

**BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES REGULATORY BOARD  
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
JUNE 14, 2024**

**Approved Minutes**

- I. Call to Order.** Mary Jones, Chair of the Advisory Committee, called the meeting to order at 10am.

**Committee Members.** Advisory Committee members present by Zoom were Mary Jones, Jim Kilmartin, Jurdene Coleman, Nicole Eitzen, John Fleeker, James Godbey, Christopher Habben, Marcie Lechtenburg, and Heidi Vela. No members were absent.

**Staff.** BSRB staff present by Zoom were David Fye and Leslie Allen.

- II. Approval of Agenda.** Christopher Habben moved to approve the agenda. Jim Kilmartin seconded. The motion passed.
- III. Review and Approval of Minutes from Previous Advisory Committee Meeting on April 12, 2024.** Jim Kilmartin moved to approve the minutes from the Advisory Committee meeting on April 12, 2024. Marcie Lechtenberg seconded. The motion passed.
- IV. Executive Director's Report.** David Fye, Executive Director for the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board (BSRB) provided updates on agency operations, actions from recent Board meetings, and legislative updates.
- V. Old Business**

**A. Discussion on Possible Updates to Educational Equivalency Standards in K.A.R. 102-5-3.** At a previous meeting, the Advisory Committee discussed the educational requirements for licensure, specifically the coursework listed in K.A.R. 102-5-3, to determine any updates should be recommended to the Board. Christopher Habben volunteered to do a comparison to the current standards for the national accrediting body for the profession, the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE). At the meeting, Mr. Habben presented a side-by-side comparison, using the coursework requirements listed in the COAMFTE accreditation manual. A summary of the comparison shows:

- The majority of the courses required in the COAMFTE requirements are also required in K.A.R. 102-5-3;
- COAMFTE requires 6 hours in foundation of relational/systemic practice, theories and models, while the regulation requires 9 hours;
- COAMFTE requires 6 hours in clinical treatment with individuals, couples, and families, while the regulation requires 9 hours;
- COAMFTE requires 3 hours in diverse, multicultural and/or underserved communities, while the regulation requires 9 hours;

- COAMFTE requires 3 hours in biopsychosocial health and development across the lifespan, while this was not specifically required in the regulation;
- COAMFTE requirements listed three items that should be covered, without assigning hour requirements to them: (1) contemporary issues; (2) community intersections and collaboration; and (3) preparation for teletherapy practice. These items are not listed specifically in the regulation; and
- Concerning clinical experience requirements, 300 direct clinical hours are required by COAMFTE, which is the same amount required in the regulation; also, 100 hours of supervision are required by COAMFTE, while the regulation requires 60 hours of supervision.

Advisory Committee members discussed that it could be helpful to recommend adding additional language to the regulation concerning what areas might satisfy certain coursework criteria. It was noted that the COAMFTE standards appear to stress more coverage of the biopsychosocial functioning of individuals as well as telehealth. The Advisory Committee did not recommend changes to the regulation.

- B. Continued Discussion on Possible Survey of Licensees.** The Executive Director previously informed the Advisory Committee about surveys conducted by the BSRB on behalf of the Social Work Advisory Committee and that the BSRB was working with each of the Advisory Committees if they thought it would be helpful to have a survey of licensees in their profession. Members of the Advisory Committee noted value in surveying professional counselors and discussed topics for potential questions, including demographic questions, concerns related to supervision, effectiveness of remote supervision compared to in-person supervision, why certain licensees have stayed at the non-clinical level, any issues concerning Medicaid reimbursement, number of licenses held out-of-state by our in-state licensees, possible interest in a multi-state compact, use of artificial intelligence, and whether licensees are providing direct services to individuals or other ways licensees use their professional licenses. The Executive Director will draft possible questions for the Advisory Committee to review at the next meeting.

## **VI. New Business**

- A. Advisory Committee Membership.** Following the last Advisory Committee meeting, the Executive Director sent a message to all marriage and family therapy permanent licensees, noting the Advisory Committee sought to consider applicants for positions on the Advisory Committee and informed individuals to provide a letter of interest and resume or CV for consideration. Advisory Committee members discussed candidates and, by consensus, recommended adding Betsy Henderson and Dianne Seibel as new members of the Advisory Committee. The Executive Director will provide the list of names to the Chair of the Board for review. If no additional information is requested, the Chair may appoint these individuals to the Advisory Committee at the next regular Board meeting on July 8, 2024.
- B. Discussion on Regulation of Artificial Intelligence.** The Board is considering possible ways to regulate the use of artificial intelligence by practitioners and referred

the topic to the Advisory Committees to discuss. Advisory Committee members were asked to consider this topic for more discussion at a future meeting.

**C. Discussion on Adding Description of Each Profession to BSRB Website to Inform Public of the Differences Between the Professions.** The Executive Director noted the BSRB was interested in adding language to the agency's website providing a general description of each profession to assist members of the public in understanding the differences between the professions. This Board referred this topic to the Advisory Committees to consider language they could recommend back to the Board. Advisory Committee members were encouraged to consider language for this item and to be ready to discuss this topic further at a future meeting.

**D. Discussion Topics for 2024.** No new topics were discussed.

**VII. Recognition of Outgoing Advisory Committee Members.** The Chair and Executive Director thanked outgoing Advisory Committee members Jurdene Coleman, John Fleeker, and James Godbey, who each reached their maximum length of eight years of service on the Advisory Committee.

**VIII. Next Meeting.** The next meeting will be August 16, 2024 at 1pm (later rescheduled to Monday, August 19, 2024, at 10am)

**IX. Adjournment.** Jim Goodbey moved to adjourn the meeting. Jurdene Coleman seconded. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.