

**Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board
Professional Counselor Advisory Committee
October 23, 2020, 10:00 a.m.
Minutes**

Members Present: Those who participated by zoom were Laura Shaughnessy, Leslie Sewester, Ken Hughey, Bob Kircher, Elaine Ptacek and Gary Price. Those who participated by phone Andrew Secor.

Staff Present: Max Foster, Leslie Allen, and Ashley VanBuskirk.

Guests Present: None.

1. **Call to Order.**
2. **Review and Approval of Minutes.** Elaine Ptacek motioned to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2020 meeting as published. Bob Kircher seconded. The motion carried.
3. **Executive Director's Report.** The following items were discussed:
 - a. Max will be retiring at the end of the year. The Board established a hiring committee and has hired David Fye as the new Executive Director. He will start in the office November 16, 2020.
 - b. Max submitted the agency budget in September on time.
 - c. August 24, 2020 the agency launched a new database called My License Office. There have been a few glitches, however it is working very well otherwise.
 - d. Our agency is working on staggered work schedules.
 - e. The Governor announced an emergency declaration for licenses expiring March through the end of the pandemic have been extended through the end of the pandemic. The Governors latest extension of the emergency declaration ends November 15, 2020 however it may be extended again.
4. **Requirement of 350 hours of Direct Client Contact During Practicum.**
 - a. Leslie explained to the committee how practicum students were having trouble obtaining the required 350 hours of direct client contact during the pandemic. Currently if they licensee did not complete 350 hours of direct client contact in practicum, they are required to add 350 hours of direct client contact to their supervised postgraduate experience. The board has been discussing a regulation change where the licensee would be required to make up the deficit of the 350 hours rather than the entire 350 hours.

Gary Price motioned to change the rules and regulations to say a licensee who wishes to obtain clinical license be allowed to make up the number of hours they are short of the 350 direct client contact rather than the entire 350 hours while completing their supervised postgraduate experience. Elaine Ptacek seconded. The motion carried.

Long term the Board has been discussing the option of eliminating the requirement of 350 hours of direct client contact during the practicum.

Ken Hughey motioned that the 350 hours requirement in practicum be eliminated in statute. Elaine Ptacek seconded. The motion passed by a 5-2 vote.

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Bob Kircher motioned that a minimum of 280 direct client contact hours during the practicum be required to become licensed as an LPC. It would not be an option to complete these hours after the degree is completed. 280 direct client contact hours is the number of hours required in CACREP programs. Andrew Secor seconded. The motion carried.

5. Postgraduate Supervision.

- a. Gary Price motioned to allow all 150 hours of supervision to be done by face to face videoconferencing. Bob Kircher seconded. The motion passed.

Andrew Secor motioned to allow up to 100 hours telephonic supervision in extenuating circumstances. Gary Price seconded.

Gary Price motioned to require one continuous hour of supervision (of at least 50 minutes) weekly rather than requiring a ratio of one hour of supervision for every 15 hours of direct client contact. Bob Kircher seconded. The motion carried.

6. Possible Legislation.

- a. Laura Shaughnessy is going to take the above information to the Board for consideration.

7. Definition of Direct Client Possible Addition of Telephonic Services.

- a. Leslie provided possible regulation language to define telephonic services for therapy. Ken Hughey motioned that the language in this definition be consistent with the previous motion about extenuating circumstances. Gary Price seconded. The motion carried.

- 8. Additional Items.** Gary Price asked about the two programs, Fort Hays and UMKC, that Todd Frye was reviewing when he was replaced on the Board. Laura Shaughnessy will reach out to Todd to see if she could obtain the information he has completed. Andrew Secor and Laura Shaughnessy will finish reviewing what Todd has not completed.

- 9. Adjourn.** The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, December 7, 2020 to begin at 10:00 a.m. Ken Hughey motioned to adjourn the meeting. Gary Price seconded. The motion carried.