

**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS**

Minutes – Open Session October 17, 2025 via Google Meet

Approved by the Board on November 17, 2025

<b>Members</b>	<b>Non-Members</b>
Winnie Moore, LCPC, <i>Chair</i>	Rhonda Edwards, AAG
Sharon Bolden, LCADC, LCPC	Shelly-Ann Barnes, Compliance Manager
Elizabeth Guroff, LCMFT	Lillian Reese, Legislative and Regulations Coordinator
Stacey Nelson, LCPC, LCPAT, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Alexandria Langston, Licensing Manager
Ingrid Mazziotta, LCADC, LCPC	Sandra Boxley, Licensing Coordinator
Lisa Connors, LCPC	Janice Isaac, Licensing Coordinator
Mary Blackwood, LCMFT	Grecia Whitehead, Licensing Coordinator
Karen Katrinic, LCMFT	Melia Ritchie. AAG
Sharita Sivels-Stevens, LCPC , <i>Secretary</i>	
Kimberly-Poole-Sykes, LCPC	Tomiloba Olaniyi-Quadri, Executive Director
Kacie Grubb LCPC	Victoria Stinson- Deputy Director
	Savannah Pappas, Licensing Clerk
	Myisha Maybin, Health Occupations Investigator
	Sharon Rendon-Hoyt, Compliance Assistant
	Wendy Morton, Health Occupations Investigator

**I. Call to Order and Attendance**

- The Chair, Winnie Moore, called the meeting to order.
  - Attendance was taken, and a quorum was present, which the Chair noted was the reason for not having board meetings for the last couple of months.

## II. Approval of Minutes and Agenda

- **Review and Approve Open Session Minutes from July 18, 2025:** Karen Katrinic made a motion to approve the minutes for the July 18, 2025 meeting, and Stacey Nelson seconded the motion.
- **Review and Approve the Agenda for October 2025:** Karen Katrinic made a motion to approve the agenda for October 2025, and Sharita Sivels-Stevens seconded the motion.

## III. Board Business and Reports

### 1. Board Chair, Winnie Moore

- The Chair welcomed new board members, Ingrid Mazziotta LCADC and Mary Blackwood LCPC.
- **Consumer Vacancies:** There are still consumer vacancies, and the board normally has two consumer members.
- **Officer Elections:** Board elections were normally held in October but were pushed to November to give new board members an opportunity to participate in a session before the elections. Nominations and elections will occur in November via Google votes.
- **Behavioral Analyst Advisory Committee (BAC) Vote:** The board needed to vote on three individuals to replace members on the BAC advisory committee.
  - The nominees were Denanishia Gingles, Matt Edlestein, and Amanda Link (Licensed Behavior Analysts).
  - The board accepted the nominees by general consent.
- **Workload Update:** The Chair provided an overview of the board's recent workload:
  - 67 disciplinary complaints were reviewed in the last 3 months (August, September, and October).
  - 288 licenses were issued in the last month.
  - The Maryland Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists currently has 14,213 licenses and is responsible for 12 different licenses.
- **Administrative Vacancies:** Anna Winefield (Executive Assistant/HR lead) and Savannah (Licensing Coordinator) have retired/relocated, but the positions cannot be filled right now due to a hiring freeze.

### 2. Board Counsel, Rhonda Edwards

- No report.

### **3. Executive Director, Tomiloba Olaniyi-Quadri**

- The Executive Director and Deputy Director will attend the joint audit and evaluation committee meeting on October 22nd to respond to questions regarding the September 2025 evaluation report from the Office of Legislative Affairs.
- A quarterly stakeholder engagement meeting will kick off on October 30th at 10:00 a.m. and will be virtual. The goal is to meet with associations considered stakeholders to hear opinions and share ideas concerning their job and licensing issues.
- **BAC Member Emails:** Providing individual email addresses for the newly elected BAC members would cost the board \$100 per person. Board Counsel stated this is considered an administrative item for information purposes.
- **Staff Vacancies:** There is currently a hiring freeze, which restricts how the board can hire or fill vacancies, most of which are contract positions.

### **4. Deputy Director, Victoria Stinson**

- The board will not be joining the Compact until after the renewal period (November 1st through January).
- **Clear Conference:** The Deputy Director attended the conference, which provided great ideas for compliance, including looking into ways to triage complaint cases differently. Staff also looked at different licensing systems and vendors for the application system.

### **5. Legislative and Regulations Committee, Karen Katrinic**

- The committee met the previous day and reviewed and recommended an amendment to a proposal from June 13, 2025, involving the MFT reciprocity legislation that occurred in 2024.
- The board voted to adopt the notice of final action as amended.

### **6. Credentialing Committee, Sharita Sivels-Stevens**

- The committee continues to meet and has reviewed 42 applicants with the licensing staff.

- The committee is working on Q&A questions that will hopefully be added to the website by next month.

#### **7. Disciplinary Review Committee, Stacey Nelson**

- The committee met in August, September, and October, reviewing a cumulative total of 139 cases.

#### **8. Other/Miscellaneous**

- **Counseling Compact Update (Lisa Connors):**
    - The Compact officially launched on September 30th, with only two states participating: Arizona and Minnesota.
    - 37 states and territories are actively completing steps to issue and receive privileges.
    - Steps to launch include: adopting rules, establishing fees, federal criminal background checks, preparing IT systems, and assigning/training staff.
    - The privilege is for LCPCs only; LGPCs cannot participate.
    - The link to the Counseling Compact website is on the board's website.
  - **New Business:** The board is continuing to update applications on the board website.
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#### **IV. Next Meeting**

- The next meeting will be November 21, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. (virtual).

#### **V. Adjournment**

- Lisa Connors made a motion to adjourn the open meeting, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

*The meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.*



Sharita Sivels-Stevens, Secretary