

**BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES REGULATORY BOARD
ADDICTION COUNSELOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 2024**

DRAFT MINUTES

- I. Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Chair Jill Flessing at 10am.
- II. Advisory Committee Members in Attendance.** Advisory Committee members who participated by Zoom were Jill Flessing, Jacqueline Lightcap, Christina Boyd, Chad Jacobs, Michael James, Charity Kossin, Dulcinea Rakestraw, and Zenova Williams. Lisa Carter, and Jason Hess were absent.

BSRB Staff in Attendance. David Fye, and Leslie Allen were present by Zoom.

Visitors. None.
- III. Agenda Approval.** Chad Jacobs moved to approve the agenda. Michael James seconded. Motion Passed.
- IV. Change in Advisory Committee Membership.** The Executive Director, David Fye, informed the Advisory Committee that Shane Hudson had moved out of state and has chosen to resign his position on the Advisory Committee.
- V. Review and Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting on October 16, 2023.** Christina Boyd moved to approve. Chad Jacobs seconded. Motion Passed.
- VI. Executive Director's Report.** The Executive Director provided an update on agency operations, legislative information, and updates from recent Board meetings.
- VII. Old Business**
 - A. Continued Discussion of Alternate Licensure/Reciprocity Process Based on Years of Service in Lieu of Meeting Other Requirements.** The Advisory Committee previously discussed the licensing examination and education requirements for licensure; however the Committee unanimously agreed that years of experience is not enough to become licensed. Advisory Committee members discussed the value of a sufficient base of knowledge, along with demonstration of competence, such as passing a national examination. Advisory Committee members discussed whether the licensing examinations cover up to date techniques, technology, and changes in the work field versus what was the standard over 20 years ago, but the Advisory Committee had no desire to consider making individuals take a new test who passed a standard examination over 20 years ago. Licensure requirements in other states were discussed broadly, and it was noted that some states may have more emphasis on specific courses, rather than specific degrees, which could present an issue with individuals applying for licensure by reciprocity. Additionally, it was noted that some states may utilize a different test than Kansas, which could lead to other types of difficulties for individuals applying for licensure. It was noted that surrounding states, such as Colorado and Nebraska, do require degrees, but may not require as much coursework specific to addiction, or possibly as many hours as Kansas

requires. Leslie Allen, Assistant Director and Licensing Manager for the BSRB, will attempt to research educational and coursework requirements from other states, for the purpose of comparison to the requirements in Kansas.

VIII. New Business

- A. Discussion on K.S.A. 65-6616(a) Concerning “*Individuals Preparing for the Practice of Addiction Counseling.*”** The Executive Director noted K.S.A. 65-6616(a) includes language concerning students, interns, or “*individuals preparing for the practice of addiction counseling*” to be able to practice under a qualified supervision of a professional, recognized and approved by the Board, in an educational institution or agency so long as they are designated by titles such as “student,” “trainee,” “intern,” or other titles clearly indicating training status. It was noted there was a lack of clarity concerning the definition of “*individuals preparing for the practice of addiction counseling,*” and the agency is in favor of attempting to understand this terminology to clarify when individuals may practice under this language and when they may not. The Executive Director noted he will research the history of this language, to see when it was added to the statute, and to see if any testimony can be obtained indicating why this language was added or it’s specific purpose.
- B. Advisory Committee Membership.** The Executive Director provided an update on Advisory Committee members seeking reappointment. Jason Hess is completing his 4th term on the Advisory Committee and will be coming off the Committee at the end of June 2024, while other members at the end of a term have requested reappointment. The Advisory Committee requested the Executive Director send a message to licensees, noting the Advisory Committee would be considering applicants and for individuals to send a resume and letter of interest for consideration by the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will review applicant materials at the next Advisory Committee meeting in June 2024.
- C. Update on Student Temporary Addiction Counseling Licenses.** The Executive Director provide an update on the number of individuals holding a Student Temporary Addiction Counseling license. Currently, there are 16 student temporary addiction counselors, 13 other individuals who are in the process of applying for consideration of this license, and one individual’s student temporary license is obsolete, as they have moved to a Licensed Addiction Counselor license.
- D. Future Topics for Advisory Committee for FY 2024.** The Advisory Committee noted it intends to discuss possible further development of the Student Temporary Addiction Counseling license, including the possibility of a Student Temporary license at the master’s level. Also, members of the Committee expressed support for creating a survey for licensees, similar to a survey sent to social workers. The Advisory Committee also expressed support for further review of program requirements in the education regulation for licensure.

IX. Next Meeting: The Executive Director will send a poll to Advisory Committee members to identify a date for the next meeting in June 2024.

X. Adjournment. Chad Jacobs moved to adjourn. Michael James seconded. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.