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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

2601 North Third Street

One Penn Center, Board Room C

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

as well as

VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

August 7, 2023

State Board of Psychology
August 7, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS:

Catherine S. Spayd, Ph.D., Chair
Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of
Professional and Occupational Affairs
Steven K. Erickson, Ph.D., Vice Chair
Katherine Bradley, Ph.D., Secretary
LaJewel Harrison, MBA, Public Member
Dean C. Maynard, Ed.D., Public Member - Absent
Richard F. Small, Ph.D.
Donald McAleer, Psy.D.

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Tyesha C. Miley, Esquire, Board Counsel
Heather J. McCarthy, Esquire, Senior Board Prosecutor
Nathan C. Giunta, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
Jonelle Harter Eshbach, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Kelsey B. Ashworth, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Thomas Leech II, Board Administrator
Marc Farrell, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel, Office of
Chief Counsel, Department of State
Andrew LaFratte, MPA, Deputy Policy Director,
Department of State
Michael McDonald, Policy Director, Department of
State
Holly Hoffman, Law Clerk, Department of State

ALSO PRESENT:

Wesley J. Rish, Esquire, Rish Law Office, LLC
Molly Cowan, Psy.D., Director of Professional
Affairs, Pennsylvania Psychological Association
Ayelet Meron Ruscio, Ph.D., Professor and Director of
Clinical Training, University of Pennsylvania
Madelena
Victoria Lantz

1 ***

2 State Board of Psychology

3 August 7, 2023

4 ***

5 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act,
6 at 10:00 a.m. the Board entered into Executive
7 Session with Tyesha C. Miley, Esquire, Board Counsel,
8 for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial
9 deliberations on a number of matters that are
10 currently pending before the Board and to receive the
11 advice of counsel. The Board returned to open
12 session at 10:30 a.m.]

13 ***

14 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State
15 Board of Psychology was held on Monday, August 7,
16 2023. Catherine S. Spayd, Ph.D., Chair, called the
17 meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

18 ***

19 [Tyesha C. Miley, Esquire, Board Counsel, advised
20 everyone that the meeting was being held pursuant to
21 Act 100 of 2021, where virtual meetings are permitted
22 and taking place in a public forum to effectuate the
23 business of the Board.

24 She noted the meeting was being recorded, and
25 those who continued to participate were giving their

1 consent to be recorded.

2 Ms. Miley also noted the Board met in Executive
3 Session to have attorney-client consultation and for
4 the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial
5 deliberations.]

6 ***

7 Introduction of Board Members

8 [Catherine S. Spayd, Ph.D., Chair, requested an
9 introduction of Board members.]

10 ***

11 Introduction of Attendees

12 [Thomas Leech II, Board Administrator, provided an
13 introduction of attendees.]

14 ***

15 Appointment - Introduction

16 [Michael McDonald, Policy Director, Department of
17 State, introduced himself and provided a brief
18 history of his professional background. He informed
19 everyone that the policy office works with the
20 secretary of state, governor, and licensing boards
21 and commissions to review legislation.

22 Mr. McDonald noted they work closely with Board
23 Counsel to help review and draft regulations or
24 implement a new policy. He also noted they research
25 what is going on in other jurisdictions and across

1 Pennsylvania that could have an impact on the
2 licensing population or citizens of Pennsylvania.

3 Mr. McDonald encouraged Board members to reach
4 out to him or Deputy Policy Director Andrew LaFratte
5 as a resource for any questions or concerns.

6 Mr. McDonald thanked Board members for their
7 service to the licensees and citizens of the
8 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

9 Chair Spayd asked how Mr. McDonald's role meshes
10 with Cynthia Montgomery's role.

11 Mr. McDonald stated Ms. Montgomery is deputy
12 chief counsel and an attorney. He noted working
13 closely with Ms. Montgomery reviewing and drafting
14 proposed and pending regulations and looking for
15 language that may contradict other laws currently on
16 the books.

17 Chair Spayd welcomed Mr. McDonald.]

18 ***

19 Approval of minutes of the June 12, 2023 meeting

20 CHAIR SPAYD:

21 We are going to move forward to
22 approval of the minutes from June 12.

23 Any discussion on the minutes or
24 any concerns?

25 Is there a motion?

1 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

2 So moved.

3 DR. BRADLEY:

4 Second.

5 CHAIR SPAYD:

6 Roll call.

7

8 Dr. Spayd, aye; Commissioner Claggett,

9 aye; Dr. Erickson, abstain; Dr.

10 Bradley, aye; Ms. Harrison, aye; Dr.

11 Small, abstain; Dr. McAleer, abstain.

12 [The motion carried. Steven Erickson, Richard Small,

13 and Donald McAleer abstained from voting on the

14 motion.]

15

16 Report of Board Prosecution

17 [Nathan C. Giunta, Esquire, Board Prosecution

18 Liaison, presented the Consent Agreement for Case No.

19 22-63-015781.]

20 CHAIR SPAYD:

21 Do we have a motion to approve the

22 Consent Agreement?

23 DR. MCALEER:

24 So moved.

25 DR. SMALL:

1 Second.

2 MR. LEECH:

3 Dr. Spayd, aye; Commissioner Claggett,
4 aye; Dr. Erickson, aye; Dr. Bradley,
5 aye; Ms. Harrison, aye; Dr. Small, aye;
6 Dr. McAleer, aye.

7 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's
8 name at agenda item 3 at Case No. 22-63-015781 is
9 Nancy V. Forrest.]

10 ***

11 Report of Board Counsel - Legislative Update

12 [Tyesha C. Miley, Esquire, Board Counsel, provided a
13 legislative update regarding House Bill 1000. She
14 noted the bill is being issued with the intention of
15 providing prescriptive authority to psychologists.
16 She informed everyone of a virtual public committee
17 hearing meeting at 1 p.m. and provided information in
18 chat.]

19 ***

20 Report of Board Chairperson

21 [Catherine S. Spayd, Ph.D., Chair, addressed her
22 attendance at the Association of State and Provincial
23 Psychology Boards (ASPPB) Board Chair Meeting on July
24 13. She discussed ASPPB's proposed master's level
25 model for licensure. She noted two years of post-

1 States

2 [Thomas Leech II, Board Administrator, noted
3 Applications to Practice Psychology for Persons
4 Licensed in Other States from Texas and Minnesota.
5 He noted the first one is Anthony Bean from Texas.]

6 CHAIR SPAYD:

7 Do we any discussion about the Texas
8 license requirements and if they are
9 substantially equivalent to PA?

10 Hearing none.

11 Do we have a motion to approve?

12 DR. MCALEER:

13 I move to approve.

14 DR. SMALL:

15 Second.

16 MR. LEECH:

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

21 [The motion carried unanimously.]

22 ***

23 MR. LEECH:

24 Number 5, Stefanie Josten is our first
25 Act 41 from Minnesota.

1 CHAIR SPAYD:

2 Any commentary? Do we hear a motion to
3 approve from Minnesota?

4 DR. MCALEER:

5 I move to approve Dr. Josten.

6 DR. SMALL:

7 Second.

8 MR. LEECH:

9 Dr. Spayd, aye; Commissioner Claggett,
10 aye; Dr. Erickson, aye; Dr. Bradley,
11 aye; Ms. Harrison, aye; Dr. Small, aye;
12 Dr. McAleer, aye.

13 [The motion carried unanimously.]

14 ***

15 Report of Board Administrator - Review of Supervised
16 Experience

17 MR. LEECH:

18 Next is review of supervised experience
19 at agenda item 6 for Rebecca Assadnia
20 for the evaluations.

21 CHAIR SPAYD:

22 This is allowing trimester versus
23 quarterly evaluation, which is
24 permitted in the state she took her
25 supervised experience in.

1 Do we hear a motion to approve?

2 DR. MCALEER:

3 I move to approve Dr. Assadnia.

4 DR. SMALL:

5 Second.

6 MR. LEECH:

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

11 [The motion carried unanimously.]

12 ***

13 Report of Board Administrator - Applications for
14 Approval of Corporate or Fictitious Names

15 MS. MILEY:

16 At this time, is there a motion to
17 accept and approve the Corporate or
18 Fictitious Names of the following
19 Applications: Item 7, Bala CBT LLC;
20 item 8, Willowbark Psychological and
21 Consultation Services PA; item 9,
22 Flourish Neuropsychology LLC; item 10,
23 Franklin Neuropsychological Services
24 LLC; item 11, ANT Psychological Group
25 PLLC; item 12, Flourishing Practices

1 LLC; item 13, The Psychology Loft?

2 DR. MCALEER:

3 I move to approve the above-mentioned
4 Fictitious Names.

5 DR. SMALL:

6 Second.

7 MS. MILEY:

8 Is there any discussion on the matter?
9 Hearing None.

10 Mr. Leech, the roll call vote,
11 please.

12 MR. LEECH:

13 Dr. Spayd, aye; Commissioner Claggett,
14 aye; Dr. Erickson, aye; Dr. Bradley,
15 aye; Ms. Harrison, aye; Dr. Small, aye;
16 Dr. McAleer, aye.

17 [The motion carried unanimously.]

18 ***

19 Discussion Items - Election of Officers

20 CHAIR SPAYD:

21 There is one vacant Board seat right
22 now. Myself and Dr. Small, this is our
23 last Board meeting, so we need to elect
24 new officers for Chair, Vice Chair, and
25 Secretary.

1 Do I hear any nominations for those
2 positions?

3 For Chair, do we have a nomination?

4 DR. SMALL:

5 I nominate Dr. Erickson.

6 CHAIR SPAYD:

7 Anyone else?

8 DR. MCALEER:

9 Second.

10 CHAIR SPAYD:

11 Is there any objection to closing
12 nominations for that position? That
13 position is closed.

14 Next, we need a nomination for Vice
15 Chair?

16 DR. SMALL:

17 I nominate Dr. McAleer.

18 CHAIR SPAYD:

19 I'll second.

20 Any other nominations for Vice
21 Chair? Hearing none. I'll close
22 nominations for Vice Chair.

23 Do we have nominations for Board
24 Secretary.

25 DR. MCALEER:

1 I nominate Dr. Bradley.

2 DR. SMALL:

3 Second.

4 CHAIR SPAYD:

5 Any other nominations for Board
6 Secretary? Hearing none. I'll close
7 the nominations for that position.

8 So we have a slate of Steven
9 Erickson, Chair; Don McAleer, Vice
10 Chair; Kathy Bradley, Secretary.

11 Do I have a motion to accept that
12 slate of options?

13 DR. SMALL:

14 So moved.

15 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

16 Second.

17 MR. LEECH:

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

22 [The motion carried unanimously.]

23 ***

24 [Catherine S. Spayd, Ph.D., Chair, appointed
25 Katherine Bradley to the Probable Cause Screening

1 Committee because Dr. Erickson would be leaving that
2 role now that he has been nominated as Chair.]

3

4 Discussion Items - 2023 Biennial Renewal Fees

5 CHAIR SPAYD:

6 We are going to vote on a decision as a
7 Board. The Board would entertain a
8 motion to suspend for one biennial
9 period, 2023-2025, the licensure
10 renewal fee of all licensed under the
11 Board of Psychology.

12 Do I have a motion to accept that
13 proposal?

14 DR. MCALEER:

15 So moved.

16 DR. SMALL:

17 Second.

18 MR. LEECH:

19 Dr. Spayd, aye; Commissioner Claggett,
20 aye; Dr. Erickson, aye; Dr. Bradley,
21 aye; Ms. Harrison, aye; Dr. Small, aye;
22 Dr. McAleer, aye.

23 [The motion carried unanimously.]

24

25 FYI Items

1 [Catherine S. Spayd, Ph.D., Chair, referred to the
2 Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards
3 (ASPPB) Quarterly Newsletter for the Board's review.]

4 ***

5 Report of Regulatory Counsel

6 [Tyesha C. Miley, Esquire, Board Counsel, addressed
7 16A-6317 regarding continuing education and asked
8 Board members whether the draft as drafted previously
9 comports with the Board's desires.

10 Dr. McAleer noticed that the old regulation
11 mentioned workshops when talking about courses and
12 asked whether the intent of the current regulation as
13 it has been written, since the word workshop has been
14 deleted, is that coursework would cover not only
15 academic courses but also continuing education
16 workshops and other educational ventures provided to
17 the psychologist community.

18 Ms. Miley suggested that it does but informed the
19 Board that they could add a definition or allow
20 people to make the assumption.

21 Dr. McAleer stated the common use of the word
22 course is from an academic setting and realized the
23 intent of this is to assume workshop under the term
24 course but wanted to make it clear.

25 Dr. Erickson commented that the regulations

1 maintain that at least 15 credit hours be in person
2 or live and noted not being aware of any research
3 that supports the proposition that live attendance or
4 in-person attendance is superior to taking a course
5 online. He believed it to be a burden for many
6 people and wondered if it was worth retaining the 15
7 credit hours if there is no scientific basis.

8 Molly Cowan, Psy.D., Director of Professional
9 Affairs, Pennsylvania Psychological Association, was
10 also not aware of any research and that was an issue
11 in terms of the burden of taking time off to attend
12 synchronous events, whether webinar or not. She
13 wanted to see any research that suggests synchronous
14 is better than asynchronous in a meaningful way.

15 Dr. Erickson welcomed any input from PPA and the
16 public but believed they should have a reason to
17 maintain it based on scientific findings or a
18 persuasive understanding of why it is 15 hours.

19 Chair Spayd commented that there are several
20 types of burdens and wanted the public to be aware
21 that they could request a specific waiver from the
22 Board if they have a medical condition that renders
23 them unable to physically travel.

24 Dr. Small asked whether any information was
25 available from other boards regarding in-person

1 requirements.

2 Ms. Miley had not done any research but offered
3 to provide that information at a later time.

4 Dr. McAleer mentioned that ASPPB's Annual
5 Meetings is in October in Cleveland and it would be a
6 good question to ask since have a handle on what is
7 happening in the other states. He agreed that there
8 seems to be a movement away from in person.

9 Chair Spayd commented that it would be helpful
10 for the Board in moving forward to have more
11 information from across the country within psychology
12 boards and within the state across professional
13 boards.

14 Ms. Miley addressed 16A-6320 regarding general
15 revisions and asked whether everything is still
16 applicable or whether the Board would like to make
17 any edits based on changes in the profession or law.

18 Dr. McAleer asked whether the section where
19 individuals coming from other states are exempt from
20 examination should be more specific because the
21 jurisprudence exam is still required. He further
22 explained that the Board was talking about not having
23 to take EPPP-1 or EPPP-2 but still requiring the
24 jurisprudence exam.

25 Ms. Miley did not believe that the regulation

1 eliminated the jurisprudence exam but would make any
2 clarifications to the language if necessary.

3 Ms. Miley informed Board members that the
4 regulation is still where it was in the process and
5 any drafting changes would come back before the Board
6 for a vote to move forward in the process after the
7 Board had an opportunity to review any subsequent
8 changes.

9 Ms. Miley did not provide 16A-6324 regarding the
10 Code of Ethics, because APA has not changed theirs
11 yet, so there is nothing that needs to be done with
12 their Code of Ethics at this time.

13 Ms. Miley addressed 16A-6327 regarding the
14 Psychological Clinical Science Accreditation System
15 (PCSAS) parity in terms of whether the Board wanted
16 to roll that into the general revisions. She
17 recommended keeping it separate because it might not
18 pass if other parts of the general revisions have any
19 objections. She stated 16A-6327 would be before the
20 Board at the October 2 meeting. She also noted that
21 there would be a deeper Board discussion concerning
22 the Code of Ethics if anything changes.]

23

24 Upcoming Meeting Dates

25 [Catherine S. Spayd, Ph.D., Chair, noted upcoming

1 2023 meeting dates are October 2 and December 18.
2 She also noted 2024 meeting dates are February 5,
3 Aril 1, June 3, August 5, October 7, and December
4 2.]]

5 ***

6 Public Comment

7 [Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of
8 Professional and Occupational Affairs, referred to a
9 comment from Madelena asking whether they would be
10 discussing applications to request approval to sit
11 for the licensing exam.

12 Chair Spayd stated no applications to sit for the
13 licensing exam were listed on the agenda.

14 Mr. Leech further explained that applications
15 approved at an administrative level do not need to go
16 before the Board.

17 Dr. Erickson thanked Dr. Spayd and Dr. Small for
18 their hard work and service to the Board.]

19 ***

20 Adjournment

21 CHAIR SPAYD:

22 Do we have a motion to adjourn?

23 DR. MCALEER:

24 So moved.

25 DR. SMALL:

1 Second.

2 CHAIR SPAYD:

3 All right. Goodbye everyone.

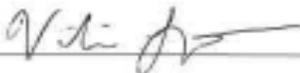
4 ***

5 [There being no further business, the State Board of
6 Psychology Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.]

7 ***

8
9 CERTIFICATE

10
11 I hereby certify that the foregoing summary
12 minutes of the State Board of Psychology meeting, was
13 reduced to writing by me or under my supervision, and
14 that the minutes accurately summarize the substance
15 of the State Board of Psychology meeting.

16
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18 

19 Victoria Lantz,

20 Minute Clerk

21 Sargent's Court Reporting
22 Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY
REFERENCE INDEX

August 7, 2023

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