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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

F I N A L M I N U T E S

MEETING OF:

STATE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY

TIME: 10:31 A.M.

Held at

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2525 North 7th Street

CoPA HUB, Eaton Conference Room

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

as well as

VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

June 3, 2024

State Board of Psychology
June 3, 2024

BOARD MEMBERS:

Steven K. Erickson, Ph.D., Chair
Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of
Professional and Occupational Affairs
Donald McAleer, Psy.D., Vice Chair
Katherine Bradley, Ph.D., Secretary
LaJewel Harrison, MBA, Public Member

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Jared Hinsey, Esquire, Board Counsel,
Jacqueline A. Wolfgang, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel
Adam J. Williams, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
Patrick Greene, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Berk V. Demiral, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Adrienne Rachelle McClendon, Esquire, Board
Prosecutor
Courtney J. Restemayer, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Thomas Leech II, Board Administrator
Holly Hoffman, Law Clerk, Department of State

ALSO PRESENT:

Molly Cowan, Psy.D., Director of Professional
Affairs, Pennsylvania Psychological Association
Rachael Baturin, MHP, JD, Pennsylvania Psychological
Association
David Zehrung, Ph.D.

1 ***

2 State Board of Psychology

3 June 3, 2024

4 ***

5 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act,
6 at 9:30 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session
7 with Jared Hinsey, Esquire, Board Counsel, for the
8 purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations on
9 a number of matters that are currently pending before
10 the Board and to receive the advice of counsel. The
11 Board returned to open session at 10:30 a.m.]

12 ***

13 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State
14 Board of Psychology was held on Monday, June 3, 2024.
15 Steven K. Erickson, Ph.D., Chair, called the meeting
16 to order at 10:31 a.m.

17 ***

18 Introduction of Board Members/Attendees

19 [Thomas Leech II, Board Administrator, provided an
20 introduction of Board members and attendees. A
21 quorum of Board members was present.]

22 ***

23 [Jared Hinsey, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted the
24 meeting was being recorded, and those who continued
25 to participate were giving their consent to be

1 recorded.

2 Mr. Hinsey also noted the Board entered into
3 Executive Session with Board Counsel to have
4 attorney-client consultations and for the purpose of
5 conducting quasi-judicial deliberations.]

6 ***

7 Approval of minutes of the April 8, 2024 meeting

8 CHAIR ERICKSON:

9 The first item on the agenda is the
10 approval of the minutes.

11 MR. HINSEY:

12 I believe, at this time, the Board
13 Chair would entertain a motion to
14 approve the minutes of the April 8,
15 2024 Board meeting.

16 DR. BRADLEY:

17 I'll motion.

18 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

19 Second.

20 MR. LEECH:

21 Dr. Erickson, aye; Commissioner
22 Claggett, aye; Dr. McAleer, aye; Dr.
23 Bradley, aye; Ms. Harrison, aye.

24 [The motion carried unanimously.]

25 ***

1 Report of Board Counsel - Legislative Update
2 [Jared Hinsey, Esquire, Board Counsel, informed Board
3 members that House Bill 2178 has been introduced. He
4 noted the proposed legislation would add the
5 requirement to applicants and licensees of health-
6 related boards to complete training regarding
7 implicit bias and cultural competence in accordance
8 with the continuing education requirements of the
9 health-related boards. He noted House Bill 2178 was
10 referred to the House Professional Licensure
11 Committee on April 3, 2024.]

12 ***

13 Report of Board Prosecution - No Report
14 [Adam J. Williams, Esquire, Board Prosecution
15 Liaison, had no consent agreements to present.
16 Mr. Williams introduced new prosecuting
17 attorneys; Patrick Greene, Berk Demiral, C.J.
18 Restemayer, and Adrienne McClendon.]

19 ***

20 Report of Regulatory Counsel - Status of Regulations
21 [Jacqueline A. Wolfgang, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel,
22 provided an update on the status of regulations. She
23 referred to the continuing education regulation and
24 noted the Board received two comments after the
25 exposure draft was sent out on April 16, 2024. She

1 hoped to move the regulation forward as proposed
2 after further Board discussion later during the
3 meeting.

4 Ms. Wolfgang addressed the Psychological Clinical
5 Science Accreditation System (PCSAS) parity
6 regulation. She noted preparing the Regulatory
7 Analysis Form and submitting the regulation to the
8 Office of General Counsel, Office of the Budget, and
9 Office of Policy and Planning for review and
10 approval. She explained that the Office of Attorney
11 General would then have 30 days to review the
12 regulation and then would be publish as proposed.

13 Ms. Wolfgang referred to the Conversion Therapy
14 Statement of Policy, noting it would be published on
15 June 8, 2024, so all of the Conversion Therapy
16 Statement of Policies could be published on the same
17 day.

18 Ms. Wolfgang addressed one comment from the
19 Pennsylvania Psychological Association (PSA) for 16A-
20 6317 regarding continuing education, noting they
21 commended the board for mandating the 3 continuing
22 education credits in diversity training for each
23 biennium.

24 Ms. Wolfgang noted PSA expressed concern with the
25 Board's proposal to allow licensees to obtain 100% of

1 continuing education through asynchronous distance
2 education and suggested requiring at least 10 hours
3 of synchronous distance education or in-person
4 continuing education. She informed Board members
5 that PSA supports the Board's decision to maintain
6 the carryover provision, which allows the licensee to
7 carry over to 10 credits per biennium and supports
8 the Board's decision to allow presenters to get a
9 total credit for their workshops.

10 Chair Erickson commented that he remains strongly
11 in favor of the proposed regulation and is not aware
12 of any research that indicates in-person continuing
13 education provides any benefit over distance or
14 asynchronous education. He noted it is his opinion
15 not to place a burden on people if there is no data
16 to support it and also mentioned that there is
17 nothing to stop a psychologist from getting 100% of
18 their credits in person.

19 Dr. McAleer agreed with Chair Erickson and
20 believed it has to do with the licensed professionals
21 accepting responsibility for their own education and
22 ethical professional practice. He mentioned that any
23 issues related to isolation needs to be recognized,
24 along with taking some steps in further remediating
25 that through engagement. He believed the regulation

1 as proposed makes sense for the diverse population of
2 psychologists in Pennsylvania.

3 Ms. Wolfgang commented that the regulation can
4 move forward. She stated the Board is proposing the
5 continuing education, but if House Bill 2178 goes
6 through, the Board would have to incorporate that at
7 a different time because it is a little different
8 than what the Board is proposing.

9 Ms. Wolfgang addressed a comment received from
10 Salvatore Cullari, a previous board member and board
11 chair, expressing support of the changes and believed
12 the confusion associated with the current regulations
13 could be reduced. He indicated the Board's
14 regulations have been a source of confusion for
15 licensed psychologists and even some Board members
16 for many years and commended the Board for proposing
17 the changes.]

18 MS. WOLFGANG:

19 If the Board is happy with the
20 regulation, I would ask for a vote to
21 adopt the proposed regulation and
22 instruct regulatory counsel to move the
23 proposed regulation through the
24 regulatory process.

25 CHAIR ERICKSON:

1 We need a motion.

2 DR. BRADLEY:

3 I'll make a motion to vote on the
4 proposed regulation.

5 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

6 Second.

7 MR. LEECH:

8 Dr. Erickson, aye; Commissioner
9 Claggett, aye; Dr. McAleer, aye; Dr.
10 Bradley, aye; Ms. Harrison, aye.

11 [The motion carried unanimously.]

12 ***

13 Report of Regulatory Counsel

14 [Jacqueline A. Wolfgang, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel,
15 informed Board members that the Psychological
16 Clinical Science Accreditation System website was
17 showing the state of Pennsylvania already adopted
18 PCSAS as an accreditation. She noted reaching out to
19 PCSAS and clarifying that the Board is still in the
20 regulatory process.]

21 ***

22 Report of Board Chairperson

23 [Steven K. Erickson, Ph.D., Chair, announced Dr.
24 McAleer will be presenting at the Annual Pennsylvania
25 Psychological Association Conference on Thursday,

1 June 13. He noted looking forward to presenting and
2 engaging with the public and colleagues.]

3 ***

4 Report of Acting Commissioner
5 [Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of
6 Professional and Occupational Affairs, informed Board
7 members that e-licensure was enabled in the
8 Pennsylvania Licensing System (PALS) on May 31 for
9 licensees to be able to print their own license.]

10 ***

11 Report of Board Administrator - Application to
12 Request Approval to Sit for the Psychology
13 Licensing Examinations

14 MR. HINSEY:

15 Based on Executive Session
16 deliberations, I believe the Board
17 Chair would entertain a motion to
18 provisionally deny the Application to
19 Sit for the Psychology Licensing
20 Examinations at agenda item 5, Robin
21 Maria Alvarez, Ph.D.

22 DR. BRADLEY:

23 I'll make a motion.

24 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

25 Second.

1 MR. LEECH:

2 Dr. Erickson, aye; Commissioner
3 Claggett, aye; Dr. McAleer, aye; Dr.
4 Bradley, aye; Ms. Harrison, aye.

5 [The motion carried unanimously.]

6 ***

7 Report of Board Administrator - Application to
8 Practice Psychology for Persons Licensed in Other
9 States

10 MR. HINSEY:

11 Based on Executive Session
12 deliberations, I believe the Board
13 Chair would entertain a motion to
14 approve the Application to Practice
15 Psychology for Persons Licensed in
16 Other States at agenda item 6, Lynn
17 Tison, Ph.D.

18 DR. BRADLEY:

19 I'll make a motion.

20 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

21 Second.

22 MR. LEECH:

23 Dr. Erickson, aye; Commissioner
24 Claggett, aye; Dr. McAleer, aye; Dr.
25 Bradley, aye; Ms. Harrison, aye.

1 [The motion carried unanimously.]

2 ***

3 Report of Board Administrator - Review of Supervised
4 Experience

5 MR. HINSEY:

6 Based on Executive Session
7 deliberations, I believe the Board
8 Chair would entertain a motion to
9 approve the Supervised Experience and
10 Application to Sit for the Psychology
11 Licensing Examinations at agenda item
12 7, Rabia Malik-Mian, Ph.D.

13 DR. BRADLEY:

14 I'll make a motion.

15 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

16 Second.

17 MR. LEECH:

18 Dr. Erickson, aye; Commissioner
19 Claggett, aye; Dr. McAleer, aye; Dr.
20 Bradley, aye; Ms. Harrison, aye.

21 [The motion carried unanimously.]

22 ***

23 Report of Board Administrator - Application for
24 Approval of Corporate or Fictitious Names

25 MR. HINSEY:

1 Based on Executive Session
2 deliberations, I believe the Board
3 Chair would entertain a motion to
4 provisionally deny the Corporate or
5 Fictitious Name at agenda item 8,
6 Philly Somatic Therapy PLLC.

7 DR. BRADLEY:

8 I'll make a motion.

9 MS. HARRISON:

10 I'll second.

11 MR. LEECH:

12 Dr. Erickson, aye; Commissioner
13 Claggett, nay; Dr. McAleer, aye; Dr.
14 Bradley, aye; Ms. Harrison, aye.

15 [The motion carried. Arion Claggett opposed the
16 motion.]

17 ***

18 Report of Board Members - No Report

19 ***

20 Discussion Items - CE Instruction/Teaching

21 [Jared Hinsey, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted the
22 Board received a question asking which biennium
23 period to count continuing education (CE) credits
24 obtained by instruction or teaching between biennium
25 periods.]

1 Mr. Hinsey referred to § 41.59(f)(1) of the
2 regulations, which allows psychologists to accrue up
3 to 15 of the required contact hours of continuing
4 education by offering either (i) a course in
5 psychology for regionally accredited college or
6 university if the course generates a semester/quarter
7 hour credit or (ii) a workshop for an approved
8 sponsor.

9 Mr. Hinsey noted the question specifically asked
10 which biennium would the board like to count the CE
11 credits for if that course or workshop falls between
12 biennia, keeping in mind the credits could be split
13 between each biennium.

14 Chair Erickson commented that it could be an
15 either/or in the sense that it could be counted for
16 one period or the other since the regulations are
17 silent in regards to which one it would have to be.

18 Dr. Bradley expressed concern with difficulty
19 tracking for the Board administrator. She mentioned
20 that an individual would receive a certificate of
21 completion on the last day of the workshop upon
22 completion of a workshop that overlaps the biennium
23 and noted the same might apply to teaching, where the
24 actual completion date is the date of completion of
25 the course.

1 Dr. Bradley also noted it would provide
2 clarification to where it should fall and might ease
3 recordkeeping for the Board administrator.

4 Dr. McAleer commented that the regulations are
5 not exactly clear, and he is sensitive to the burden
6 of the Board administrator having to track CEs
7 because the previous Board administrator had to go
8 back six or seven bienniums to track CEs. He noted
9 being in favor of simplifying the process without
10 violating the regulation.

11 Chair Erickson commented that the licensees are
12 expected to follow the regulations, and the burden
13 should not be placed on them if the regulations are
14 not clear. He also mentioned that the burden on the
15 Board administrator was an issue in the past, but
16 believed the Board would have to amend the regulation
17 if they wanted to have it in one period versus the
18 other.

19 Mr. Hinsey asked whether the declarative would be
20 that the licensee can choose which biennia to keep
21 that credit in.

22 Chair Erickson noted that to be correct.

23 Dr. Bradley asked whether the date of completion
24 would circumvent the ambiguity from the regulations,
25 so if the Board is defining the date of completion of

1 the continuing education or, in this case, teaching a
2 course, does that provide clarity in the absence of
3 clarity in the regulations.

4 Chair Erickson stated it does not because it is
5 the regulation that needs to set the rule.

6 Mr. Hinsey explained that the regulation states
7 that a psychologist may accrue up to 15 of the
8 required contact hours by offering the course or the
9 workshop. He noted it does not say completing and
10 does not say in which biennia that must count.

11 Mr. Hinsey believed the ambiguity there would
12 possibly help in the future by some regulatory work,
13 but as it stands right now, if the Board is leaning
14 toward deference to the licensee, then he believed
15 the licensee would be able to choose.

16 Dr. Bradley clarified that an individual can earn
17 up to 15 hours by teaching courses, but it is not
18 that a course grants 15 CEU hours.

19 Mr. Hinsey explained that a licensee would
20 provide the information to the Board administrator
21 regarding the program they are offering at a
22 university that year. He stated the Board would ask
23 for credit based upon § 41.59(f)(1), where an
24 individual would like that to fall under the next
25 biennium when the course is completed or fall under

1 this biennium when an individual starts the course.

2 Mr. Leech commented that the Board cannot
3 preapprove it either and would not ask to see the CEs
4 unless they were audited and would be when he would
5 see the proof and count it for whatever biennium.

6 Mr. Hinsey noted Mr. Leech would see it after the
7 courses were completed and then the licensee could
8 say they started it in that biennium and would like
9 it to count for that and then do something for this
10 biennium.

11 Mr. Leech explained that if the Board would split
12 it, he would probably have to see the CEs for the
13 previous biennium to make sure an individual actually
14 had enough.

15 Dr. Bradley commented that the regulations also
16 specify that an individual can only get credit for
17 the same course once every so many and asked whether
18 they would be able to split it because she did not
19 believe it could be split the way the regulations are
20 currently written.

21 Mr. Hinsey referred to § 41.59(f)(2), where a
22 clock hour of instruction equals 1 contact hour. An
23 individual course or workshop may be credited to the
24 instructor only once every 4 years. The hours of
25 continuing education granted to a psychologist who

1 participates as a workshop instructor will be
2 determined by dividing the number of continuing
3 education hours granted for the workshop by the
4 number of instructors participating in the workshop.

5 Mr. Hinsey noted that is where the question then
6 occurs, if someone is teaching a whole course and
7 gets 10 hours of CE by teaching that course between
8 biennia.

9 Molly Cowan, Psy.D., Director of Professional
10 Affairs, Pennsylvania Psychological Association,
11 noted the question came in as to where it could be
12 counted and referred to Dr. Bradley's point about the
13 completion date, where that might be December 5 and
14 so they have proctored a final in the new biennium
15 but did the bulk of the actual teaching in the
16 earlier biennium.

17 Mr. Hinsey stated he would not interpret the
18 split of a singular course as double counting the
19 course but would consider teaching the same course
20 every year to then getting into the individual course
21 being accredited more than once per 4 years. He
22 believed that splitting it would not run afoul of the
23 regulations because the individual course is being
24 credited only one time.

25 Chair Erickson commented that the interpretation

1 sounds sensible and is in favor of giving licensees
2 flexibility to fulfill the continued education. He
3 mentioned that the purpose of continuing education is
4 to help people maintain their confidence and the
5 Board should facilitate that as long as it is not
6 contravening their regulations.

7 Ms. Cowan asked the Board to summarize what was
8 just concluded in terms of the continuing education.

9 Mr. Hinsey explained that the licensee would be
10 able to choose which biennia those credits would go
11 to and noted the Board also provides flexibility to
12 split the credits. He stated the course would only
13 be counted once every 4 years, and they would have to
14 wait 4 years from the last biennia that the course
15 has been credited for before they can ask for credit
16 again.]

17

18 Discussion Items - 2023 Annual Psychology Report

19 [Steven K. Erickson, Ph.D., Chair, referred to the
20 2023 Annual Psychology Report and noted 8,000 active
21 licensees in the Commonwealth and 141 opened cases.]

22

23 Discussion Items - ASPPB Annual Meeting

24 [Steven K. Erickson, Ph.D., Chair, announced that the
25 Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards

1 (ASPPB) Annual Meeting is on October 30, 2024, in
2 Dallas, Texas. He mentioned that the Board
3 administrator may be interested in attending the
4 meeting.

5 Chair Erickson also mentioned there is a vote in
6 the Senate for a new Board member and suggested
7 keeping that slot open for the new Board member.]

8 CHAIR ERICKSON:

9 I make a motion that the Board approve
10 to send two people to the ASPPB Annual
11 Meeting on October 30, 2024.

12 Is there going to be a second?

13 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

14 Second.

15 MR. LEECH:

16 Dr. Erickson, aye; Commissioner
17 Claggett, aye; Dr. McAleer, aye; Dr.
18 Bradley, aye; Ms. Harrison, aye.

19 [The motion carried unanimously.]

20 ***

21 [Donald McAleer, Psy.D., Vice Chair, commented that
22 having a public member attend the meeting would be
23 very beneficial.]

24 ***

25 Correspondence

1 MR. HINSEY:

2 Based on Executive Session
3 deliberations, I believe the Board
4 Chair would entertain a motion to
5 approve the Accommodation Requests at
6 agenda item 12, Margarita Cossuto,
7 Ph.D., and agenda item 13, Laura
8 Briscoe, Ph.D.

9 DR. BRADLEY:

10 I'll make a motion.

11 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

12 Second.

13 MR. LEECH:

14 Dr. Erickson, nay; Commissioner
15 Claggett, aye; Dr. McAleer, aye; Dr.
16 Bradley, nay; Ms. Harrison, aye.

17 [The motion carried. Steven Erickson and Katherine
18 Bradley opposed the motion.]

19 ***

20 Correspondence - Therapy Concerns Letter

21 [Jared Hinsey, Esquire, Board Counsel, referred to a
22 letter from Harshal Dear, a staff fellow at the U.S.
23 Food and Drug Administration, where a Pennsylvania
24 constituent informed her about family courts ordering
25 reunification therapies for parental alienation

1 cases. He noted the staff fellow stated the FDA
2 cannot investigate this further because they do not
3 regulate therapies and only regulate drugs and
4 devices for psychiatric conditions.

5 Mr. Hinsey stated Ms. Dear continues her letter
6 by expressing concern with minors being forced into
7 overnight reunification therapy camps and is
8 requesting that the Board to investigate these
9 practices and issue a warning letter to the camps
10 regarding certain unethical and harmful practices.

11 Mr. Hinsey noted Ms. Dear urged the Board to take
12 steps in addressing these overnight camps by
13 investigating them, providing them resources,
14 collaborating with them, and issuing warning letters,
15 but did not provide any examples or specifics of
16 where and when these camps are occurring.]

17 ***

18 Correspondence

19 MR. HINSEY:

20 Agenda item 15. Based on Executive
21 Session deliberations, I believe the
22 Board Chair would entertain a motion to
23 provisionally deny the PPLE Examination
24 Waiver Request at agenda item 15,
25 Adrienne Sprouse, Psy.D.

1 DR. BRADLEY:

2 So moved.

3 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

4 Second.

5 MR. LEECH:

6 Dr. Erickson, aye; Commissioner
7 Claggett, aye; Dr. McAleer, aye; Dr.
8 Bradley, aye; Ms. Harrison, aye.

9 [The motion carried unanimously.]

10 ***

11 FYI Items - PSYPACT 1st Quarter 2024 Compliance
12 Letter

13 [Steven K. Erickson, Ph.D., Chair, referred to the
14 Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT)
15 compliance letter and reported licensees to be in
16 good compliance with PSYPACT. He mentioned being the
17 PSYPACT Commissioner and noted that it is operating
18 smoothly in terms of the process.]

19 ***

20 Upcoming Meeting Dates

21 [Steven K. Erickson, Ph.D., Chair, noted the
22 remaining 2024 meeting dates are August 5, October 7,
23 and December 2. He also noted 2025 Board meeting
24 dates are February 10, April 14, June 16, August 18,
25 October 20, and December 15.]

1 ***

2 Adjournment

3 CHAIR ERICKSON:

4 I'll entertain a motion to adjourn the
5 meeting.

6 DR. BRADLEY:

7 So moved.

8 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

9 Second.

10 CHAIR ERICKSON:

11 Thank you very much everyone for
12 another productive meeting.

13 ***

14 [There being no further business, the State Board of
15 Psychology Meeting adjourned at 11:17 a.m.]

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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing summary minutes of the State Board of Psychology meeting, was reduced to writing by me or under my supervision, and that the minutes accurately summarize the substance of the State Board of Psychology meeting.



Jorganna Showers,

Minute Clerk

Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY
REFERENCE INDEX

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TIME	AGENDA
9:30	Executive Session
10:30	Return to Open Session
10:31	Official Call to Order
10:31	Introduction of Board Members/Attendees
10:32	Approval of Minutes
10:37	Report of Regulatory Counsel
10:43	Report of Board Chair
10:44	Report of Acting Commissioner
10:44	Report of Board Administrator
10:47	Discussion Items
11:07	Correspondence
11:09	FYI Items
11:10	Upcoming Meeting Dates
11:17	Adjournment