

Board of Professional Counselors & Therapists

Board Meeting Open Session – June 12, 2026

10:30 AM - Meeting Minutes

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Attendees

Board Members	Board Staff
Sharita Sivels-Stevens, Board Chair, LCPC	Victoria Stinson, Deputy Director
Ingrid Mazziotta, LCADC	Melia N. Ritchie, Board Counsel
Kimberly Poole-Sykes, LCPC	Alexandria Langston, Licensing Manager
Mary Blackwood, LCMFT	Breya Graves, Compliance Assistant
Stacey Nelson, LCPC, LCPAT, ATR-BC	Janice Isaac, Licensing Coordinator
Winnie Moore, LCPC	Katrina Hunter, Office Secretary
Elizabeth Guroff, MA, LCMFT	Myisha Maybin, Compliance Investigator
Luisa Wayman, Consumer Member	Grecia Whitehead, Licensing Coordinator
	Shelly-Ann Barnes, Compliance Manager
	Trevor Smoot, Administrative Assistant
	Nusrat Tusi, Executive Administrative Assistant
	Sharon Rendon-Hoyt, Compliance Specialist

Board Members	Board Staff
	Lillian Reese, Legislative Liaison/Regulations Coordinator
	Wendy Morton, Compliance Investigator
	Amanda Link
	Samantha Hardesty

Stakeholders and Members of the Public in attendance:

Amanda Groff
 Madeline Lucker
 Sankofa Behavioral Health

Meeting Called to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 10:35 AM by Board Chair Sharita Sivels-Stevens.
- The Open Session Meeting for June 12, 2026, was offered virtually via Google Meet.

Statement of COMAR Regulation 10.01.14.02.02 - *The public attendance states except in instances when a public body expresses public testimony, questions, comments or other forms of public participation or when public participation is otherwise authorized by law. A member of the public attending an open session may not participate in the session.*

Attendance Call by Board Chair

The Board Chair completed a roll call and confirmed that the Board has an official quorum for today's meeting. The following members responded present:

Sharita Sivels-Stevens, Board Chair, LCPC
 Kimberly Poole-Sykes, LCPC
 Stacey Nelson, LCPC, LCPAT, ATR-BC
 Ingrid Mazziotta, LCADC
 Luisa Wayman, Consumer Member
 Mary Blackwood, LCMFT
 Winnie Moore, LCPC

Review and Approve the Board Meeting Minutes from May 15, 2026

The Board reviewed the Open Session meeting minutes from May 15, 2026.

- Motion to Approve: Winnie Moore

- Motion is Seconded: Stacey Nelson
- All in Favor: All in Favor (via voice vote)
- Any Oppositions: None
- **The Motion is Approved.**

Review and Approve the Board Meeting Agenda for June 12, 2026

The Board reviewed the agenda for the June 12, 2026, meeting.

- Motion to Approve: Luisa Wayman
- Motion is Seconded: Kimberly Poole-Sykes
- All in Favor: All in Favor (via voice vote)
- Any Oppositions: None
- **The Motion is Approved.**

Board Chair Report

- **BAAC Announcements:** On behalf of the Behavior Analyst Advisory Committee (BAAC), the Chair welcomed Amanda Groff as the third new BAAC member to join since March 2026.
- **Recognition of Service:** The BAAC expressed extended gratitude to former members Aaron Scholar, Aaron Camp, and Lynn Bowman for extending their commitment beyond their traditional two-year terms until new members could be transitioned. A formal thank you was issued on behalf of MABA and all LBAs in Maryland for their dedication.
- **System Rollout:** The LBAs expressed strong enthusiasm regarding the impending launch of the new online application interface.

Board Counsel Announcements & Reports

- Melia N. Ritchie had no official report to present to the Board.

Legislative and Regulations (Legs & Regs) Updates

Elizabeth Guroff presented the ongoing regulatory tracking and conceptual updates:

- **ADT Title Evolution:** Following up on the previous discussion regarding a professional name change for Alcohol and Drug Trainees (ADTs), the committee recommended that the official title be replaced with **Certified Alcohol and Drug Assistant (CADA)**.
 - *Statutory Workflow:* Board Counsel and Lillian Reese clarified that, because the "Alcohol and Drug Trainee" designation is established in Maryland statutory law, this update will require a formal legislative change first.
 - *Timeline:* The paperwork will be submitted to the Department as a formal legislative proposal for the upcoming 2027 legislative session (running January through April 2027). If approved, parallel regulatory corrections will be enacted immediately following. The target timeline for full layout execution is estimated by the conclusion of next year.

- **Action:** The Board Chair introduced a motion to adopt the "Certified Alcohol and Drug Assistant" (CADA) title proposal to initiate the formal legislative drafting process. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by a voice vote.
- **Committee Meetings:** The full Regulation Review Committee is slated to begin its formal cycle in June. Additionally, the non-public Alcohol and Drug Subcommittee meeting is scheduled to convene on June 26, 2026.

Credentialing Committee

Kimberly Poole-Sykes presented the credentialing metrics captured between May 8, 2026, and June 2, 2026:

Applications Received:

- LCPC: 49
- LCADC: 0
- LCMFT: 2
- LGPC: 47
- LGADC: 1
- LGMFT: 1
- CAC-AD: 7
- CSCAD: 4
- ADT: 27
- LCPAT: 2
- LGPAT: 1

Total Active Board Credentials (as of June 2, 2026):

- LCPC: 7,682
- LGPC: 1,073
- LCADC: 296
- LGADC: 26
- CAC-AD: 715
- CSCAD: 652
- ADT: 141
- LCMFT: 503
- LGMFT: 61
- LCPAT: 203
- LGPAT: 30
- LBA: 1,921

Disciplinary Review Committee

Board Chair Sharita Sivels-Stevens stepped in to lead the committee report for the session. The DRC officially met and evaluated a docket of 48 active cases, resulting in the formal closing of 37 cases.

Counseling Compact Update

The Board received the tracking brief submitted by Lisa Connors:

- **Privilege Issuance Live:** Six states are now actively executing and offering practicing privileges within the live compact framework: Arizona, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Minnesota, and Ohio.
- **Public Comment Period:** The official draft for *Chapter 9: Rules on Consistent Credentialing* has been formally posted to the website. The public comment period is set to conclude on July 12, 2026, at 11:59 PM. All states are requested to host the notice on their respective public board portals.
- **Annual Commission Meeting:** The Counseling Compact Commission is scheduled to host a public business meeting on September 2, 2026, from 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM.

Old/Miscellaneous Business

Hearing no old business, Deputy Director Victoria Stinson delivered critical technical reminders:

- **Online Portal Transition:** Effective June 20, 2026, the Board will formally migrate all processing to the new online system. Post-June 20, any physical paper applications arriving via standard US Mail will be rejected and returned to sender.
- **OIT Account Compliance Security:** Per strict guidelines issued by the Office of Information Technology (OIT), state email accounts are subject to automatic security actions. Two consecutive weeks of complete inactivity will trigger a user lockout, requiring manual help desk interaction for a password reset. One full month of inactivity will result in the account being completely archived and removed. All Board members are strongly directed to log into their official state addresses at least once a week to avoid disruption.

Adjournment

The next general Open Session Board Meeting is officially scheduled for **Friday, July 17, 2026**, at 10:30 AM, to be conducted virtually.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion is Seconded

Any Oppositions: None

The Motion is Approved.

The Open Session officially adjourned at 10:52 AM. The Board members were directed to immediately clear the line and log into the closed administrative session portal.

Meeting Duration: 17 minutes