

DRAFT
Board of Counseling
Regulatory Committee Minutes
February 16, 2006

TIME & PLACE: The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. on February 16, 2006 in Board Room 4 at the Department of Health Professions, 6603 West Broad Street, 5th Floor, Richmond, Virginia.

PRESIDING: Kevin S. Doyle, Ed.D., Chair

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin S. Doyle, Ed.D.
Jack Knapp, D.D.
Charles "Rip" McAdams, Ed.D.
Karen Rosen, Ed.D.
Linda Seeman, Ph.D.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mary Lou Argow
Sandra Stith, Ph.D.

STAFF PRESENT: Evelyn B. Brown, Executive Director
Ben Foster, Deputy Executive Director
Diana Pollick, Administrative Assistant
Howard Casway, Senior Assistant Attorney General
Elaine Yeatts, Agency Regulatory Coordinator

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: APPROVED after adding "Credentials" to Old Business

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Dr. Knapp made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2005 minutes. Dr. Rosen seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

Board Member Handbook Update: Ben Foster
Updated information was disseminated to members.

Ben Foster & Elaine Yeatts: Regulatory Language Regarding
Endorsement and Residency:

Mr. Foster shared with the Committee the proposed regulatory language changes. Ms. Yeatts stated that the language was not clear regarding what the endorsement desired changes are. When the portability issue was put forth some issues arose regarding the current endorsement regulations and "dual standards". Evelyn Brown stated that Mr. Nebiker has expressed concern about the confusion level of the portability language

resulting in complaints from Delegates representing applicants who can not endorse in. Elaine Yeatts stated that commitments were made to Legislators that the Board would work on the endorsement process and that the Regulatory Committee needs to be clear about what its intent is. If the Board relinquishes its authority to the National Credentials Bank it will have the power to approve licensure while someone with the exact same credentials applying by endorsement though the Board could be denied licensure.

Dr. Knapp noted that the term “substantially equivalent” was of concern but revisions must be careful not to restrict the flexibility of the Credentials Committee. Elaine Yeatts stated a possible alternative might be to consider years of experience in lieu of other requirements such as coursework. Howard Casway stated that legally “substantially equivalent” means “comparable”, and that the Board needs to determine exactly what it will waive and what it will not regarding both endorsement and portability licensure processes and language. Ben Foster shared that in the past the Board has wanted to accept the Portability Model’s Tier II which requires a 60 semester hour Masters. Dr. Knapp stated that the Board should abide by the regulations in effect now which require the 60 hour Masters.

Dr. Doyle stated that the difficulty is that there is a conflict between the National Credentials Bank with portability and the endorsement process with the regulations. He questioned whether the Board wants to go forward, and what language should be used. The goal is to assist the Credentials Committee with the “substantially equivalent” issue.

Evelyn Brown and Elaine Yeatts stated that years of experience vs. coursework needs to be explored to determine what exactly the Board is trying to mirror. Mr. Foster stated he feels that this is a matter of clarifying the endorsement language rather than a portability issue. He further stated that the Board needs to identify its options and that this language needs to be applied to all three licensed professions under the Board of Counseling. It was the consensus of the Regulatory Committee that the language should use 18 VAC 125-20-42-5-a-d of the Board of Psychology (Prerequisites for Licensure by Endorsement) as a model. Dr. Seeman made a motion to have the proposed language applied to 18 VAC 115-20-45, 18 VAC 115-50-40 and 18 VAC 115-60-50. The motion was seconded by Dr. Knapp and passed unanimously.

Correspondence from Neta Davis: Kevin Doyle

Dr. Doyle reported that Ms. Davis was supportive of the proposed regulatory change in 18 VAC 115-20-52-B-2 that would allow a minimum of one hour of supervision per every 40 hours worked and a maximum of 2 hours of supervision per every 40 hours worked.

Credentials Committee: Mary Lou Argow

Ms. Argow reported that Regulation 18 VAC 115-20-49-A&B needs clarification regarding coursework that prepares individuals to practice counseling at the clinical level, not merely “practice counseling and counseling treatment intervention” as the regulations read now. Statute §54.1-3500 was reviewed and it was agreed that the statutory language sufficiently addressed this concern.

Technology & Supervision: Kevin Doyle

Dr. Doyle announced that Alan Forrest will be presenting a report to the Board at the quarterly Board Meeting tomorrow regarding online counseling issues. This will be a starting point for discussion and direction on similar issues of supervision.

Qualifications of an Approved Supervisor: Ben Foster

Mr. Foster disseminated information downloaded from the AASCB website. A brief discussion followed which resulted in Dr. Doyle requesting someone to review what is current with other Boards so that the Board may begin to establish some criteria and hopefully piggyback this issue on the current NOIRA. Dr. McAdams volunteered to perform this review. In the past designating criteria for supervisors was considered too restrictive so it was suggested that Evelyn Brown will invite Mr. Nebiker to the June 8, 2006 meeting to discuss this issue.

NEXT MEETING: June 8, 2006. 12:30 PM Lunch. 1:00 PM Meeting

ADJOURN: Dr. Knapp made a motion to adjourn at 3:37 PM. This was seconded by Dr. McAdams and passed unanimously.

