

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS

Minutes – Open Session July 18, 2025 via Google Meet

Approved by the Board

Members	Non-Members
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
Jeff Galecki, LCADC, LCPC	Sandra Boxley, Licensing Coordinator
Lisa Connors, LCPC	Janice Isaac, Licensing Coordinator
C. Scott Frazier, III, Consumer	Grecia Whitehead, Licensing Coordinator
Karen Katrinic, LCMFT	Anna, Weinfield, Administrative Specialist
Sharita Sivels-Stevens, LCPC, <i>Secretary</i>	
Kimberly-Poole-Sykes, LCPC	Tomiloba Olaniyi-Quadri, Executive Director
	Victoria Stinson- Deputy Director
	Savannah Pappas, Licensing Clerk
	Myisha Maybin, Health Occupations Investigator
	Sharon Rendon-Hoyt, Compliance Assistant
	Wendy Morton, Health Occupations Investigator

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

- I. Attendance taken. All active Board members were present, except Scott Frazier.
- II. Review and Approve Open Session Minutes from June 20, 2025: Motion by Sharon Bolden and seconded by Karen Katrinic. Motion carried.

III. Review and Approve the Agenda for July 18, 2025: Motion by Lisa Connors and seconded by Kimberly Poole-Sykes. Motion carried.

IV. Reports

a. Chair, Winnie Moore LCPC

- i. We have received a group of complaints, and the complaints have been reported to the right officials.
- ii. We are losing several Board Members due to their time has expired. So we will not have meeting in August because we do not have Quorum. We have reached out to the State Office via email and phone.

b. Executive Director: Tomiloba Olaniyi-Quadri

- i. 100 Day Report: We realized that we had staffing shortage when we started and so we've been able to hire two administrative specialists and office secretary. This had helped us to be able to expand some of our operations and some of the things that we need to do. Also, currently we are trying to recruit licensing coordinators and investigators so that the workload can be shared amongst them. Unfortunately, recently there was hiring freeze that was announced by the state, which caused a delay. As far as professional development, the deputy director and I will be attending next week F AB conference and the compliance staff, and we will be attending a conference in September clear conference council on rule enforcement and regulation to help keep up to speed with the licensing and compliance. As far as modernization is concerned, we are getting close to better testing for our new application portal which will eliminate paper checks. The problems like return checks or maybe missing payments and things like that would be eliminated and we'll be able to take online payments as part of the process and part of the system. This will include online applications too, which would eliminate the need to mail paper documents and so on. As far as some of our data is concerned,

since we still currently receive physical paper applications, we have a lot of documents that are just sitting in boxes around the office. So, we've been able to come to an agreement with a company called Do Explore to help us digitize and upload all our physical records. We are currently under evaluation with them, so we've been working with the office of legislative affairs to make sure that this evaluation goes smoothly provided with information that they've requested. As far as customer relations and responsiveness, we've also been able to improve how quickly we're able to respond to inquiries that members of public been making licenses and applicants to emails and calls. We have set a standard of making sure that we respond to emails within 24 hours, we're also working to ensure that we're able to join the counseling compact. Some of the information they request would require that the board provides personal sensitive information on PII. So, we are working with DOI to see which data is safe enough for them for us to share and the means that we can share just to ensure that we protect people's information. Finally, we've also been having stakeholder engagements with other associations like NADAT. We've had a couple of meetings with them to just show that we are willing to collaborate and expand our relationship.

c. Deputy Director: Victoria Stinson

- i. 100-day Report: For compliance, there has been a continuation of DRC meetings that have been done consistently. For Fiscal updates, everything has been right on track.

d. Board Counsel: Rhonda Edwards

- i. All board members please take the open meeting that training is offered through the attorney general's office. We have a training link, and we would just be good for all board members to be versed in that aspect of your duties and role as a board member.

e. Legislation/Regulations Committee: Karen Katrinic, LCMFT

- i. We received two letters from delegate Melnik and Kaiser regarding wanting us to work with legislation in the next year and both of those

letters were responded to are available to the public. We also received a request from WAMFT that they wanted to meet with us because of the reciprocity bill. We met with them a. due to the 30-day comment period. We received three comments from three different organizations regarding that MFTT reciprocity the regulations that were changed to be in accordance with that bill that was changed. We are working with our board of council to come up with some thoughtful responses to those and we hope to have them ready by September. There was a bill that happened maybe last year that let LCPCs have continuity of care for college students that were coming into Maryland and wanted to keep their therapist as part of their transition. So, in the spirit of that bill, that's what the delegates wrote to us about and we share that we totally agree with the spirit of the bill, but we think it's better and more efficacious for the professions to work together to provide changes in how care is delivered versus generating legislation to provide select professions that change and how services are be delivered. If the change is to provide more effective use of services for all mental health providers, all the licenses on the board are mental health providers and we are all represented by the board and we all work with vulnerable populations. So, we're hoping to somehow bring together all the associations that represent all our professions and have them work together to create things that make sense to everybody. We would appreciate the collaboration of all these different groups that represent and provide the board that we oversee and regulate and all our professions. We want to make it all under title 17. So, we're put in an awkward position when a bill only represents some of the providers and we want to figure out a way for all these associations to work together. Exceptions would be when a bill is not changing delivery of services like that MFT reciprocity bill, which we did not sponsor.

- f. Credentialing Committee: Sharita Sivels-Stevens, LCPC
 - i. We have been receiving multiple ADT extension requests and we are currently working on placing a banner on the website along with FAQs

and to help ADTS and other license your questions just so that everyone can kind of have a simple place to kind of go to and be able to have questions answered. So far with the month of July and the month of June, the credentialing committee reviewed 46 applications that needed to be reviewed by us within the past two months.

- g. Discipline Review Committee: Stacey Nelson LCPC
 - i. Continue to meet and review cases. For the month of July we reviewed 32 cases.

V. Other/ Miscellaneous

- a. Winnie Moore: The procedure to be able to speak at an open session board meeting is on the website and it tells you what to do and the document to complete so that it can be reviewed by the board and then we decide if your topic or what you want to speak about. After the request has been granted, then it will be added to the agenda. We will be cancelling the August meeting because we will not have quorum due to the appointments office has not provided us any new board members and we have four board members leaving. Those members are Sharon Balden, Jeffrey Galecki, Karen Katrinic, and Scott Frasier. Thank you for your service!
- b. Rhonda Edwards: Thank you to all the board members for your service. It has been a pleasure working with you over the last few years doing this wonderful work that you all do to protect the public and within your respective professions. There are currently two vacancies on the Board. This is for the public members who don't know there are already two vacancies on the board. So these four board members are leaving resulting in six open spaces on the board.
- c.

VI. Next Meeting will be September 19, 2025 at 10:30am.

The meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.



Sharita Sivels-Stevens, Secretary