



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

DEBRA RINAUDO  
Executive Director

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MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY CREDENTIALING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Members Present: Nancy Groppenbacher, Ellen LaBelle, Gloria Gabler, Mary Doyle, Jessica Thomas

Staff Present: Patricia Reynolds, Deputy Director, Marc Harris, A.A.G., Elma Brambila, Mary Wilson

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order on July 11, 2012, at 9:02 a.m. with Ms. Groppenbacher presiding.

2. **Roll Call**

See above.

3. **Review and Approval of Minutes**

Ms. LaBelle moved, seconded by Ms. Doyle, to approve the general meeting minutes from the June 13, 2012, 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. Except as provided by A.R.S. §§32-3281(D)(1) and 32-3281(E), action by the committee on all disciplinary matters is a recommendation only. All final decisions are made by the Board.*

A. 2012-0137, *Vicktoria Patzer, LAMFT-10328 and LMFT applicant*

Ms. Groppenbacher disclosed that she interviewed the professional for an internship in the past, but there is nothing regarding that contact that would prevent her from making an unbiased decision in this matter.

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

The complainant was properly noticed, but did not appear.

The professional appeared in person and addressed the committee.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Groppenbacher moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas, to find a violation of A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(p), failing to conform to minimum practice standards as developed by the Board, as it relates to A.A.C. R4-6-1101(3), informed consent for treatment requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

Following further discussion by members, Ms. LaBelle moved, seconded by Ms. Doyle, to find a violation of A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(p), failing to conform to minimum practice standards as developed by the Board, as it relates to A.A.C. R4-6-1102, treatment plan requirements and A.A.C. R4-6-1103, progress notes requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

Following further discussion, Ms. Groppenbacher moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas, to recommend that the Board issue a letter of concern regarding the changes the professional made to existing progress notes where she failed to document the date of her additions. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- The professional shall complete 3-clock hours of continuing education in behavioral health ethics
- The professional shall complete 6-clock hours of continuing education in current behavioral health clinical documentation requirements, such as the NASW Staying Out of Trouble course
- The professional can submit certificates of completion for any continuing education that she completed after she was notified of the complaint for consideration
- The education shall be completed within 6 months

The motion passed unanimously.

*B. Bruce Somers, RLMFT-15041 and LMFT applicant*

Ms. Reynolds summarized information regarding the background investigation.

The professional appeared in person and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion, Ms. Doyle moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas, to open a complaint for further investigation. 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.

*B. Application review process requirements*

No report.

*C. Update regarding the Board's Sunset Review audit*

Ms. Reynolds provided an update regarding the audit.

*D. Update regarding the FY2013 appropriation*

No report.

*E. Update regarding Board development and distribution of an informational letter regarding the Board's standards for clinical supervision documentation*

Members reviewed an informational letter Board staff prepared addressing Board standards for clinical supervision documentation.

*F. Review, consideration and possible action regarding assignment of appeals to individual members*

Members agreed to have Board staff assign appeals to individual members so that member can lead the committee discussion.

*G. Open meeting law training*

Tabled

*H. Review, consideration and action regarding revised process for limiting complaint presentations by the complainant and the licensee*

Ms. Reynolds provided information regarding a new process that allows the complainant and licensee to have the same amount of time to address a committee as that used by Board staff to present a case.

**7. Committee reports/matters**

None

**8. National and regional news regarding the profession**

None

**9. Review, consideration and action of supervisor exemption requests**

None

**10. Review, consideration and action regarding applications for reassessment**

None

**11. Review, consideration and action of consent agenda for applications for deficiency extensions and inactive status**

None

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

None

**13. Review, consideration and action regarding applications for licensure**

*A. Sabina Draganescu*

Ms. Groppenbacher moved, seconded by Ms. Doyle, to rescind this committee's June 13, 2012, motion to recommend to the Board to deny the application based on failure to meet minimum requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

Appeals

*A. Marcia Michaels*

Members reviewed information submitted in support of the appeal.

The applicant addressed the committee telephonically.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. LaBelle moved, seconded by Dr. Gabler, to deny the appeal based on the applicant's failure to establish that she meets minimum requirements for a reciprocal license. The motion passed unanimously.

*The committee broke to review files at 10:42 a.m., reconvening its public meeting at 11:17 a.m.*

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

Ms. Doyle moved, seconded by Ms. LaBelle, to recommend to the Board to deny Karen Gerdes and Suzette Dufresne based on their failure to establish that they meet minimum licensure requirements. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Groppenbacher recused from the vote.

Ms. Doyle moved, seconded by Ms. LaBelle, to recommend to the Board to deny Sabina Draganescu based on her failure to establish that she meets minimum requirements and to reserve the right to review the background issue if she qualifies for licensure in the future. The motion passed unanimously.

**14. Future agenda items**

None

**15. Call for public comment**

Sabina Draganescu addressed the committee regarding her efforts to obtain a license in Arizona.

**16. Establishment of future meeting date(s)**

The next meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. at 3443 North Central Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> floor.

**17. Adjournment**

Ms. Groppenbacher moved, seconded by Ms. LaBelle, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

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Ellen LaBelle  
Secretary/Treasurer

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Date