

Virginia Board of Psychology
Minutes – Quarterly Board Meeting
October 29, 2019

Time and Location

The Virginia Board of Psychology ("Board") convened for a quarterly board meeting on October 29, 2019 at the Department of Health Professions ("DHP"), 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, VA 23233 in Board Room 4.

Presiding

Herbert Stewart, Ph.D., LCP, Chair

Board Members Present

John Ball, Ph.D., ABPP, LCP
Peter Sheras, Ph.D, ABPP, LCP
Rebecca Vauter, Psy.D., ABPP, LCP
James Werth, Jr., Ph.D., ABPP, LCP, Vice-Chair
Andrea Bailey, Citizen Member

Board Members Absent

Susan Brown Wallace, Ph.D. LCP, LSP

Staff Present

David E. Brown, D.C., DHP Director
Lisa Hahn, DHP Chief Operating Officer
Jaime Hoyle, JD, Executive Director
Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director
Elaine Yeatts, Sr. Policy Analyst
Deborah Harris, Licensing Manager
Charlotte Lenart, Deputy Director of Licensing
Christy Evans, Discipline Specialist
Jim Rutkowski, Assistant Attorney General

Call to Order

Dr. Stewart called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and read the mission statement and emergency egress instructions. Board members, staff, and members of the public introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes

The Board considered and discussed the minutes from the April 2, 2019 Board meeting. Dr. Sheras made a motion to accept the minutes. Ms. Bailey seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ordering of Agenda

Dr. Stewart proceeded with the Agenda with no changes.

Public Comment

Jennifer Morgan, with the Virginia Academy of Clinical Psychologists (VACP), reminded board members that the VACP will hold its Spring Conference in Charlottesville on April 21-22, 2020, and asked for participation from board members.

Agency Director Report, David E. Brown, DC

Dr. Brown thanked the Board members for attending the Board Member training day. He stated it was a great success and attendees rated it a score of 4.9 out of 5 on a survey. Dr. Werth, Dr. Stewart, Dr. Vauter, and Dr. Wallace attended the training. Dr. Brown also stated there are trainings available for all DHP staff, such as Lunch and Learn, which include topics such as interviewing and resume building, as well as more in depth overviews of programs within DHP.

Dr. Brown stated the agency continues to work on updating the agency website, which will make it easier for new applicants and renewals to navigate. He also indicated that DHP has been increasing security at the Perimeter center, and asked Lisa Hahn to discuss this issue in more detail.

Lisa Hahn stated there was a security assessment that led to recommendations to enhance and improve security in the building and various hearing rooms. Board members will be given a temporary board member badge to show security when they enter the front of the building. Public visitors will need to show identification with a bag check and wand check. Ms. Hahn stated they have ordered panic buttons for Board and Hearing rooms.

2019 Workforce Survey Report, Elizabeth Carter, Ph.D.

Dr. Carter and Dr. Shobo reviewed the workforce survey report. All the workforce reports are available on the DHP website.

Chair Report, Herbert Stewart

Dr. Stewart stated that he was elected as a Director at Large for the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB). It is a national regulatory association created to support Boards of Psychology, and he does not feel that he has a conflict of interest for voting on Board issues regarding the EPPP-2. Ms. Hoyle has asked Mr. Rutkowski to confirm there is no conflict, and update the Board at the next meeting..

Legislation and Regulatory Actions, Elaine Yeatts

Chart of Regulatory Actions

Ms. Yeatts updated the Board on pending regulatory actions. The action for conversion therapy is in the NOIRA stage and at the Secretary's office for review. The periodic review has been at the Governor's office 337 days.

Regulatory Advisement Panel for Sex Offender Treatment Providers

Ms. Yeatts stated we need a Regulatory Advisory Panel (RAP) for the Certified Sex Offender Treatment Provider regulations, as these regulations are due for periodic review.

Consideration of Public Comment and Adoption of Proposed Regulations on Conversion Therapy

Ms. Yeatts advised that there was public comment on the conversion therapy NOIRA. There were 351 comments with 188 that supported and 163 that opposed the NOIRA. Ms. Bailey made a motion to adopt the proposed regulations and Dr. Vauter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Amendment fee for Return checks

Ms. Yeatts advised that Finance wants to increase the cost of handling fees for return checks from \$35 to \$50 to conform to the Code of Virginia. Dr. Werth made a motion to increase the fee, and Ms. Bailey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

One time Renewal fee reduction for 2020 renewal

Ms. Yeatts recommended a 30% decrease in renewal fees for the 2020 renewal based on budget projections. Dr. Sheras made a motion, which was seconded by Dr. Ball, to approve the decrease. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff Reports

Executive Director's Report, Jaime Hoyle

Ms. Hoyle provided the Board with updated budget information and a count of current licensees. She stated that we still have no appointments yet for the vacant seats on the Board. Ms. Hoyle recognized staff for their efforts. She commended Ms. Harris, the Licensing Manager for her 100% customer service satisfaction surveys. She commended Ms. Lang on her efforts, and sees her as her "rock" and assists in every way taking over Ms. Hoyle's duties in her absence. She recognized Ms. Evans on her continuous support with the CE audits every year. Ms. Hoyle introduced Ms. Lenart in her new role as Deputy Director of Licensing and identified some of her new duties.

Ms. Hoyle reported activities of the recent trip to Minnesota that she and Ms. Lenart attended for the ASPPB conference. She attended the Attorney's breakfast and Administrator's Forum at the conference, which discussed EPPP-2, mobility, professional wills, criminal background checks, and PSYPACT. She also stated we needed to re-address the PLUS program. The Board had voted in the past to pursue the PLUS program. After discussion, the Board still wants to pursue the PLUS program as an option. Staff will work with the ASPPB staff to make this option available within the coming months.

Discipline Report, Jennifer Lang

Ms. Lang referenced the discipline report in the agenda packet.

Licensing Report, Deborah Harris

Ms. Harris referenced the licensing data within the agenda packet.

Board Counsel Report, Jim Rutkowski

Mr. Rutkowski reported about a Maryland case related to Conversion Therapy, and they are monitoring its progress for any impact on Virginia's proposed regulations.

Committee Reports

Board of Health Professions, Herb Stewart

Dr. Stewart referenced the information from the Board of Health Professions in the agenda packet.

Legislative/Regulatory Committee, James Werth

Dr. Werth reported that the Regulatory Committee discussed six topics:

1. Professional Wills: This item was tabled because ASPPB is addressing this. The Committee may revisit this issue after ASPPB has released its findings.
2. Social Media Guidance Document: This item was tabled as well because both APA and ASPPB are addressing this issue. The Committee will review these documents when they are finalized as well as Social Work's Guidance document on this issue.
3. EPPP-part 2: Matt Turner from ASPPB presented a slide show and Q & A period at the meeting that reviewed the pros and cons of being an early adopter for this portion of the examination. There was a discussion and the Committee decided to take no action until holding a stakeholders' meeting and determining whether any changes are needed in our Regulations, and, if so, if they can be made during the periodic review.
4. Accrediting Master's level psychology programs – After discussion, the Committee decided to include this topic in a stakeholders' meeting as well.

5. PSYPACT: It is now operational. The PSYPACT governing board has been formed and will make the rules. We will wait to see the rules and costs and consider recommending DHP include PSYPACT legislation in the 2021 General Assembly package.
6. PLUS Program: It is a universal licensing system offered by ASPPB, where applicants bank credentials that are primary source verified. The program helps applicants with mobility. Virginia has already voted to move forward with the program, and has decided that the program be optional rather than mandatory at this point, due to the costs involved.

Meeting dates

Meeting dates for 2020 were included in the Agenda package.

Election of Officers

Dr. Vauter made a motion to nominate Dr. Werth as Chair of the Board. The motion was seconded by Dr. Sheras. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Sheras made a motion to nominate Dr. Ball as Vice Chair of the Board. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bailey and the motion carried unanimously.

They will assume these positions after the completion of today's meeting.

Presentation of Plaque

Ms. Hoyle presented Dr. Stewart with a plaque for gratitude for his service as Chairperson of the Board and listed the Board's accomplishments under his tenure. Dr. Stewart stated the highlight of his Professional career has been his tenure on the Board.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm

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