

**BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES REGULATORY BOARD
ADDICTION COUNSELOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2024**

APPROVED MINUTES

- I. Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Chair Jill Flessing at 1pm.
- II. Advisory Committee Members in Attendance.** Christina Boyd, Lisa Carter, Jason Hess, Chad Jacobs, Michael James, Charity Kossin, Dulcinea Rakestraw, Jacquie Lightcap and Zenova Williams.
- BSRB Staff in Attendance.** David Fye and Leslie Allen were present by Zoom.
- Visitors.** James Childers.
- III. Agenda Approval.** Jason Hess moved to approve the agenda. Dulcinea Rakestraw seconded. The motion passed.
- IV. Public Comment.** James Childers provided public comment, recommending the creation of a student temporary addiction counseling license for graduate students. Mr. Childers hopes this will help encourage students to work toward their degree, by allowing them to practice while actively enrolled in the program. This temporary student license will also allow students to gain the education and knowledge needed to excel once they graduate and obtain their permanent license.
- V. Review and Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting on March 29, 2024.** Christina Boyd moved to approve. Dulcinea Rakestraw seconded. The motion passed.
- VI. Executive Director’s Report.** David Fye, Executive Director for the BSRB, provided an update on agency operations, legislative information, and updates from recent Board meetings. The Executive Director noted that at the last meeting, Leslie Allen, Assistant Director and Licensing Manager for the BSRB, volunteered to college information on licensing requirements in other states, which is included in the packet of material for this meeting. Advisory Committee members were asked to review that material for possible discussion at a future meeting.
- VII. Old Business**
- A. Continued Discussion on K.S.A. 65-6616(a) Concerning “*Individuals Preparing for the Practice of Addiction Counseling.*”** The Executive Director noted that K.S.A. 65-6616(a) uses the term “individuals preparing for the practice of addiction counseling, though this term is not defined in the statutes or regulations for the professions, so it is difficult to fully clarify when individuals may be inappropriately practicing without a license. It was noted that the agency could seek for this language to be eliminated or for the term to be defined. BSRB does not want there to be confusion regarding individuals preparing to practice, prior to being licensed, whether that be temporary or permanent. Advisory Committee members mentioned that something that could assist in defining this term would be to state ‘peer mentor’, which would in turn say that the individual has experience in the field that will allow them to be prepared to transition into becoming a licensed addiction counselor. Committee members agreed to table this topic and discuss

this topic further at a future meeting.

VIII. New Business

- A. **Advisory Committee Membership.** Following the previous meeting, the Executive Director sent a message to permanent licensees for the addiction counseling profession, noting the Advisory Committee was seeking to fill open positions. Applicants were requested to send a letter of interest and resume or CV for consideration. It was noted that 19 individuals self-nominated themselves for consideration of being appointed to the Advisory Committee. Due to the large number of applicants, the Advisory Committee decided to allow more time for members to review applicant materials. The Advisory Committee plans to make recommendations on new members at the next meeting in September 2024.
 - B. **Discussion on Questionnaire for Addiction Counseling Licensees.** Over the past few years, the BSRB has assisted the Social Work Advisory Committee in surveying licensees and collecting information in the form of a report. This year, the BSRB is working with each of the Advisory Committees to see if a similar survey would be helpful for their profession. A survey would allow BSRB and Committee members to get an understanding of what issues licensees are experiencing and observing, with the goal to identify items for the Advisory Committee to work on in the future. Topics for survey questions included in-person supervision versus tele-supervision, issues receiving supervision or providing supervision, and any common violations practitioners are seeing in the field. Advisory Committee members agreed discuss possible questions in more detail at a future meeting.
 - C. **Discussion on Regulation on Artificial Intelligence.** The Board recently asked each Advisory Committee to discuss this topic with the goal of making recommendations back to the Board. Some providers are using artificial intelligence as a tool; however, when trying to verify confidentiality and protection, it has shown to be difficult when making sure providers are taking the necessary precautions. The Advisory Committee will continue discussion on this topic at a future meeting.
 - D. **Discussion on Adding Description of Each Profession to BSRB Website to Inform Public of the Differences Between the Profession.** The Board recently referred this topic to the Advisory Committees or discussion. Main topic consists of how to differentiate between these professions and different levels with education or licensing and make public for public individuals to have a better understanding. Members discussed creating a small description for each profession and how they're different from each other. This will allow individuals to make a more educated decision when services are needed. The Advisory Committee will continue to discuss this topic at a future meeting.
 - E. **Discussion on Possible Master's Level Student Temporary License.** Due to time constraints, this topic will be discussed at a future meeting.
 - F. **Future Topics for Advisory Committee for FY 2024** Continued discussion regarding Artificial Intelligence, an addiction specific questionnaire survey, and the possibility of a master's level student temporary license.
- IX. **Special Recognition of Outgoing Advisory Committee Members.** The Chair and Executive Director thanked Jason Hess for his years of service on the Advisory Committee, as he reached his maximum length of service of eight years on the Advisory Committee.
- X. **Next Meeting:** September 24, 2024, at 10am over Zoom.

XI. Adjournment. Christina Boyd moved to adjourn. Charity Kossin Seconded. The motion passed.