



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
BUREAU OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
RAE RAMSDELL
ACTING DIRECTOR

STEVEN H. HILFINGER
DIRECTOR

MICHIGAN BOARD OF COUNSELING SEPTEMBER 9, 2011 APPROVED MINUTES

In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, 1976, PA 267, as amended, the Michigan Board of Counseling met in regular session on September 9, 2011, at the Ottawa Building, 611 W. Ottawa, Conference Room 4, Upper Level Conference Center, Lansing, Michigan.

CALL TO ORDER

Marion Turowski, L.P.C., Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Marion Turowski, L.P.C., Chairperson
Steve Hampton, L.M.S.W.
Rev. Meredith Hunt, Public Member
Laura LeClear, Public Member
Harriet Singleton, L.P.C.
Thomas Wuori, Public Member
Louellen Ramey, L.P.C. – Professional Member
Ramsey Y. Jiddou -Public Member
Patrick Munley Ph.D. -Professional Member

Members Absent: Martha Burkett, L.P.C.

Staff Present: Kristen Kinney, Board Secretary, Health Regulatory Division
Norene Lind, Policy Manager, Health Regulatory Division
Kelly Hugh, Policy Analyst, Health Regulatory Division
Desmond Mitchell, Policy Analyst, Health Regulatory Division
(left at 11:21 a.m.)
Jennifer Fitzgerald, Assistant Attorney General
Rae Ramsdell, Director, Health Regulatory Division
Lucinda Clark, Licensing Manager, Health Regulatory Division
(left at 11:20 a.m.)

Others Present: Max Hoffman, Attorney

Eric Blumberg, Michigan Mental Health Counselors Association
Noah Smith, Michigan Counseling Association
Anissa Johnson, Student at Grand Canyon University

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Turowski asked new members to introduce themselves. She was obliged. All Board members introduced themselves as well.

RESOLUTIONS

Turowski presented the Board with Resolutions for the following members who have served on the Board and terms have expired or resignation occurred:

Delilia Owens, PhD, L.P.C.
Stuart Itkowitz, L.P.C.
Mary Kelley, ED. D
Robbie Steward, L.P.C

ELECTIONS

MOTION by Hampton, seconded by Le Clear, to re-appoint Turowski as Chairperson.

A roll call vote was taken.

MOTION PREVAILED

MOTION by Le Clear, seconded by Singleton to appoint Hampton as Vice Chairperson.

A roll call vote was taken.

MOTION PREVAILED

Turowski appointed Munley to the Disciplinary Subcommitt (DSC), representing Professionals, and Jiddou was appointed as Public Alternate. Munley will begin serving on the DSC at the next meeting. Turowski also explained to the new members of the Board the roles of being a member of the Disciplinary Subcommittee and being a conferee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Wouri, seconded by Jiddou, to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2011 meeting as presented.

MOTION PREVAILED

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Singleton, seconded by Wuori to approve the agenda with the following addition under New Business:

National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) Meeting

MOTION PREVAILED

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Results of Public Hearing on Proposed Administrative Rules

Mitchell provided the Board with an update on the Public Hearing. He stated that three associations had asked to have rule R338.1757 (1) (c) deleted from the rule set. Turowski and Wuori stated that they had thought the rule had already been stricken. The Board agreed unanimously to have the rule removed.

Use of video chat for supervision

Ramsdell provided the Board with handouts from the NBCC's website regarding internet counseling and counseling relationships. Ramsdell discussed the privacy challenges associated with transmitting and reviewing records using internet-based communication.

Turowski stated that there had been a presentation at the NBCC Meeting regarding the topic. She stated that the NBCC is moving towards opening the door for internet counseling. Turowski informed the Board that Skyping is used in the state of North Dakota. The North Dakota Board of Counseling looks at each case individually, and depending on the circumstance, will grant permission for Skype to be used. Turowski stated that the responsibility to make it work relies on the counselor. Patient confidentiality was a highlighted area of concern. Further discussion was held.

Ramsdell stated that the Board does have the power to make a decision regarding internet counseling and/or supervision.

Ramsdell stated that if a counselor is dealing with a Michigan patient, that counselor will need to be licensed in the state of Michigan.

Mitchell offered to research how other states handle video counseling and supervision.

NEW BUSINESS

Client Records - Protocol for handling records upon death of a counselor

Turowski stated that she found nothing defined regarding the topic. Ramsdell handed out copies of The Public Health Code Section 333.16213 (3) (b) and directed the Board to where it indicates what should be done when a licensee is deceased. Ramsdell stated that the Bureau of Health Professions should be notified of where transferred records are sent. Further discussion was held regarding the topic before Mitchell asked if the Board felt that the Public Health Code was adequate and stated that he felt it was more of a matter of educating counselors on the proper procedure. Ramsdell stated that an article about the topic could be added to State organization websites and into the Health Links publication.

NBCC Meeting Update

Turowski made the Board aware that she had attended the National Board of Certified Counselors Meeting that was held in Greensboro, North Carolina. She stated that the Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (CACREP) issues standards for the counseling profession every five to six years, with 2009 being the most recent. She stated that the divisions in counseling, Mental Health and Marriage and Family Therapy, are being required to have sixty additional continuing education credits, which previously had been lower. Turowski stated that this is something that the Board will need to research and consider.

Department Update

Ramsdell introduced new staff members, Norene Lind, Policy Manager and Kelly Hugh, Policy Analyst to the Board.

Ramsdell advised the Board that the Governor's Office has convened a committee to review all regulated occupations in Michigan and stated that there was a timeframe of 120 days to complete the task.

REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Turowski invited the public to introduce themselves. Four visitors did introduce themselves to the Board but had no comments or concerns.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held December 2, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Upper Level Conference Center, Conference Room 4, Lansing, Michigan.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Singleton, seconded by Wuori, to adjourn the meeting at 11:27 a.m.

Steven D. Hunter, LMSW (Acting Chair)

Marion Turowski, L.P.C., Chairperson

Kristen Kinney

Kristen Kinney, Board Secretary

12/2/11

Date Minutes Approved

September 13, 2011

Date Minutes Prepared