

**BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES REGULATORY BOARD
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
DECEMBER 4, 2025
Approved Minutes**

I. Call to Order. Laura Shaughnessy, Chair of the Advisory Committee, opened the meeting and called roll.

Advisory Committee Members: Advisory Committee members who participated by Zoom were Laura Shaughnessy, Jim Kilmartin, Amanda Brown, Michael Countryman, Samantha Holloway, Jason Li, Vanessa Perez, Amanda Petrik-Gardner, and Amanda Wade. Melissa Briggs and Mahsa Maghsoudi were absent.

BSRB Staff: David Fye, Executive Director for the BSRB, and Leslie Allen, Assistant Director, were present by Zoom.

II. Agenda Approval. Jim Kilmartin moved to approve the agenda. Vanessa Perez seconded the motion. The motion passed.

III. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings on October 2, 2025. Michael Countryman moved to approve the minutes from October 2, 2025. Jason Li seconded. The motion passed.

IV. Executive Director’s Report. The Executive Director provided updates on agency operations, legislative updates, and actions from recent Board meetings.

V. Updates on Professional Counseling Multi-State Compact. The Executive Director and Chair of the Committee discussed several updates with the multi-state compact.

VI. Old Business

A. Continued Review and Discussion on Survey of Licensees. At a previous meeting, Advisory Committee members were asked to review and be ready to discuss two sections of the draft survey report: (1) additional ways the BSRB could protect and serve consumers of services and (2) additional comments and feedback.

i. Additional Ways the BSRB Could Protect and Serve Consumers of Services Offered by BSRB Licensees (page 20 and pages 87-100). Advisory Committee members discussed additional ways the BSRB could protect and serve consumers of services offered by BSRB licensees. Advisory Committee members noted that when asked whether there were additional ways the BSRB could protect and serve consumers, the most frequent response was “no.” Others notes responses requesting more communication from the Board regarding different changes. BSRB staff noted work in progress to great a newsletter with updates for licensees.

ii. Additional Comments and Feedback (page 21 and pages 101-113). Advisory Committee members discussed the last question on the survey,

which allowed respondents to provide any additional comments on topics not covered to the Board. The most common response was no additional comments. Advisory Committee members discussed topics of concern including art therapy and artificial intelligence. The Advisory Committee may revisit the survey at future meetings to discuss the survey findings in greater detail.

- B. Continued Discussion on Regulation of Artificial Intelligence.** The Executive Director provided a document summarizing different bills enacted by three states that involved regulation of the use of artificial intelligence. Many did not like the use of artificial intelligence for therapy and believe removal of human oversight could be detrimental. The Committee will continue to review and discuss findings in other states at future meetings.

VII. New Business

- A. Review of Regulations.** The Executive Director and Assistant Director and Licensing Manager reviewed current regulations with Advisory Committee members, to see if any updates or changes are appropriate to be recommended and forwarded to the BSRB Board for action.
 - i. K.A.R. 102-3-14 Licensee consult with physician when determining symptoms of mental disorders.** This regulation was reviewed by the Advisory Committee, and it was the consensus that no changes need to be made to this regulation. The Advisory Committee would like a definition put in the definition regulation that clarifies when face-to-face includes telehealth and in person.
- B. Ohio Change in Licensing Requirements.** The Executive Director noted that Ohio licensures professional counselors with a model similar to Kansas, in that both states have two levels of permanent licensure, a clinical/independent level and a non-clinical level. Until recently, both states required passage of the National Counselor Examination (NCE) for the lower-level license and passage of the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE) for the clinical license. However, citing a number of states requiring passage of either test, Ohio recently moved to requiring passage of either test for the lower-level license, and discontinuing requiring a second test for the attainment of the independent-level license. Given the previous similarities between the states and the change in Ohio, the Executive Director thought it would be relevant news for the Advisory Committee to consider. The Advisory Committee may discuss this topic more at a future meeting.
- C. Discussion on Coursework Requirements in K.A.R. 102-2-3-3a.** This item was tabled for the next meeting.
- D. Discussion on Advisory Committee Discussion Topics for 2026.** This item was tabled for the next meeting.
- E. Discussion on Date and Time for Meetings in 2026.** The Executive Director will send out a doodle pro with standard day and time options to ensure there is no conflict with anyone attending

VIII. Next Meeting: A consensus on meeting dates and times could not be reached, so the Executive Director will poll members to find a standard date and time for meetings in 2026.

IX. Adjournment. Michael Countryman moved to adjourn. Amanda Wade seconded. The motion passed.