



**Virginia Board of Psychology
Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.
9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, VA 23233
Board Room 1**

PRESIDING OFFICER: Susan Brown Wallace, Ph.D.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: J.D. Ball, Ph.D.
Aliya Chapman, Ph.D
William Hathaway, Ph.D.
Norma Murdock-Kitt, Ph.D
Christine Payne, BSN, MBA
Gary Sibcy, Ph.D.
Cheryl Snyder
Kathryn Zeanah, Ph. D.

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Jaime Hoyle, Executive Director
Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director
Charlotte Lenart, Deputy Executive Director

DHP STAFF PRESENT: James Jenkins, Deputy Director, DHP
Arne Owens, Director, DHP

BOARD COUNSEL PRESENT: James Rutkowski, Assistant Attorney General

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Wallace called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

MISSION STATEMENT: Ms. Hoyle read the mission statement of the Department of Health Professions and the emergency egress procedures.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM: With nine (9) members present, a quorum was established.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: The agenda was adopted as presented.

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Denise Daly Konrad, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Virginia Health Care Foundation

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from the February 7, 2023, Quarterly Board meeting were adopted as presented.

AGENCY DIRECTOR REPORT: Mr. Owens provided an update on DHP operations, including a recent staff training and

development day, digital discipline processes, automation platforms, staff pay studies, and the biennial budget. DHP continues to focus on healthcare workforce including Ms. Hoyle's and Mr. Jenkins' work on the Governor's "Right Help. Right Now" initiative.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT:

Dr. Wallace noted that she is at the end of her second term on the board and thanked staff and board members for their work during her tenure. Mr. Owens thanked her for her service on the board.

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY REPORT:

Ms. Hoyle advised of the current status of pending regulation changes, as detailed in the chart of regulatory actions.

Consideration of Exempt Regulatory Changes to 18VAC125-15-10

Ms. Hoyle provided the board with an overview of the legislative changes to allow agency subordinates to hear application cases. Dr. Zeanah made a motion to accept the changes to the agency subordinate regulations as an exempt action. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Repeal of Guidance Document 125-3.8

Dr. Hathaway made a motion to repeal Guidance Document 125-3.8. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS:

Executive Director's Report:

Ms. Hoyle gave an update on the financials and the PSYPACT Annual report that were included in the agenda packet. She expressed her admiration for Dr. Wallace, and thanked for her contributions to the Board and the Commonwealth.

Discipline Report:

Ms. Lang referred board members to the discipline report on page 104 of the agenda packet. She provided an update on discipline staff and thanked Christy Evans and discipline reviewer for their hard work. She also welcomed Jessica Byrum, who will be responsible for continuing education audits for the board.

Dr. Ball remarked on an issue raised by the public at the regulatory committee meeting regarding the need to notify the public of board actions against unlicensed individuals. The board referred this matter to the regulatory committee for further discussion. Dr. Hathaway asked board counsel for guidance on what the board can do about unlicensed individuals testifying as experts in the field without holding an active license.

Licensing Report:

Ms. Lenart stated the Licensing Report by reviewing with the Board the number of applications received and licenses issued for this reporting period. A copy of the report is attached to the agenda. She updated the Board on the new website, BOT automated emails and the process for moving applications from paper to online.

Ms. Lenart recognized Debbie Harris, Licensing Manager for the Board for her efforts and 100% satisfaction survey results.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Regulatory Committee Report:

Dr. Ball reported on the Regulatory Committee's discussions and action.

- **Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP):**

The Regulatory Committee made a recommendation to the board to begin requiring part II of the EPPP, in addition to the current part required for licensure. The recommendation was seconded and passed unanimously.

Dr. Ball made a motion to establish a subcommittee for the purpose of researching the board's concerns, specifically related to pass rate data and the additional cost for exam candidates and drafting an implementation plan to present to the board at the September 2023 board meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Dr. Chapman and Dr. Wallace expressed an interest in serving on the subcommittee.

- **Master's Level Psychology Licenses**

Dr. Ball updated the board on the Regulatory Committee's discussion on possible title, training, supervision, and scope of practice if legislation is passed to implement a master's level psychology license. The Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) is currently working on suggested titles and scope of practice and may have suggestions available later this year. The board noted their support in using the title "Psychological Practitioners" and agreed that ongoing supervision should not be required for this level of practice.

- **Shortage of School Psychologists**

The Regulatory Committee discussed the statewide shortage of school psychologists but determined that the board's authority is limited, and no action can be taken at this time.

- **Prescriptive Authority**

The Regulatory Committee discussed interest in this topic but noted that the board does not have legislative authority at this time.

Board of Health Professions Report:

No report. The Board of Health Professions has not met since the Board last met.

PRESENTATION:

Behavioral Health Workforce Dashboard

Yetty Shobo, Director of Healthcare Workforce Data Center, DHP presented information on the launch of DHP's new 2023 digital Virginia's Behavioral Health Workforce Dashboard. This dashboard gives state-specific data regarding licensees of Virginia's behavioral healthcare workforce.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Discussion of Shortage of School Psychologists:

Dr. Wallace advised that, as of March 2023, there are 82.5 unfulfilled school psychology positions in Virginia and the state currently ranks near the bottom in the country for availability of school psychologists.

NEW BUSINESS:

Right Help. Right Now. Behavioral Health Transformation and Workforce Issues

Ms. Hoyle and Mr. Jenkins provided an update on the Right Help. Right Now. Behavioral Health initiative.

ASPPB Report

Dr. Chapman provided a report from the ASPPB meeting.

- **Master’s level licensure**

The ASPPB created a task force to review this topic and draft recommendations. One area of interest is in determining if the EPPP should have different exam cutoff scores for candidates pursuing a master’s level license.

- **EPPP**

The ASPPB advised that there is a sample exam available for boards to review.

- **Telepsychology**

With an increase in the use of telehealth services, boards need to think about 1) requiring continuing education that is specific to telehealth, 2) requirements for training to provide safe and competent telehealth services, and 3) the concern about the lack of available continuing education in this topic.

- **Other areas of discussion**

- Determining program equivalency.
- Updates to the ethics code.
- Increasing workforce.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next Full Board Meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2023.

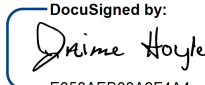
ADJOURNMENT:

Dr. Wallace adjourned the meeting at 2:26 p.m.

Board of Psychology Meeting Minutes were approved as written at the September 19, 2023 meeting.

Susan Brown Wallace, Ph.D., Chair Chairperson

Date

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9/18/2023

Jaime Hoyle, JD, Executive Director

Date