

BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS
MEETING MINUTES
December 13, 2024

Members Present: Brenda Dennis, Leanette Henagan, Crystal Krueger, Jose Luis Madera, Adalesa Meek, Dominic Miller, Diane Palacios, Mark Shen

Members Absent: Robert Charles, Kristina Groves

Staff Present: Tobi Zavala, Executive Director; Mona Baskin, A.A.G.; Jarett Carver, Enforcement Manager; Allison Taylor, Operations Manager; Florencia Fragala, Investigations Manager

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners was called to order on December 13, 2024 at 9:09 a.m. at 1740 West Adams Street, Boardroom C, Phoenix, Arizona 85007 with Ms. Meek presiding.

2. Roll Call

See above.

3. Minutes: review, consideration and action

A. *November 1, 2024, general meeting minutes*
Tabled due to lack of quorum of members to vote.

4. Consent Agenda: review, consideration and action

- A. Cases recommended for dismissal
1. 2025-0054, Travis Foley, LAC-21727
 2. 2024-0323, Adriane Miles, LAC 14149
 3. 2024-0368, Ashley Ramos, LMSW-22125
 4. 2025-0070, Gregory Sanders, LAC 20722
 5. 2025-0031, Kristy Schutt, LMSW-16343
 6. 2025-0125, Christopher Stewart, LAC-17396
 7. 2024-0385, Kaitlyn Tiegs, LMSW-20298
 8. 2024-0289, Brittainy Warne-Murphy, LCSW-12942
 9. 2025-0068, Dalena Watson, LPC-11965

Following discussion, Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Krueger, to approve the consent agenda item 4(A)(1-9). The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Meek recused.

B. Cases recommended for dismissal with a letter of concern.

1. 2024-0283, 2024-0298, Mark Anton, LPC-20061
2. 2025-0012, Lauren Megrew, LCSW-16944
3. 2024-0247, Brandy Preston, LAC-22473

Following discussion, Ms. Henagan moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the consent agenda item 4(B) (2-3). The motion passed unanimously.

1. 2024-0283, 2024-0298, Mark Anton, LPC-20061
- Ms. Zavala summarized the Board's investigation.

The complainants appeared and addressed the Board.

The professional's attorney, Anngelica Davis, appeared and addressed the Board.

Following discussion, Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Shen, to dismiss the complaint with a letter of concern. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Cases recommended for opening a complaint and dismissing with a letter of concern

1. *Evelyn Alvarez, LAMFT Applicant*
2. *Luciana Da Fonseca, LPC-17066*

Following discussion, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Ms. Krueger, to approve the consent agenda item 4(C). The motion passed unanimously.

D. Cases recommended for acceptance of a proposed signed non-disciplinary consent agreement.

1. *2024-0312, Roxanne Prillwitz, LPC-16416*
2. *2024-0091, Carlin Rouse, LPC-20238*

Following discussion, Ms. Henagan moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to approve the consent agenda item 4(D). The motion passed unanimously.

E. Cases recommended for opening a complaint and acceptance of a proposed signed non-disciplinary consent agreement.

1. *Edgar Ngwaru, LMSW Applicant*
2. *Melanie Nordin-Pyle, LMSW Applicant*

Following discussion, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Ms. Dennis, to approve the consent agenda item 4(E). The motion passed unanimously.

F. Cases recommended for acceptance of a proposed signed disciplinary consent agreement.

1. *2024-0004, Gwen Gruber, LCSW-12445 (Inactive)*
2. *2024-0162, Tammie Milliken, LPC-18803*
3. *2025-0011, 2025-0033, Vivian Watters, LMSW-19945*
4. *2024-0245, Leslie Whiting, LPC-1255 (Expired)*

Following discussion, Ms. Krueger moved, seconded by Ms. Henagan, to approve the consent agenda item 4(F). The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Brenda Dennis	Kristina Groves	Leanne Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Diane Palacios	Dominic Miller	Mark Shen
AYE		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent	X		X							

G. Cases recommended for opening a complaint and acceptance of a proposed signed disciplinary consent agreement.

1. *Lindsey LeCates, LAC Applicant*

Following discussion, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Ms. Krueger, to approve the consent agenda item 4(G). The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Brenda Dennis	Kristina Groves	Leanne Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Diane Palacios	Dominic Miller	Mark Shen
AYE		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent	X		X							

H. Cases recommended for opening a complaint and denying for unprofessional conduct.

N/A

I. Cases recommended for opening a complaint and denying for unprofessional conduct.

N/A

J. Cases recommended for release from consent agreements.

1. 2024-0142, Sarah D’Amico, LMSW-21132 (Active Restricted)
2. 2023-0233, Elizabeth Diamond, LMFT-15390 (Active Restricted)
3. 2024-0325 & 2024-0339, Christopher David, LPC-20068 (Active Restricted)
4. 2024-0232, Cheryl Lockett, LPC-20014 (Active Restricted)
5. 2024-0007, Joy Plote, LAC-20272
6. 2024-0049, Karina Rivera, LAC-22040 (Active Restricted)
7. 2022-0112, Alexandra Schut, LAC 22450
8. 2023-0131, Terrance Southern, LAC-19549

Following discussion, Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to approve the consent agenda item 4(J). The motion passed unanimously.

5. Administrative Hearings

Administrative Hearing Pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 32-3281 and 41-1092.07, the Board will conduct administrative hearings or consider related procedural issues in the following matter(s). During the administrative hearing, the Board may go into executive session to discuss confidential records pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(2) or to obtain legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).

N/A

6. Formal Interviews

N/A

7. Complaints and other disciplinary matters: review, consideration and action

A. Amy Christy, LAC-19568

Ms. Zavala summarized the Board’s investigation.

The professional was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Ms. Henagan, to open a complaint and accept the signed interim consent agreement. The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Brenda Dennis	Kristina Groves	Leannette Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Diane Palacios	Dominic Miller	Mark Shen
AYE		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent	X		X							

The Board took a break at 11:52 a.m., reconvening its public meeting at 12:28 p.m.

B. 2024-0331, Isabelle McKay, LPC-21361

Ms. Zavala summarized the Board’s investigation.

The complainant appeared and addressed the Board.

The professional and her attorney, Michael Ryan, appeared and addressed the Board.

Following further discussion by members, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Ms. Krueger, to offer the professional a non-disciplinary consent agreement for twelve months for the completion of 3 clock hours in Arizona documentation,

and if not signed, to invite the professional to participate in a formal interview, and if not accepted to remand the matter to a formal hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board took a break 10:45 a.m., reconvening its public meeting at 10:57 a.m.

C. 2024-0388, Valerie McFarlin, LAC-20385

Ms. Zavala summarized the Board’s investigation.

The complainant appeared and addressed the Board.

The professional was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to find the following violations:

- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(k), engaging in any conduct or practice that is contrary to recognized standards of ethics in the behavioral health profession or that constitutes a danger to the health, welfare or safety of a client as it relates to the following section of the 2014 ACA Code of Ethics:
 - A.4.b. Personal Values
 - B.6.h. Storage and Disposal After Termination

The motion passed unanimously.

Following further discussion, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to offer the professional a consent agreement for the voluntary surrender of the professional’s license, and if not signed to remand the matter to a formal hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Brenda Dennis	Kristina Groves	Leanne Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Diane Palacios	Dominic Miller	Mark Shen
AYE		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent	X		X							

D. 2024-0369, Grace Mendoza, LPC-18085

Mr. Carver summarized the Board’s investigation.

The complainant appeared telephonically and addressed the Board.

The professional appeared and addressed the Board.

Following further discussion, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Mr. Shen, to offer the professional a non-disciplinary consent agreement for twelve months for the completion of 3 clock hours addressing Arizona documentation, 3 clock hours addressing treating high conflict families, and 6 clock hours addressing mandated reporting. The motion passed unanimously.

E. 2024-0387, Nancy Mitchell, LMSW-0387

Ms. Zavala summarized the Board’s investigation.

The complainant was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

The professional was present and available if the members had questions.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Mr. Shen, to dismiss the complaint. The motion passed unanimously.

F. 2025-0049, Konia Nikas, LPC-2292, LIAC-1704

Mr. Carver summarized the Board’s investigation.

The complainant was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

The professional appeared telephonically and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Shen moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to find the following violations:

- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(y), engaging in a dual relationship with a client that could impair the licensee's objectivity or professional judgment or create a risk of harm to the client. For the purposes of this subdivision, "dual relationship" means a licensee simultaneously engages in both a professional and nonprofessional relationship with a client that is avoidable and not incidental
- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(l), engaging in any conduct, practice or condition that impairs the ability of the licensee to safely and competently practice the licensee's profession
- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(q), failing or refusing to maintain adequate records of behavioral health services provided to a client
- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(p), failing to conform to minimum practice standards as developed by the board as it relates to:
 - 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

The motion passed unanimously.

Following further review, Mr. Shen moved, seconded by Ms. Henagen, to offer a consent agreement for the voluntary surrender of the professional’s license, and if not signed to remand the matter to a formal hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Brenda Dennis	Kristina Groves	Leannette Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Diane Palacios	Dominic Miller	Mark Shen
AYE		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent	X		X							

G. Guillermo Palomino, LAC Applicant

Mr. Carver summarized the Board’s investigation.

The complainant appeared telephonically and addressed the Board.

The applicant appeared and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Madera moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to open a complaint. The motion passed unanimously.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Madera moved, seconded by Mr. Shen, to find the following violations:

- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(k), engaging in any conduct or practice that is contrary to recognized standards of ethics in the behavioral health profession or that constitutes a danger to the health, welfare or safety of a client as it relates to the following section of the 2014 ACA Code of Ethics:
 - A.6.b. Extending Counseling Boundaries

The motion passed unanimously.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Madera moved, seconded by Ms. Dennis, to deny the application based on a finding of unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. 32-3275(5).

	Robert Charles	Brenda Dennis	Kristina Groves	Leanne Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Diane Palacios	Dominic Miller	Mark Shen
AYE		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent	X		X							

Following further discussion, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Ms. Dennis, to refer the case to the Department of Health Services. The motion passed unanimously.

H. 2024-0372, Jessica Reid, LPC-20722

Ms. Zavala summarized the Board’s investigation.

The complainant was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

The professional and her attorney, Faren Akins, appeared and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Henagan moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to dismiss the complaint with a letter of concern addressing the importance of maintaining documentation that meets the Board’s rules and engaging in responsible drinking habits. The motion passed unanimously.

I. 2025-0086, Amber Scott, LBSW-21685

Ms. Zavala summarized the Board’s investigation.

The complainant was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

The professional was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Madera moved, seconded by Ms. Henagan, to accept the signed consent agreement for the voluntary surrender of the professional’s license. The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Brenda Dennis	Kristina Groves	Leanne Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Diane Palacios	Dominic Miller	Mark Shen
AYE		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent	X		X							

J. Vivian Steavenson-Mundy, LMSW Applicant

Ms. Zavala summarized the Board’s investigation.

The applicant was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Henagan moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to open a complaint. The motion passed unanimously.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Henagan moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to find the following violations:

- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(II), being the subject of the revocation, suspension, surrender or any other disciplinary sanction of a professional license, certificate or registration or other adverse action related to a professional license, certificate or registration in another jurisdiction or country, including the failure to report the adverse action to the board. The action taken may include refusing, denying, revoking or suspending a license or certificate, the surrendering of a license or certificate, otherwise limiting, restricting or monitoring a licensee or certificate holder or placing a licensee or certificate holder on probation

The motion passed unanimously.

Following further review, Ms. Henagan moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to deny the application based on findings of unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. 32-3275(5) and A.R.S. 32-3275(6). The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Brenda Dennis	Kristina Groves	Leanette Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Diane Palacios	Dominic Miller	Mark Shen
AYE		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent	X		X							

K. Suzanne Uhl, LMSW-17597

Ms. Zavala summarized the Board’s investigation.

The professional was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

Following renew and discussion by members, Ms. Krueger moves, seconded by Mr. Miller, to accept the signed consent agreement for the voluntary surrender of the professional’s license. The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Brenda Dennis	Kristina Groves	Leanette Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Diane Palacios	Dominic Miller	Mark Shen
AYE		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent	X		X							

L. 2025-0135, Andrew Watley, LPC-19498

Ms. Zavala summarized the Board’s investigation.

The professional was properly noticed, but failed to appear.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Krueger moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to accept the signed consent agreement for the voluntary surrender of the professional’s license. The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Brenda Dennis	Kristina Groves	Leanette Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Diane Palacios	Dominic Miller	Mark Shen
AYE		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent	X		X							

Following further discussion by members, Ms. Krueger moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to refer the case to law enforcement in Louisiana. The motion passed unanimously.

M. Mary White, LMFT Applicant

Ms. Zavala summarized the Board’s investigation.

The applicant appeared telephonically and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Krueger moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to deny the applicant’s request to withdraw her application.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Krueger moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to open a complaint find the following violations:

- A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(II), being the subject of the revocation, suspension, surrender or any other disciplinary sanction of a professional license, certificate or registration or other adverse action related to

a professional license, certificate or registration in another jurisdiction or country, including the failure to report the adverse action to the board. The action taken may include refusing, denying, revoking or suspending a license or certificate, the surrendering of a license or certificate, otherwise limiting, restricting or monitoring a licensee or certificate holder or placing a licensee or certificate holder on probation

The motion passed unanimously.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Krueger moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to deny the application based on a finding of unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. 32-3275(5) and A.R.S. 32-3275(6). The motion passed unanimously.

	Robert Charles	Brenda Dennis	Kristina Groves	Leannette Henagan	Crystal Krueger	Jose Luis Madera	Adalesa Meek	Diane Palacios	Dominic Miller	Mark Shen
AYE		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY										
Absent	X		X							

8. Assistant Attorney General’s Report: Mona Baskin, A.A.G.

N/A

9. Applications for licensure and educational programs: review, consideration and action

A. Review, consideration, and possible action regarding applications for licensure Counseling

Mr. Madera moved, seconded by Ms. Henagan, to deny 5 applications based on a failure to pass the required examination, 3 applications based on a failure to meet minimum requirements, and 1 application based on findings of unprofessional conduct. The motion passed unanimously.

Marriage and Family Therapy

Ms. Krueger moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to deny 1 application based on a failure to take the required examination and 2 applications based on a failure to meet minimum requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

Social Work

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Palacios, to deny 18 applications based on a failure to pass the required examination and 13 applications based on failure to take the required exam. The motion passed unanimously.

Addiction Counseling

Ms. Henagan moved, seconded by Ms. Krueger, to deny 1 application based on a failure to pass the required examination and 1 application based on failure to take the required exam. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Review, consideration, and possible action regarding applications for educational programs

N/A

10. Report from Chair

A. Summary of current events

No report.

B. Discussion regarding Ms. Zavala's annual review

Ms. Meek discussed the possibility of ceasing annual performance reviews for Ms. Zavala. Ms. Zavala agreed, as if there are any concerns the members may request it be placed on the agenda. Ms. Meek moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to end annual reviews for Ms. Zavala.

11. Report from the Treasurer

A. Review, consideration, and possible action regarding December financial report

B. Review, consideration, and possible action regarding January financial report

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Palacios moved, seconded by Ms. Krueger, to accept the October

and November financial report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Report from the Executive Director and/or staff

A. Discussion regarding conflicts of interest for Board and committee members as well as staff
Tabled.

B. Discussion regarding the Board's participation at the Association of Social Work Boards Delegate Assembly
Ms. Zavala, Mr. Miller, and Ms. Dennis shared their experiences at the Association of Social Work Boards Delegate Assembly.

C. Discussion regarding complaint reviews
Tabled.

13. Request for extension of inactive status: review, consideration and action

N/A

14. Future agenda items

- Review, consideration, and possible action regarding Ms. Zavala's salary.

15. Call for public comment

Abra Arlinsky, licensee, appeared and thanked Ms. Zavala for her work with Southwest Behavioral Health, as it has been informative and supportive.

Karla Gracia, licensee, appeared and shared that the Board is a resource, she will reach out with questions, and is able to receive a prompt response.

Margaret Walden, licensee, appeared and brought to the Board's attention that decisions made by the Board affect people's livelihoods and lives.

16. Establishment of future meeting date(s)

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 10, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., at 1740 W. Adams St., Boardroom C.

17. Adjournment

Ms. Henagan moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Diane Palacios
Secretary/Treasurer

Date