

**BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES REGULATORY BOARD
ADDICTION COUNSELOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2025**

DRAFT MINUTES

- I. Call to Order.** Jill Flessing, Chair of the Advisory Committee, opened the meeting with roll call.

Advisory Committee Members. Jill Flessing, Denise Cyzman, Jason Greever, Chad Jacobs, Michael James, Charity Kossin, Crystal Norman, Judy Reusser and Zenova Williams. Christina Boyd, Lisa Carter, and Dulcinea Rakestraw were absent.

BSRB Staff. David Fye was present.

- II. Agenda Approval.** Jason Greever moved to approve with an edit to identify 1pm as the starting time for the meeting. Charity Kossin seconded. Motion passed.

- III. Review of Minutes from Previous Meeting on March 5, 2025, and June 3, 2025.** Denise Cyzman moved to approve the minutes from March 5, 2025, and June 3, 2025. Crystal Norman seconded. The motion passed.

- IV. Executive Director's Report.** David Fye, Executive Director for the BSRB, provided an update on BSRB operations, legislative updates, and highlights from recent BSRB Board meetings.

- V. Old Business**

A. Continued Discussion on Draft Report on Survey of Licensees. The Executive Director reviewed the draft report on the survey responses from addiction counseling licensees, including newly analyzed responses to questions, such as primarily Kansas counties where practitioners at all three levels of addiction counseling licensure are practicing. The most common counties in which LACs and LMACs are practicing is Sedgwick County, though the most frequently reported county for practicing LCACs is Johnson County, slightly ahead of Sedgwick County. Another part of the survey analyzed responses to the question whether licensees were maintaining an active license but were not providing services currently, and the survey report lists summary information as well as what section of the report includes the open-field responses from licensees. It was noted that some responses to questions were still being analyzed by BSRB staff members, but that information would be added later in a different version of the report. The Executive Director noted most Advisory Committees were reviewing responses to questions at meetings. The Executive Director asked members of the Advisory Committee to review two questions for discussion at a future meeting.

B. Continued Discussion on Regulation of Artificial Intelligence. The Executive Director provided an update on a federal appropriations bill that would have restricted states ability to regulate the use of artificial intelligence, but the update was that this restrictive language was removed from the final version of that appropriations bill. Committee members discussed how some facilities still do not allow the use of AI in any way, but that some facilities do allow the use of notes to record sessions. The main topic that was discussed when facilitating these recordings is how they're secured. Committee members stated that the training session that they attended allowed them to see a 'mock version' using the note taking tool and stated that the notes should be automatically deleted after 24-48 hours, but could not confirm, as most digital items are saved within the 'cloud', but should be deleted fully after a specific timeframe. It is advised that those who are permitted to use any AI recording tool, is that the licensee edits the notes prior to

publishing into the clients' files.

VI. New Business

- A. Review and Discussion of Pennsylvania Association's Addiction Counselor Program.** The Executive Director noted the BSRB Board recently heard interest from outside groups in exploring the associate addiction counselor program used in Pennsylvania. It was noted that this program may be helpful in getting individuals into the addiction counseling profession. Advisory Committee members were asked to research this topic on their own and come back for discussion on this topic at a future meeting. The goal is to build the addiction counseling workforce, but if a workforce cannot be reimbursed for the services they're providing, this could decrease the popularity of hiring these practitioners. Advisory Committee members discussed that an associate level solution may be very popular. Committee members discussed whether this would potentially give enough education to protect the public, but also whether reimbursements would be available for lower-level practitioners. It was the consensus from Advisory Committee members to have further information provided on how this program is utilized in Pennsylvania.
- B. Discussion on Making Up Practicum Hours for License.** The Executive Director noted if an applicant received their education from a program that required fewer hours in practicum than is required in the statutes and regulations for the BSRB, the applicant request from the Board to obtain a provisional license to make up the remainder of the hours. However, some professions have pursued adding language to their regulations so that applicants may make up those hours using a general temporary license. The Executive Director asked the Advisory Committee members if they were supportive of pursuing a change in their regulations concerning the temporary license option. By consensus, the Advisory Committee recommended pursuing a change in the regulation to allow individuals to make up the necessary hours using a temporary license so long they were making up the hours in an employment position and under supervision.
- C. Discussion on Possible Alternate Pathway for Licensure.** The Executive Director noted this topic was referred from the BSRB Board to each of the Advisory Committees for discussion. It was noted that some professions were discussing whether years of practice could be substituted for passing a licensing examination or attaining formal education. Other conversations include discussion on the disparity between different groups and their ability on standardized testing. The Advisory Committee tabled the topic to a future meeting.

VII. Next Meeting. The Executive Director and Chair will attend the 2025 annual NAADAC conference and bring back items of note for the Advisory Committee. At the next Advisory Committee meeting, the BSRB will ask the Advisory Committee to review recommended changes to several regulations for the addiction counseling profession.

VIII. Adjournment. Jason Greever moved to adjourn the meeting. Charity Kossin seconded. Meeting adjourned.