

**TENNESSEE BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN PSYCHOLOGY  
MINUTES**

**DATE:** April 13-14, 2005  
**TIME:** 9:00 a.m., CST  
**LOCATION:** Tennessee Room  
Ground Floor, Cordell Hull Building  
Nashville, TN

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**PRESENT:** Debra Davenport, M.A., Sr. P.E., Chair  
Denise Davis, Ph. D., Vice Chair  
Carl Gillyeyen, Psy. D.  
Robert Kores, Ph.D.  
Janice Martin, Ph. D.  
William Vaughn, Ph. D., Sr. P.E.  
Donald Brookshire, Psy.D.  
Carolyn West-Willette, Ed.D

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**ABSENT:** Michael Stagg, Esq.

**STAFF**

**PRESENT:** Melody Spitznas, Board Administrator  
Nicole Armstrong, Advisory Attorney  
Rick Agee, Unit Director  
Jerry Kosten, Rules Coordinator  
Robbie Bell, Director  
Barbara Maxwell, Administrative Director  
Stacy Lannan, Administrative Assistant  
Shelaine Sadler, AARB1

Ms. Davenport, chair, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. A sufficient number of board members were present to constitute a quorum.

Ms. Doty introduced Shiva Bozarth, new litigating attorney for the Office of General Counsel, to the board.

**Conflict of Interest**

Ms. Armstrong reviewed the conflict of interest policy with the board asking the board members to disclose any conflict of interest they may have prior to contested cases or any other legal proceedings or matters to determine if there is a conflict of interest.

### **Consent Order for Luanne Overton**

The board reviewed a consent order for **Luanne Overton, L.P.E.**, for unprofessional, dishonorable or unethical conduct and multiple relationships. Dr. Martin made a motion, seconded by Dr. Gilleylen to accept the consent order as written which revokes Ms. Overton's license. The motion carried.

### **Consent Order for Duff Wright**

The board reviewed a consent order for **Duff Wright, Ph.D.** for unprofessional, dishonorable or unethical conduct. Dr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Dr. Martin to accept the consent order as written which revokes Dr. Wright's license and permanently prohibits him from obtaining a psychologist license or certificate from the Tennessee Board of Examiners in Psychology. The motion carried.

### **Letter of Reprimand for David Yarian, Ph.D.**

The board reviewed a letter of reprimand for **David Yarian, Ph.D.** for unprofessional, dishonorable or unethical conduct, multiple relationships and violations of the board's rules. Dr. Gilleylen made a motion, seconded by Dr. Davis, to ratify the letter of reprimand which requires Dr. Yarian to provide proof of strict compliance with the American Psychological Association and obtain five (5) hours of continuing education in ethics. The motion carried.

### **Agreed Order for Angel Gieske**

Upon review of the agreed order for **Angel Gieske** for engaging in activities for remuneration involving or relating to psychological services, counseling services or social work without a license, Dr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Dr. Gilleylen, to accept the agreed order which fines Ms. Gieske \$9,050 plus costs. The motion carried.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Upon review of the January 12-13, 2005 board meeting minutes Dr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Dr. Gilleylen, to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion carried.

### **Disciplinary Report**

Ms. Phelps reviewed the disciplinary report with the board stating there are four (4) practitioners being monitored.

### **Investigative Report**

Ms. Phelps reviewed the investigative report with the board stating there are thirteen (13) new complaints for the Board of Examiners in Psychology.

### **Office of General Counsel (OGC) Report**

Ms. Armstrong reviewed the OGC report stating there are twenty-two (22) open cases pertaining to the Board of Examiners in Psychology, involving sixteen (16) licensees. Ms. Armstrong said seventeen (17) cases are against Psychologists and five (5) cases are against Psychological Examiners.

Ms. Armstrong stated there are two roll call votes scheduled for today's meeting for Rule 1180-2-.02, regarding proof of equivalency to APA/APPIC internships and Rule 1180-2-.03, .05, .06; 1180-.03, .05; 1180-4-.03, regarding criminal background checks for applicants.

### **Review affidavit of supervisor form**

Ms. Spitznas reviewed the Affidavit of Supervisor form with the board which is designed to keep track of supervisors.

Upon review of the form, Dr. Vaughn made a motion, seconded by Dr. Gilleylen, to adopt the form as written. The motion carried.

### **Jerry Kosten, Rules Coordinator**

Mr. Kosten stated a rulemaking hearing was held March 1, 2005 to amend Rule 1180-2-.02, qualifications for licensure. Mr. Kosten said the amendment pertains to the internship requirements.

Upon review, Dr. Vaughn made a motion, seconded by Dr. Davis, to adopt the rule as amended. A roll call vote was conducted and all board members voted in the affirmative.

Mr. Kosten stated a rulemaking hearing was held March 21, 2005 to amend Rule 1180-2-.03, procedures for licensure to include mandatory criminal background checks.

Upon review, Dr. Vaughn made a motion, seconded by Dr. Martin, to adopt the rule as amended. A roll call vote was conducted and all board members voted in the affirmative.

Mr. Kosten stated that an act to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39; Title 53; Title 63 and Title 68 is in legislation. Ms. Kosten said the act is relative to providing prescriptive authority for psychologists.

Ms. Armstrong stated that if the law is passed it will be in effect in one year which would make it December 31, 2006.

### **Approve Jurisprudence Exam questions**

The board reviewed the jurisprudence exam questions. Mr. Kosten said he was concerned that the test was too hard as the applicant must receive a 90%, or better, in order to pass the test of twenty (20) questions.

Ms. Davenport suggested the board members take the test home for review and discussion at the next board meeting.

### **Administrative Report**

Ms. Spitznas reviewed the administrative report stating there are 1232 licensed Psychologists and 649 licensed Psychological Examiners and Senior Psychological Examiners. Ms. Spitznas said between January 6, 2005 and April 6, 2005, thirty-seven (37) Psychologists and eighteen (18) Psychological Examiners renewed their license online.

Ms. Spitznas asked the board members to submit travel requests, including registration forms and brochures, 120 days prior to the travel date.

Ms. Spitznas stated she is completing the continuing education audit for Psychology and will have the results for the next board meeting.

### **Review and make changes to applications/renewal fees**

The board discussed making changes to their application and renewal fees.

Ms. Bell stated that she would consult with the other boards to see where they stand in their application and renewal fees and have the information for the next meeting.

### **File Review**

Upon review of the file of **Steven L. Gray, Ph.D./HSP**, Dr. Martin made a motion, seconded by Dr. Brookshire, to accept Dr. Gray's doctoral degree and internship for licensure. The motion carried.

Upon review of the file of **Brandi Mangan**, certified psychological assistant applicant, Dr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Dr. Vaughan, to delay the application until receipt of her master's degree transcript and proof the degree granting institutions is regionally accredited. The motion carried.

Upon review of the file of **Anthony Doran, Ph.D./HSP**, Dr. West-Willette made a motion, seconded by Dr. Davis, to approve Dr. Doran to sit for the oral exam. The motion carried.

Upon review of the letter from **Christina Birdwell, Ph.D./HSP**, Dr. Brookshire made a motion, seconded by Dr. Vaughn, to delay the application until receipt of her second internship and post doctoral information. The motion carried.

Upon review of the reinstatement application of **Karen McDougal-Rutledge, Ph.D./HSP**, Dr. Kores made a motion, seconded by Dr. Vaughn, to accept her reinstatement. The motion carried.

Upon review of the file of **Sharon Davern, P.E.** Ms. Davenport made a motion, seconded by Dr. Gilleylen, to ratify the closure of the file. The motion carried.

Upon review of the file of **Lora Lynn Burkett, P.E.**, Dr. Vaughn made a motion, seconded by Dr. Martin, to approve her to sit for the written exam. The motion carried.

### **Senior Psychological Examiners Upgrade**

Dr. Vaughn made a motion, seconded by Dr. Davis, to upgrade the following applicants to Senior Psychological Examiner:

**Shannon Westerman**  
**James M. Blakeney**  
**Cheryl Grieve**  
**Sharda Mishra**

The motion carried.

Upon review of the file of **Roman McPherson, P.E.**, Dr. Vaughn made a motion, seconded by Dr. Davis, to schedule him for the written examination. The motion carried.

Upon review of the file of **Mariana Bier Lorenz, P.E.**, Dr. Martin made a motion, seconded by Dr. Davis, to deny her application as her twelve (12) additional semester hours were not completed. The motion carried.

Upon review of the file of **Shereen O. Haj-Hassan, P.E.**, Dr. Martin made a motion, seconded by Dr. Vaughn, to schedule her for the written examination. The motion carried.

### **Ratify recommendations made by Dr. Davis of her file review**

Dr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Dr. Martin, to ratify the following recommendations for Psychologists:

#### **Christopher Blazina, Ph.D./HSP**

Issue applicant a temporary license and schedule for the oral examination.

#### **Steve D. Brown, Ph.D./HSP**

Schedule applicant for the oral examination.

#### **B. Charles Ihrig, Ph.D./HSP**

Issue applicant a provisional license and schedule for the written and oral examinations.

#### **Theodore J. LaVaque, Ph.D./HSP**

Accept applicants credentials under Rule 1180-2-02(2)(c) and schedule for the oral examination.

**Angela Steep, Psy.D./HSP**

Issue applicant a temporary license and schedule for the oral exam.

**Jennifer Stone, Ph.D./HSP**

Schedule applicant for the oral examination.

**Daniel Strunk, Ph.D./HSP**

Issue applicant a provisional license and schedule for the written and oral examinations.

**Jacqueline Tang-Morgan, Ph.D./HSP**

Schedule applicant for oral examination.

**Dawn Wilkinson, Ph.D./HSP**

Issue applicant a provisional license and schedule for the written and oral examinations.

The motion carried.

The board reviewed the application of **Julie O’Digie**, psychological examiner applicant, who submitted her own typed application. The board asked Ms. Spitznas to send Ms. O’Digie a letter along with the board’s application to be filled out by the applicant.

**Laura Berrier, Psychological Examiner applicant**

Ms. Davenport introduced **Laura Berrier** who was requested to appear before the board to discuss her psychological examiner application.

Upon discussion with Ms. Berrier of her previous felony charges, Dr. Martin made a motion, seconded by Dr. Brookshire, to approve Ms. Berrier for a temporary license with the following conditions:

- 1) Applicant’s temporary license to practice as a Psychological Examiner will be placed on probation for the duration of the temporary license, for a period of up to one (1) year. Applicant must personally appear before the Board again following her successful completion of the written and oral exams for a determination of whether the conditions/restrictions placed on the applicant’s temporary license will be continued by the Board. Information on the applicable board meeting may be obtained by contacting the Board’s administrative staff or consulting the Department of Health’s website.
- 2) Applicant must attend regular psychotherapy sessions to be conducted by a therapist qualified to address the substance abuse history, and must follow the treatment recommendations of that therapist.
- 3) The supervisor of applicant’s work as a Psychological Examiner may not also be the applicant’s therapist for the psychotherapy or the same individual who is the applicant’s sponsor for her recovery program.
- 4) Applicant must undergo random drug screens twice a month, to be conducted by the employer.

- 5) Applicant shall not ingest alcohol, narcotics or any mood or mind altering substances, except those medically necessary that are prescribed by a health care practitioner whose patient records reflect the history of substance abuse and ongoing recovery.
- 6) Applicant shall actively participate in an ongoing recovery program, with attendance at 12-step/support meetings three (3) times a week, and receive signed attendance slips to the Board's administrative office every two (2) months.
- 7) Applicant must submit a report every two (2) months from her psychotherapist (attesting to applicant's attendance at counseling and compliance with therapy recommendations) and from her employer (attesting to applicant's negative drug screens and satisfactory work performance). The applicant's therapist and employer must provide immediate notification to the Board's administrative office should the applicant violate the terms of the applicant's probation.
- 8) Applicant must promptly advise the Board in writing on any changes in address, employment, or compliance with the terms of her probation.

The motion carried.

### **Ratify newly licensed Psychologists**

Dr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Dr. Vaughn, to ratify the following newly licensed Psychologists:

**Allison Sue Bender, Ph.D.**  
**Kimberlee Caroline Berry-Sawyer, Ph.D.**  
**Kelly Lynn Bishop-Diaz, Ph.D.**  
**S. Karla Bray, Ph.D.**  
**Douglas E. Emerson, Psy.D.**  
**Debra Mae Fish, Psy.D.**  
**Brenda Miller Karns, Ph.D.**  
**Robert Lynn Paul, Ph.D.**  
**Lisa Christine Pellegrin, Ph.D.**  
**Lina Lynise Robinson, Ph.D.**  
**Zachary Lee Tureau, Ph.D.**  
**Edward R. Kovach, Ph.D.**  
**Tara Kuhn, Ph.D.**

The motion carried.

### **Reinstatement**

Dr. Vaughn made a motion, seconded by Dr. Gilleylen, to ratify the following applicants for reinstatement:

### **Psychologists**

**Jerry W. Melcher, Ph.D.**  
**William James O'Brien, Psy.D.**

**Carolyn C. Valerio**

Psychological Examiners

**Wayne Faust**

The motion carried.

**Review and ratify written exam results**

Dr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Dr. Vaughn, to ratify the following passing score of the written examinations:

Psychologist/HSP

**Courtney Dirksen, Ph.D.**

**Adam McLain, Ph.D.**

**John Thurman, Ph.D.**

**Nehaben (Neha) Shah, Ph.D.**

Psychologist

**Jennifer Dembowski, Ph.D.**

Psychological Examiners

**Collette Coutts**

**Elizabeth Nelson**

The motion carried.

Dr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Dr. Vaughn, to ratify the following failing scores of the written examination:

Psychological Examiners

**Cynthia Day**

**Linda Dunn**

The motion carried.

**Ratify oral exam results**

Dr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Dr. Vaughn, to ratify the passing score of the oral examinations and issue licenses to the following candidates who have completed the postdoctoral supervised experience:

Psychologists/HSP

**Lina Robinson, Ph.D./HSP**  
**Edward Kovach, Ph.D./HSP**  
**Allison Bender, Ph.D./HSP**  
**Melissa Riggs, Ph.D./HSP**  
**Tara Kuhn, Ph.D./HSP**

The motion carried.

**Review correspondence**

Upon review of the letter from **Shelly Foster**, requesting a waiver of \$100 penalty fee for continuing education due to personal hardship, Dr. Vaughn made a motion, seconded by Dr. Kores, to deny the request. The motion carried.

Upon review of the letter from **Prudie Orr**, requesting a waiver of continuing education due to illness, Ms. Davenport made a motion, seconded by Dr. Davis, to request clarification in writing from Dr. Orr and inform her she can retire her license until such time she can return to practice. The motion carried.

Upon review of the letter from **Amanda Monville, Ph.D.**, requesting an extension on her provisional license due to pregnancy, Dr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Dr. Vaughn, to request a letter from Ms. Monville stating the ending date of her maternity leave. The motion carried.

Upon review of the letter from **Frank Burke, Ph.D.**, requesting a waiver of continuing education for 2001-2002 due to illness, Dr. Vaughn made a motion, seconded by Dr. Brookshire, to waive the continuing education hours for 2001-2002 and ask Ms. Spitznas to write Dr. Burke a letter informing him he can retire his license until such time he can return to practice. The motion carried.

**Tennessee Psychological Association Peer Assistance Program**

The board discussed the Tennessee Psychological Association Peer Assistance Program and determined to sunshine it for the next scheduled board meeting in order to invite a TPA representative to the meeting to discuss their program.

**Jurisprudence Exam Questions**

Ms. Davenport requested the board members take the jurisprudence exam questions home for review and submit any changes to Dr. Kores via e-mail.

Dr. Kores and Dr. Gilleylen agreed to oversee the implementation of the exam questions.

With no other board business to conduct, Dr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Dr. Vaughn, to adjourn the meeting at 1:30. The motion carried.

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