Minutes of May 15, 2020
- Draft Subcommittee Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2020
- Draft Emergency Policy on Teletherapy for Experience and Supervision Hours
- Draft Revisions to 262 CMR 2.00: Requirements for Licensure as a Mental Health Counselor
- LMHC Application of Michael Tiano
- Jessica Goldstein, 2018-000635-IT-ENF, 6th Quarterly Monitoring Report
- Priscilla Griffin, 20151106MH022-IT-ENF, Petition to Terminate Suspension