



STATE OF ARIZONA
BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS
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JANICE K. BREWER
Governor

DEBRA RINAUDO
Executive Director

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY CREDENTIALING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, February 10, 2010

Members Present: Nancy Groppenbacher, Gloria Gabler, Mary Doyle, Ellen LaBelle
Members Absent: Marlene Buffa
Staff Present: Debra Rinaudo, Marc Harris, A.A.G., Elma Brambila, Mary Wilson

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order on February 10, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. with Ms. Groppenbacher presiding.

2. **Roll Call**

See above.

3. **Review and Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Gabler moved, seconded by Ms. LaBelle, to approve the general meeting minutes from the January 13, 2010, meeting as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Review, consideration and action of complaints and other disciplinary matters**

Pending complaints represent unproven allegations. On investigation, many complaints are found to be without merit or not of sufficient seriousness to merit disciplinary action against the licensee and are dismissed. Action by the committee on all disciplinary matters is a recommendation only. All final decisions are made by the Board.

B. 2008-0026, Micki Kloss, LMFT-0157

Ms. Groppenbacher indicated that she and Ms. Genco worked at the same agency years ago, but there is nothing in that relationship that would keep her from making an unbiased decision in this matter.

Ms. Rinaudo summarized the professional's non-compliance with the pending consent agreement.

The professional and her attorney, Kelly McDonald, appeared in person and addressed the committee.

The professional's supervisor, Diane Genco, appeared in person and answered questions from committee members.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Groppenbacher moved, seconded by Ms. LaBelle, to open a complaint, to recommend to the Board to find a violation of A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(n), failing to comply with a consent agreement, and to remand the matter to formal hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee took a break at 10:00 a.m., reconvening its public meeting at 10:08 a.m.

A. 2010-0037, Ellen Brennan, LMFT-10087

Ms. Rinaudo summarized the results of the Board's investigation.

The professional and her attorney, Faren Akins, appeared in person and addressed the committee.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Groppenbacher moved, seconded by Ms. Doyle, to recommend to the Board to find the following violations:

- A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(ii), violating any federal or state law or rule or regulation applicable to the practice of behavioral health, as it relates to:
 - A.R.S. §32-3620(A), any person who reasonably believes that a minor has been the victim of abuse shall immediately report or cause reports to be made to a peace officer or child protective services
 - A.R.S. §32-3620(D), reports shall be made immediately by telephone and shall be followed by a written report within 72 hours
- A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(k), any conduct that is contrary to recognized standards of ethics in the behavioral health profession, as it relates to the AAMFT Code of Ethics, Principle III, Professional Competence and Integrity, 3.13, marriage and family therapists exercise special care when making public their professional recommendations
- A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(p), failing to conform to minimum practice standards as developed by the Board, as it relates to the following:
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1101, Consent for Treatment
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1102, Treatment Plan
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1103, Client Record
 - A.A.C. R4-6-1104, Financial and Billing Records
- A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(l), any conduct, practice or condition that impairs the ability of the licensee to safely and competently practice

The motion passed unanimously.

Following further discussion, Ms. Groppenbacher moved, seconded by Ms. LaBelle, to recommend to the Board to accept a consent agreement that stipulates the following:

- The professional's license will be placed on probation for a period of 12 months
- The professional shall complete a 3-semester credit hour graduate level course in ethics
- The professional shall complete 6-clock hours of continuing education in current behavioral health documentation requirements
- The professional shall complete 6-clock hours of continuing education regarding high conflict custody/divorce issue cases
- The professional can submit coursework for consideration that was taken after the complaint was filed
- The clinical supervisor shall be independently licensed and pre-approved by the committee chair
- The professional shall receive clinical supervision twice a month for the first six months. After six months, the professional can request a reduction in frequency based on the supervisor's recommendation.
- The clinical supervision shall focus on ethical issues with high conflict families
- A pre-approved practice monitor shall submit an audit plan for pre-approval and complete a chart audit within 90 days.
- The practice monitor shall submit quarterly reports for Chair approval.
- The professional may request release from the practice monitor requirement after 2 consecutive audits are completed with no deficiencies.

The motion passed unanimously.

5. Report from the Chair and items for review, consideration and possible action

No report

6. Report from the Executive Director and/or staff

A. General agency operations

No report.

7. Committee reports/matters

None

8. National and regional news regarding the profession

None

9. Review, consideration and action of supervisor exemption requests

A. Megan Lewis (Lisa Gold, LPC)

Members reviewed information submitted in support of the supervisor exemption request.

The applicant appeared in person and was available for questions.

Following review and discussion, Dr. Gabler moved, seconded by Ms. Groppenbacher, to approve the request for a supervisor exemption for clinical supervision hours provided by Lisa Gold, LPC. The motion passed unanimously.

A. Megan Lewis (Jacqueline Uhlemann, LPC)

Members reviewed information submitted in support of the supervisor exemption request.

The applicant appeared in person and was available for questions.

Following review and discussion, Dr. Gabler moved, seconded by Ms. Groppenbacher, to deny the request for a supervisor exemption based on the professional's failure to establish that the supervisor has appropriate training in marriage and family therapy. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Review, consideration and action regarding applications for reassessment

None

11. Review, consideration and action of consent agenda for applications for inactive, extension and exam extension requests

None

12. Review, consideration and action of requests for exam accommodations and inactive extensions

None

13. Review, consideration and action regarding applications for licensure

Independent Contractor

Megan Lewis (Desert Vista Counseling)

Members reviewed information submitted regarding the work experience acquired at Desert Vista Counseling.

The applicant appeared in person and was available for questions.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Doyle moved, seconded by Ms. LaBelle, to accept the work experience hours acquired at Desert Hill Counseling. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee broke to review files at 11:15 a.m., reconvening its public meeting at 11:56 a.m.

Dr. Gabler moved, seconded by Ms. Doyle, to recommend to the Board to approve April Titera as a Licensed Associate Marriage and Family Therapist upon receipt of a passing score on the required exam and receipt of the required license issuance fee. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Groppenbacher moved, seconded by Dr. Gabler, to recommend to the Board to deny the following four applicants based on their failure to establish that they meet minimum requirements:

Kara Jones

Monica Malone

Kimberlyn McGreal

Karim Moabi

The motion passed unanimously.

14. Future agenda items

None

15. Call for public comment

None

16. Establishment of future meeting date(s)

The next meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. at 3443 North Central Avenue, 9th floor.

17. Adjournment

Ms. Groppenbacher moved, seconded by Ms. Doyle, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Ellen LaBelle
Secretary/Treasurer

Date