

Maryland State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

Open Board Meeting Minutes – September 13, 2013

The 587th Open Board Meeting of the Maryland State Board of Examiners of Psychologists was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by the Chairperson, Steven Sobelman, Ph.D.

Board members present:

Jeffrey Barnett, Psy.D, ABPP, Vice-Chairperson
Christopher Bishop, Psy.D.
James F. Gormally, Ph.D., ABPP
Irene W. Leigh, Ph.D.
Lydia McCargo-Redd, Consumer Member
Neal R. Morris, Ed.D., MS, CBSM, ABPP
Harriet Rakes, Consumer Member
Myra Waters, Ph.D.

Staff present:

Lorraine Smith, Executive Director
Dorothy Kutcherman, Licensing Coordinator
Linda Bethman, AAG, Board Counsel
Brett Felter, Staff Attorney

Public present:

Paula Hollinger, Liaison, DHMH
Sharon Bloom, Assistant Liaison, DHMH
Katherine Killeen, Ph.D., Maryland Psychological Association (MPA)
Denise Bike

Interpreters

Sandra Brown and Justine Garrett

A. Minutes

Minutes of the Open Meeting held on July 12, 2013 were reviewed. **A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes.**

B. Announcements

Executive Director – Ms. Smith reported that of the 15 individuals who took the law exam in August, one failed. The list of registrants for the September 20, 2013 exam was reviewed. **A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to approve the list and to authorize the Licensing Committee to approve others who may register for the exam later.**

A copy of the Board's annual report was distributed. Members were asked to review the report and provide Ms. Smith with any comments by Friday, September 20, 2013.

The budget sheet below was discussed. Ms. Smith explained the budget closeout for Fiscal year (FY) 2013. Ms. Smith explained that the Board began FY 2014 with carryover funds of \$130,602, and that about \$86,222 is projected to carry over into FY 2015. Ms. Smith pointed out that the Board's expenditures are higher than the Board's revenue; therefore, the carryover funds are needed. Ms. Smith stated that once the psychology associate bill is passed, fees will need to be increased. Licensure fees have not increased in ten years.

FY 13 Actuals

FY 12 Carryover Funds	FY 13 Revenue	Total Funds	Expenditures
\$168,605	\$606,115	\$774,720	\$644,118

FY 13 Revenue	Expenditures	Difference
\$606,115. – without carryover	\$644,118	-\$38,003

FY 14 Budget Projections

FY 13 Carryover Funds	FY 14 Revenue	Total Funds	Expenditures
\$130,602	\$655,000	\$785,602	\$699,380

FY 14 Revenue	Expenditures	Difference	FY 15 Carryover
\$655,000 (without carryover)	\$699,380	-\$44,380	\$86,222

Ms. Smith reported that during August and September, eleven applicants were allowed to take the law exam remotely. No major problems were reported. Some applicants declined the option of taking the exam remotely. Ms. Smith recommended that over the next several months the test will be offered both remotely and on site in order to gain more information. During the first of the year the process will be reassessed.

A copy of the proposed bill to register psychology associates was distributed. The revised bill contains the language agreed upon last year with the Maryland Psychological Association, with the exception that the psychology associates will receive their renewal notification via email or first class mail.

Vice-Chairperson – Dr. Barnett announced that due to an increase of duties at Loyola University Maryland, he would not be seeking a second term as a Board member.

Chairperson – Dr. Sobelman reported that Secretary Sharfstein (DHMH) requested a conference call with him because the Secretary had a question about the Board's penalty regulations. The Secretary was concerned that the Board would allow licensees to reinstate their license without penalty. However, this is not the case. A reinstatement fee is charged in addition to the renewal fee.

It was announced that the new board member orientation training would be held on November 4, 2013 at the UMBC Tech Center. New Board members will receive additional information pertaining to the training.

Dr. Sobelman reported that new regulations were submitted for promulgation related to behavior analysts. The regulation *Title 31 Maryland Insurance Administration, Subtitle 10, COMAR 31.10.39 Utilization Review of Treatment for Autism and Autism Spectrum Disorders* would allow payment for providing habilitative services. The following comments were provided to the Maryland Insurance Administration relating to the proposed regulation.

- To clarify that social workers do not practice psychology, we are requesting that at the end of section 31.10.39.B6 - "Habilitative services" means evidence-based services to enhance a child's ability to function, including behavioral health treatment, psychological care and therapeutic care, that the word "psychotherapy" be added to include social workers.
- Section 31.10.39.B.12 – "Psychological care" means direct or consultative services provided by a psychologist or social worker licensed in the state in which the services are provided. The Board recommend that the definition of "psychological care" only include services provided by a psychologist since social workers do not provide psychological care. We suggest a separate definition, such as "psychotherapy services", which could reference the mental health services provided by clinical social workers."

The following new list of committee members was distributed. The position of vice-chair was eliminated. A description of committee's structure and function was also distributed.

Disciplinary – Leigh (Chair), Barnett, Bishop, Gormally

Licensing – Waters (Chair), Bishop, Gormally, Morris

Public Affairs – Barnett (Chair), Leigh, McCargo-Redd, Rakes

Operations – Morris (Chair), McCargo-Redd, Rakes, Waters

The Board's retreat is scheduled for December 6, 2013. Dr. Sobelman suggested, to and the Board concurred, that this retreat be an internal board training for members and staff only.

C. Committee Reports

Disciplinary – Dr. Barnett reported that the template for writing liaison reports was sent to new members.

Licensing – Dr. Waters reported that the committee continues to review applications for psychologists and psychology associates.

Public Affairs – Dr. Barnett asked that new members provide a photo and a short bio for inclusion in the winter newsletter. Articles for the newsletter were encouraged.

Operations - Dr. Waters stated that the budget report given by Ms. Smith would serve as the committee's report.

D. Public Comment


Dr. Killeen asked for a copy of the psychology associate proposed bill. She was informed that with the exception of the renewal notice section, it is the same bill that both the Board and MPA agreed on. The Board will provide MPA with a copy of the bill once the bill is approved to be released.

Ms. Hollinger reported that there was a new federal mandate requiring background checks for anyone working in nursing homes or assistant living facilities.

E. Closed Session/Administrative Session/Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to enter into closed session to engage in medical review deliberations regarding information in the licensing applications of Erin Burns, Jillian Egan, Michael Green, and Shelly McDermott. The Board entered into closed session at 10:40 a.m. and came out at 11:20 a.m. **A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to enter into administrative session to discuss disciplinary matters and to consult with Counsel.** The Board entered into administrative session at 11:25 a.m., came out at 2:15 p.m. and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven A. Sobelman, Ph.D.
Chairperson