



STATE OF ARIZONA
BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS
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KATIE HOBBS
Governor

TOBI ZAVALA
Executive Director

BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS
MEETING MINUTES
July 12, 2024

Members Present: Adalesa Meek, Diane Palacios, Robert Charles, Kristina Groves, Jose Luis Madera, Dominic Miller, Mark Shen, Antwan Trotter

Members Absent: Leanette Henagan, Crystal Krueger

Staff Present: Tobi Zavala, Executive Director; Mona Baskin, A.A.G.; Polly Knape, Deputy Director; Allison Taylor, Operations Manager; Jarett Carver, Investigations Manager

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners was called to order on July 12, 2024 at 9:01 a.m. at 1740 West Adams Street, Boardroom C, Phoenix, Arizona 85007 with Ms. Meek presiding.

2. Roll Call

See above.

3. Minutes: review, consideration and action

A. May 10, 2024, general meeting minutes

Tabled due to lack of quorum of members to vote.

B. May 10, 2024, executive session minutes

Tabled due to lack of quorum of members to vote.

C. June 14, 2024, general meeting minutes

Tabled due to lack of quorum of members to vote.

4. Consent Agenda: review, consideration and action

A. Cases recommended for dismissal

1. 2024-0249 Robyn Anderson, LCSW-17679
2. 2024-0167, Samuel Lample, LPC-10690 (active-restricted)
3. 2024-0337, Amya Orr, LASAC-7948T (closed-expired)
4. 2024-0231, Reese Smith, LMSW-08093T

Following discussion, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the consent agenda items 4(A) (1-4). The motion passed unanimously.

B. Cases recommended for dismissal with a letter of concern.

1. 2024-0349, Paul Gibson, LMFT-10254
2. 2024-0005, Candace Wilson, LMSW-18498

Following discussion, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Mr. Shen, to approve the consent agenda item 4(B)(1). The motion passed unanimously.

2. 2024-0005, Candace Wilson, LMSW-18498

Tabled due to lack of quorum of members to vote

C. Cases recommended for opening a complaint and dismissing with a letter of concern.

N/A

D. Cases recommended for acceptance of a proposed signed non-disciplinary consent agreement.

1. 2024-0258, Davona Blackhorse, LAC-20688
2. 2024-0301, Deborah Johansen, LPC-14026
3. 2024-0098, Melissa Markley, LPC-19277
4. 2024-0299, Ronald Ruanto, LMFT-15456

Following discussion, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Ms. Groves, to approve the consent agenda items 4(D) (1-4). The motion passed unanimously.

E. Cases recommended for opening a complaint and acceptance of a proposed signed non-disciplinary consent agreement.

N/A

F. Cases recommended for acceptance of a proposed signed disciplinary consent agreement.

1. 2023-0213, 2023-0214, Mary Walczak, LAC-16456

Following discussion, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to accept the proposed signed disciplinary consent agreement. The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Kristina Groves	Leanne Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Dominic Miller	Diane Palacios	Mark Shen	Antwan Trotter
AYE	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent			X	X						

G. Cases recommended for opening a complaint and acceptance of a proposed signed disciplinary consent agreement.

1. Aunjolay Lambert, LMSW-19641
2. Genny Malachowski, LMSW Applicant

Following discussion, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Mr. Trotter, to open a complaint and accept the proposed signed disciplinary consent agreement. The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Kristina Groves	Leanne Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Dominic Miller	Diane Palacios	Mark Shen	Antwan Trotter
AYE	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent			X	X						

H. Cases recommended for opening a complaint and denying for unprofessional conduct.

N/A

I. Cases recommended for release from consent agreements.

1. 2024-0046, Taylor Alvarado, LAC-21904
2. 2021-0147, Angel Montemayor, LPC-16467
3. 2024-0025, Amy Montgomery, LPC 21411

Following discussion, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the consent agenda item. 4(I). The motion passed unanimously.

5. Administrative Hearings

Administrative Hearing Pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 32-3281 and 41-1092.07, the Board will conduct administrative hearings or consider related procedural issues in the following matter(s). During the administrative hearing, the Board may go into executive session to discuss confidential records pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(2) or to obtain legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).

N/A

6. Formal Interviews

A. 2023-0066, *Lekeshia Mathis, LMSW-19141*

Ms. Zavala provided a summary of the matter.

The professional and her attorney, Leah Schachar, appeared and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Meek moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to accept the signed non-disciplinary consent agreement. The motion passed unanimously.

Following further consideration by members, Ms. Meek moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to vacate the formal interview. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Complaints and other disciplinary matters: review, consideration and action

A. 2024-0242, *Milissa Baugh, LASAC-15244*

Ms. Zavala summarized the Board’s investigation.

The professional was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to find the following violation:

- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(l), engaging in any conduct, practice or condition that impairs the ability of the licensee to safely and competently practice the licensee's profession
- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(ii), violating any federal or state law, rule or regulation applicable to the practice of behavioral health, as it relates to:
 - A.A.C R4-6-205, Change of Contact Information
- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(a), being convicted of a felony. Conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction or a plea of no contest is conclusive evidence of the conviction

The motion passed unanimously.

Following further discussion by members, Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Charles, to offer the professional a consent agreement for the voluntary surrender of the professional’s license, and if not signed remand to a formal hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Kristina Groves	Leanne Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Dominic Miller	Diane Palacios	Mark Shen	Antwan Trotter
AYE	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent			X	X						

B. *Emily Farabaugh, LPC Applicant*

Ms. Zavala summarized the background information.

The applicant appeared and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Mr. Shen, to open a complaint. The motion passed unanimously.

Following further and discussion by members, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Mr. Shen, to find the following violation:

- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(l), engaging in any conduct, practice or condition that impairs the ability of the licensee to safely and competently practice the licensee's profession

The motion passed unanimously.

Following further discussion by members, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Ms. Groves, to deny the application based on a finding of unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3275(5) and A.R.S. 32-3275(6). The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Kristina Groves	Leanne Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Dominic Miller	Diane Palacios	Mark Shen	Antwan Trotter
AYE	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent			X	X						

C. 2024-0129, Tracey Frederiksen, LPC-14298

Ms. Zavala summarized the Board's investigation.

The complainant was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

The professional and her attorney, Faren Akins, appeared and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Shen moved, seconded by Groves to find the following violations:

- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(k), engaging in any conduct or practice that is contrary to recognized standards of ethics in the behavioral health profession or that constitutes a danger to the health, welfare or safety of a client as it relates to the following section of the ACA Code of Ethics:
 - A.6.a. Previous Relationships
 - A.6.e. Nonprofessional Interactions or Relationships (Other Than Sexual or Romantic Interactions or Relationships)
- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(p), failing to conform to minimum practice standards as developed by the board as it relates to:
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1102. Treatment Plan
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1106. Tele-practice

The motion passed unanimously.

Following further review and discussion, Mr. Shen moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to offer a consent agreement that stipulates the following:

- The professional shall be placed on probation for 12 months
- The professional shall complete, in person, a CACREP or Board approved, 3 semester credit hour graduate level course in behavioral health ethics
- The professional shall complete 6 clock hours of pre-approved continuing education in Arizona documentation
- The professional shall receive clinical supervision monthly from a pre-approved independently licensed behavioral health professional
- Clinical supervision shall focus on the decision-making model, Arizona Statutes and Rules, conflict of interest, boundaries, behavioral health ethics, clinical documentation and review of clinical documentation

and if not signed, to invite the professional to participate in a formal interview and, if not accepted, to remand the matter to a formal hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Kristina Groves	Leanne Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Dominic Miller	Diane Palacios	Mark Shen	Antwan Trotter
AYE	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X

NAY										
Absent			X	X						

D. 2024-0010, Jessica Hedgepeth, LAC-17196

Ms. Zavala summarized the background information.

The professional appeared telephonically, her attorney, Mandi Karvis, appeared in person and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Groves, to find the following violations:

- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(l), engaging in any conduct, practice or condition that impairs the ability of the licensee to safely and competently practice the licensee's profession
- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(ii), violating any federal or state law, rule or regulation applicable to the practice of behavioral health, as it relates to:
 - A.R.S. § 32-3286, Unlawful Practice
- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(k), engaging in any conduct or practice that is contrary to recognized standards of ethics in the behavioral health profession or that constitutes a danger to the health, welfare or safety of a client as it relates to the following sections of the ACA Code of Ethics:
 - C.3.b. Testimonials
 - A.5.e. Personal Virtual Relationships with Current Clients
- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16) (gg), failing to follow federal and state laws regarding the storage, use and release of confidential information regarding a client’s personal identifiable information or care
- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(p), failing to conform to minimum practice standards as developed by the board as it relates to:
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1011, Consent for Treatment
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1102, Treatment Plan
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1103, Client Record
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1106, Tele-practice
- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(y), engaging in a dual relationship with a client that could impair the licensee's objectivity or professional judgment or create a risk of harm to the client. For the purposes of this subdivision, "dual relationship" means a licensee simultaneously engages in both a professional and nonprofessional relationship with a client that is avoidable and not incidental

The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Palacios recused.

Following further review, Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Groves, to offer the professional a consent agreement for the voluntary surrender of the professional’s license, and if not signed remand to a formal hearing. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Palacios recused.

	Robert Charles	Kristina Groves	Leanne Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Dominic Miller	Diane Palacios	Mark Shen	Antwan Trotter
AYE	X	X			X	X	X		X	X
NAY										
Absent			X	X				Recused		

E. 2024-0205, Shelley Ireland, LAC-15879

Mr. Carver summarized the Board’s investigation.

The complainant was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

The professional and her attorney, Mandi Karvis, appeared and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Mr. Trotter, to offer the professional a 12-month non-disciplinary consent agreement for completion of 3 clock hours in HIPAA compliance and confidentiality and 3 clock hours in mandated reporting and if not signed, to invite the professional to participate in a formal interview and, if not accepted to remand the matter to a formal hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

F. 2024-0111, Heidi Ligouri, LPC-11187

Ms. Zavala summarized updated information, including the proposed signed non-disciplinary consent agreement.

The complainant was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

The professional’s attorney, Mandi Karvis, appeared and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to accept the signed non-disciplinary consent agreement. The motion passed unanimously.

G. 2024-0232, Cheryl Lockett, LPC-20014

Ms. Zavala summarized the Board’s investigation.

The complainant was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

The professional appeared telephonically and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Shen moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to find the following violations:

- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(s), terminating behavioral health services to a client without making an appropriate referral for continuation of care for the client if continuing behavioral health services are indicated
- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(t), disclosing a professional confidence or privileged communication except as may otherwise be required by law or permitted by a legally valid written release
- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(p), failing to conform to minimum practice standards as developed by the board as it relates to:
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1101, Consent for Treatment
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1102, Treatment Plan
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1103, Client Record
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1104, Financial and Billing Records
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1106, Tele-practice

The motion passed unanimously.

Following further review, Mr. Shen moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to offer a consent agreement that stipulates the following:

- The licensee shall be placed on probation for 12 months
- The licensee shall complete pre-approved continuing education in:
 - 3 clock hours in discharge planning and termination of services
 - 3 clock hours in HIPPA and confidentiality
 - 3 clock hour Arizona Renewal Tutorial

and if not signed, to invite the professional to participate in a formal interview and, if not accepted, to remand the matter to a formal hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Kristina Groves	Leanne Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Dominic Miller	Diane Palacios	Mark Shen	Antwan Trotter
AYE	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent			X	X						

The Board took a break at 2:11 p.m., reconvening its public meeting at 2:20 p.m.

H. 2024-0151, Bradley Newman, LPC-14056, LISAC-11721

Mr. Carver summarized the Board’s investigation.

The complainant was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

The professional appeared and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to find the following violation:

- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(k), engaging in any conduct or practice that is contrary to recognized standards of ethics in the behavioral health profession or that constitutes a danger to the health, welfare or safety of a client

The motion passed unanimously.

Following further review, Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to offer a consent agreement that stipulates the following:

- The licensee shall be placed on probation for 12 months
- The licensee shall seek consultation, by an individual pre-approved and licensed by the Board, once monthly
- Consultation shall focus on quality of care, workload management, self-care, adequate clinical oversight, and boundaries
- The professional shall receive therapy once monthly for the six months with a pre-approved behavioral health professional. The frequency for the remaining time will be at the recommendation of the therapist
- Therapy shall focus on burnout, selfcare, and boundaries
- The licensee shall complete pre-approved continuing education in:
 - 12 clock hours of continuing education in clinical supervision

and if not signed, to invite the professional to participate in a formal interview and, if not accepted, to remand the matter to a formal hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Kristina Groves	Leannette Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Dominic Miller	Diane Palacios	Mark Shen	Antwan Trotter
AYE	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent			X	X						

I. 2024-0294, 2024-0290, 2024-0297, 2024-0291, 2024-0292, 2024-0293, Sydney Thornton, LAC-21826
Mr. Carver summarized the Board’s investigation.

The complainants were properly noticed, but failed to appear.

The professional, and her attorney, Mandi Karvis, appeared and addressed the Board.

Following review Ms. Meek moved, seconded by Mr. Trotter, to consolidate complaint numbers 2024-0294, 2024-0290, 2024-0297, 2024-0291, 2024-0292, and 2024-0293. The motion passed unanimously.

Following further discussion, Ms. Meek moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to offer the professional a 12-month non-disciplinary consent agreement for completion of 3 clock hours in behavioral health ethics, and 3 clock hours in social media as it relates in behavioral health, and if not signed, to invite the professional to participate in a formal interview and, if not accepted to remand the matter to a formal hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board took a break at 12:27 p.m., reconvening its public meeting at 1:01 p.m.

J. 2024-0220, Sydney Wallace, LAC-20532
Ms. Zavala summarized the Board’s investigation.

The professional appeared telephonically and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to find the following violations:

- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(i), engaging in any conduct, practice or condition that impairs the ability of the licensee to safely and competently practice the licensee's profession
- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(ii), violating any federal or state law, rule or regulation applicable to the practice of behavioral health, as it relates to:
 - A.R.S. § 32-3208, Mandatory Reporting of Criminal Charges

The motion passed unanimously

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Ms. Groves, to offer the professional the interim consent agreement, and if not signed remand the matter to a formal hearing.

The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Kristina Groves	Leanne Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Dominic Miller	Diane Palacios	Mark Shen	Antwan Trotter
AYE	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent			X	X						

K. 2024-0112, David Waselkow, LPC-17492

Ms. Zavala summarized the Board’s investigation.

The complainant was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

The professional appeared and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Shen moved, seconded by Mr. Trotter, to find the following violations:

- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(c)(iii), making any oral or written misrepresentation of a fact regarding the licensee’s skills or the value of any treatment provided or to be provided
- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(p), failing to conform to minimum practice standards as developed by the board as it relates to:
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1101, Consent for Treatment
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1102, Treatment Plan
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1106, Tele-practice

The motion passed unanimously

Following further discussion, Mr. Shen moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to offer a consent agreement that stipulates the following:

- The professional shall be placed on probation for 12 months
- The professional shall complete pre-approved continuing education in:
 - 3 clock hours in behavioral health ethics

and if not signed, to invite the professional to participate in a formal interview and, if not accepted, to remand the matter to a formal hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Kristina Groves	Leanne Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Dominic Miller	Diane Palacios	Mark Shen	Antwan Trotter
AYE	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent			X	X						

L. 2024-0241, Thomas Wood, LAC-22163
 Ms. Zavala summarized the Board’s investigation.

The complainant was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

The professional and his attorney, Flynn Carey, appeared and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Ms. Groves, to find the following violations:

- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(y), engaging in a dual relationship with a client that could impair the licensee's objectivity or professional judgment or create a risk of harm to the client. For the purposes of this subdivision, "dual relationship" means a licensee simultaneously engages in both a professional and nonprofessional relationship with a client that is avoidable and not incidental

The motion passed unanimously.

Following further discussion, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Ms. Groves, to offer a consent agreement that stipulates the following:

- The professional shall be placed on probation for 24 months
- Stayed revocation
- A practice restriction shall be in place for no participation in supervised private practice
- The professional shall complete, in person, board pre-approved 3 semester credit hour graduate level course in behavioral health ethics
- The professional shall receive clinical supervision, weekly for the first 12 months, the frequency for the remaining time will be at the recommendation of the clinical supervisor, but not less than twice monthly.
- Clinical supervision shall focus on boundaries with clients, personal boundaries of self, Arizona rules and statutes, ethical decision-making model, role of a therapist, dual relationships, and transference and countertransference.

and if not signed, remand the matter to a formal hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Kristina Groves	Leanne Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Dominic Miller	Diane Palacios	Mark Shen	Antwan Trotter
AYE	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent			X	X						

The Board took a break at 10:41 a.m., reconvening its public meeting at 10:51 a.m.

M. 2023-0150, Danielle Zia, LAC-21152 (Interim Suspension)
 Ms. Zavala summarized the Board’s investigation.

The professional appeared in person, her attorney, Michael Goldberg, appeared telephonically and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Mr. Trotter, to release the professional from the interim consent agreement and to find the following violation:

- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(l), engaging in any conduct, practice or condition that impairs the ability of the licensee to safely and competently practice the licensee's profession

The motion passed unanimously.

Following further review and discussion, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to offer a consent agreement

that stipulates the following:

- The professional shall be placed on probation for 24 months
- Stayed suspension
- A practice restriction shall be in place for no participation in supervised private practice
- The professional shall complete 3 clock hours of pre-approved continuing education in self-care/burnout
- The professional shall continue with psychiatric services and continue with services as recommended by the Psychiatrist
- The professional shall continue with therapy once monthly for the first 12 months. The frequency for the remaining time will be at the recommendation of the therapist, which may include early release
- Therapy shall focus on boundaries, self-care, supports, and triggers

and if not signed the professional will remain on the ICA. The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Kristina Groves	Leannette Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Dominic Miller	Diane Palacios	Mark Shen	Antwan Trotter
AYE	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent			X	X						

Following further discussion by members, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Mr. Trotter, to make the appropriate referrals to the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners and DHS. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Assistant Attorney General’s Report: Mona Baskin, A.A.G.

N/A

9. Applications for licensure and educational programs: review, consideration and action

A. Review, consideration, and possible action regarding applications for licensure

Counseling

Mr. Shen moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to deny 6 applications based on a failure to pass the required examination, 3 applications based on a failure to take the required examination, and 5 applications based on a failure to meet minimum requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

Marriage and Family Therapy

Mr. Shen moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to deny 1 application based on a failure to pass the required examination. The motion passed unanimously.

Social Work

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to deny 15 applications based on a failure to pass the required examination, 1 application based on a failure to take the required examination, and 1 application based upon findings of unprofessional conduct. The motion passed unanimously.

Substance Abuse Counseling

Mr. Shen moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to deny 1 application based on the failure to pass the required exam, 1 application based on a failure to take the required examination. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Review, consideration, and possible action regarding applications for educational programs

N/A

10. Report from Chair

A. Summary of current events

No report.

11. Report from the Treasurer

A. Review, consideration, and possible action regarding June financial report

Tabled

12. Report from the Executive Director and/or staff

A. Update regarding the 2024 Sunset Audit by the Arizona Auditor General's Office

Ms. Zavala provided an update on the 2024 Sunset Audit by the Arizona Auditor General's Office, noting the draft report has not yet been received but she is hopeful we will have the draft in August or September for Board member consideration.

B. Discussion in regards to changes to the investigative report recommendations

Ms. Zavala informed the Board of the approval to hire 7 new staff members and reviewed the impact this will have on the board and the staff's ability to process additional case volume, to continue the protection of the public as volume continues to increase. Ms. Zavala noted the staff is working toward streamlining complaint processing and this will likely increase the volume of cases heard at the Board meetings and the need for more expedient deliberation. Ms. Zavala turned discussion over to Ms. Knape who provided an overview of a resource document, designed to facilitate processing of ideas and deliberation of case findings and recommendations. The document includes case process flows, frequent terms, past board action examples, and a consent agreement template, to assist in forming recommendations for proposal and consideration at Board meetings.

C. Discussion regarding the State of Arizona budget shortage

Ms. Zavala provided an update surrounding the State of Arizona budget shortage including the granting of 7 FTE's to expand Board staff and provided the vision for the new staff positions.

D. Review, consideration and possible action regarding appointment of a delegate to the Social Work Compact

Ms. Zavala provided an update on the passing of the Social Work Compact, noting that the Compact will likely not be in effect until for a couple of years, as development must be completed prior to implementation. The State is required to appoint a delegate to be the Commissioner on the Compact based on rule, and invited the Board Members to make an action vote surrounding this appointment. Ms. Meek motioned, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to appoint Ms. Zavala as a delegate to the Social Work Compact. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Update on Ms. Zavala's, Ms. Meek's and Ms. Palacio's attendance at the Counseling Summit Regulatory Board conference

Ms. Zavala, Ms. Meek, and Ms. Palacios provided an update on their attendance at the Conference, presentations, main topics, and noted they were able to attend the conference at no cost to the Board, and expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to connect with other Boards from around the country and come together to address common challenges. Ms. Palacios noted that NBCC is providing free training and encourages the public to look into the training.

F. Review, consideration and possible action regarding Ms. Zavala's appointment as Director at Large for the Association of Social Work Board of Directors

Ms. Zavala provided an update on the resignation of an ASWB Board Director at Large, Ms. Zavala was asked by ASWB to fill the interim position. Ms. Zavala discussed the opportunity with Ms. Meek who provided approval to Ms. Zavala surrounding acceptance of the position, a Board vote is needed for the record. Ms. Meek, seconded by Ms. Palacios, motioned to approve Ms. Zavala's appointment as Director at Large for the Association of Social Work Boards. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Discussion regarding licensees signing off on Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) paperwork

Ms. Zavala drew the Board members attention to the letter received from the Human Service Council and the Arizona Chapter of Social Workers in regards to social workers completing FMLA paperwork. There was discussion regarding the November 9th, 2023 minutes and that the Board will continue to view on a case to case basis.

13. Request for extension of inactive status: review, consideration and action

N/A

14. Future agenda items

N/A

15. Call for public comment

N/A

16. Establishment of future meeting date(s)

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 9, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., at 1740 W. Adams St., Boardroom C.

17. Adjournment

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Trotter , to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

Diane Palacios
Secretary/Treasurer

Date