

**BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES REGULATORY BOARD  
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
OCTOBER 10, 2025  
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, Nicole Eitzen Chris Habben, Betsy Henderson, Stacey Hodges, Raneisha Hunter, Marcie Lechtenberg, Diane Seibel, and Heidi Vela. Jim Kilmartin was absent.

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

- II. Approval of Agenda.** Betsy Henderson moved to approve the agenda. Chris Habben seconded. The motion passed.

- III. Welcome New Advisory Committee Members.** The Advisory Committee welcomed new members Stacey Hodges and Raneisha Hunter.

- IV. Short Summary of Advisory Committee Member Expectations.** David Fye, Executive Director for the BSRB, provided a brief overview of roles and responsibilities of Advisory Committee members and laws relevant to serving on a committee for a state agency, including the Kansas Open Meetings Act and the Kansas Open Records Act, noting that more comprehensive training for Board members and staff would occur later this fall.

- V. Review and Approval of Minutes from Previous Advisory Committee Meeting on August 15, 2025.** Heidi Vela moved to approve the minutes from the Advisory Committee meeting on August 15, 2025. Marcie Lechtenberg seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- VI. Executive Director's Report.** The Executive Director for the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board (BSRB) provided updates on agency operations, legislative updates, and actions from recent Board meetings.

**VII. Old Business**

- A. Continued Review and Discussion of Survey Report on Licensees.** At the previous meeting, the Executive Director asked Advisory Committee members to specifically review and be ready to discuss licensee responses to two survey questions.

- i. **Negative Issues Involving Telehealth.** It was noted the majority of respondents reported no negative issues with telehealth, but Advisory Committee members expressed surprise at those results. Members noted having heard about issues involving professional standards when some providers have provided services remotely. Advisory Committee noted support from several respondents at a multi-state compact to allow better

continuity of care across states. Members discussed boundaries when providing telehealth and provision of crisis services when using telehealth. The Executive Director noted some responses highlight the need for the BSRB to provide additional communication on some topics the BSRB can control or help with and some areas that are outside of the agency's control, especially limitations on practice across states.

- ii. **Use of Artificial Intelligence in Practice.** It was noted the majority or respondents reported not using AI in practice. Advisory Committee members noted that it is likely the percent of individuals using AI has increased a lot this past year, since the survey results were obtained. Advisory Committee members discussed specific products that were referenced by respondents, expressing positive support for a number of the different AI tools that are currently being used, but noting that certain protections need to be in place for confidentiality.

**B. Continuing Discussion on the Regulation of Artificial Intelligence.** Advisory Committee members discussed a law passed this year by Illinois, limiting what chatbots and other AI tools could do autonomously. Members of the Advisory Committee expressed support for reviewing the recent changes in law. The Executive Director noted it appeared there was consensus on a recommendation that if AI was being used, confidentiality was protected and informed consent was provided that AI was being used. He also noted some Advisory Committees expressed support for allowing clients the ability to opt-out of AI being used. Advisory Committee members expressed concern about the use of chatbots for mental health assistance and referring clients to use certain tools or technology. The Advisory Committee expressed a desire to keep this item

**C. Continued Discussion of Alternative Pathways to Licensure.** This item was tabled.

## VIII. New Business

**A. Review of Regulations.** At the previous meeting, the Executive Director provided copies of several regulations that the Advisory Committee had reviewed recently and asked members to review the regulations and be ready to discuss possible updates. The Assistant Director and Licensing Manager highlighted possible changes, which are reflected below:

**i. K.A.R. 102-5-4a Application for Licensure.**

- i. In (e) the Assistant Director noted the length of time for temporary licenses should be changed from 12 months to 24 months, given recent changes in law.
- ii. In (e)(1)(A) the Assistant Director highlighted language concerning the expiration of the temporary license in 6 months if the applicant had not taken the licensing examination within that timeframe, and proposed (e)(1)(A) and (B) be struck as the Board has moved away from this requirement, as it was very difficult to track and enforce.
- iii. By consensus, the Advisory Committee recommended the proposed changes and recommended the changes be forwarded to the Board.

**ii. K.A.R. 102-5-4b Application for Licensure Based on Reciprocity.**

- i. In (b)(2)(B), the Assistant Director proposed striking language after the first sentence, due to recent changes to the reciprocity laws for the professions.
  - ii. In (b)(2)(D), the Assistant Director proposed modifying the language to reflect substantial equivalence or having been licensed 12 months with a similar scope of practice, which is the new standard in the reciprocity statute.
  - iii. In (b)(3)(A), the Assistant Director proposed the section be struck, because showing evidence of practice is no longer required.
  - iv. By consensus, the Advisory Committee recommended the proposed changes and recommended the changes be forwarded to the Board.
- iii. **K.A.R. 102-5-5 Examination for Marriage and Family Therapist or Clinical Marriage and Family Therapist.**
  - i. The Assistant Director proposed modifying language in the regulation to match the Board’s direction that both applicants for a Licensed Clinical Marriage and Family Therapist (LCMFT) license and individuals holding a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) license be approved to register for the license examination, which would allow individuals who reached the pass point for LMFT licensure, but not LCMFT licensure, to take the licensing examination without having to wait two years while accruing post graduate experience hours.
  - ii. By consensus, the Advisory Committee recommended the proposed changes and recommended the changes be forwarded to the Board.
- iv. **K.A.R. 102-5-6a Licensure Without Examination.**
  - i. The Assistant Director proposed this regulation be struck, as it was designed to assist individuals in qualifying for licensure between January 1, 1997, and July 1, 1998. Given that over 25 years have passed since this time, it is unlikely this regulation will assist individuals moving forward.
  - ii. By consensus, the Advisory Committee recommended the proposed changes and recommended the changes be forwarded to the Board.
- v. **K.A.R. 102-5-9 Renewal and Reinstatement.** This regulation was tabled, to be reviewed at the next meeting.
- vi. **K.A.R. 102-5-9a Renewal Audit.**
  - i. The Assistant Director proposed striking the word “original” from (c)(2) as original copies of continuing education documentation is no longer needed, as copies are sufficient.
  - ii. The Assistant Director proposed adding language to (c) to clarify that the Board could utilize a 3<sup>rd</sup> party documentation hosting service for this review (such as CE Broker).
  - iii. By consensus, the Advisory Committee recommended the proposed changes and recommended the changes be forwarded to the Board.
- vii. **K.A.R. 102-5-13 Licensee Consult with Physician When Determining Symptoms of Mental Disorders.** This regulation was tabled, to allow

members of the Advisory Committee to review the enacting or authorizing statute prior to discussion.

**viii. K.A.R. 102-5-14 Designation of Referral Source for Use in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Mental Disorders.**

- i. The Assistant Director proposed the Advisory Committee adjust the reference for the Diagnostic and Statical Manual (DSM) of Mental Disorders from the “fifth edition,” to the “fifth edition-Text Revision (5-TR)” to reflect the most current version of the DSM. Advisory Committees asked if it would be appropriate to reference “the most current version of the DSM,” rather than changing the regulation each time a new version was produced. The Executive Director noted legal counsel has generally expressed it is not preferred to delegate authority to a 3<sup>rd</sup> party the BSRB has no control over, in case the BSRB may not be in favor of future changes by that association. Also, it appears that historically, this is an item the Legislature has expressed interest in providing oversight and comment when different versions of the DSM have been considered, so it is requested to update to the “DSM-5-TR” rather than “the most current version of the DSM.”
- ii. By consensus, the Advisory Committee recommended the proposed changes and recommended the changes be forwarded to the Board.

**ix. K.A.R. 102-5-15 Services Rendered to Individuals Located in this State.**  
This regulation was tabled to the next meeting.

**IX. Next Meeting.** The next meeting will be December 12, 2025, at 10am.

**X. Adjournment.** Christ Habben moved to adjourn the meeting. Heidi Vela seconded. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.