

State of Alaska
Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

By Authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.62, a regularly scheduled meeting of the Alaska State Board of Marital and Family Therapy was held April 27, 2023 via Zoom.

April 27, 2023

Agenda item #1 Call to order

This meeting was called to order by Chairperson Noah Shields at **9:04AM**.

Board Members present, constituting a quorum:

Noah Shields, Chairperson
Richard Clampitt
Kayla Green

Division Staff present were:

Renee Carabajal, Program Coordinator II
Jeanne Pace, Program Coordinator I
Marlo Adams, Occupational Licensing Examiner
Stephanie Davis, Regulation Specialist
Melissa Dumas, Administrative Officer I

Others:

Mercy Dennis
Katie McNamara
Kelsey Fox

Agenda Item #2 Review Agenda

A motion duly made by Noah Shields, seconded by Kayla Green, and approved by unanimous consent, was:

Resolved to approve the agenda as presented.

Agenda item #3 Minutes Approval

A motion duly made by Richard Clampitt, seconded by Kayla Green, and approved by unanimous consent, was:

Resolved to approve previous meeting summary August and November of 2018, amendments, and corrections as presented.

Resolved to approve previous meeting summary January, May, August 2019 minutes, amendments, and corrections as presented.

Resolved to approve previous meeting summary August 2020 minutes, amendments, and corrections as presented.

A motion duly made by Richard Clampitt, seconded by Kayla Green, and approved by unanimous consent was:

Tabled January 2022 minutes until transcribed and posted to OnBoard for approval.

A motion duly made by Richard Clampitt, seconded by Kayla Green, and approved by unanimous consent, was:

Resolved to approve previous meeting summary January 2023, amendments as presented.

Agenda Item #4 Ethics

The board has no ethics items to report.

Agenda item #5 Public Comment

Mercy Dennis joined the meeting with Katie McNamara and commented on the two board vacancies. Urged current board members to fill positions. Voiced concern about miscommunications license requirements; asked that board members clarify the process. Also mentioned the cost of slow processing time for licensure and supervision approval. Noted confusion amongst students for hours to apply for LMFT; would like clarification in the statute. Was disappointed about the length of time it took to go over minutes from previous times. Would like the state to be more cost effective. Concerns about the price of fees.

Renee Carabajal discussed board member vacancies, misinformation, and minute issues.

Noah Shields thanked Mercy Dennis for their comments and insights. Asked if there were any further comments and closed public comments.

Agenda item #6 Division Update

Melissa Dumas, Operations Manager joined the meeting to present third quarter FY23 revenue/expenditure report. It was noted this is a non-renewal fee year. Revenue for the three biennium was presented. Expenditures under direct expenditures, non-investigative time, investigative time, regulation specialist, or publication team were defined. Conference travel was discussed for board and staff.

Non-Renewal Fee Analysis

Discussed fee reduction per legislation. The chair asked about proposed changes in terms of revenue and general funds. K. Green made remarks in favor of reducing fees and wanted further details on temporary licensure price scenarios. The chair also spoke of concerns about temporary licensure and its relevance. R. Carabajal clarified questions regarding temporary licensure and timeline for fee updates before the renewal. R. Clampitt asked for timeline on fee updates. M. Dumas noted that when the legislative session was over, more decisions could be made.

Agenda item #7 Investigative Report

Jasmin Bautista joined the meeting to present the report for period December 2022 to April 2023.

0 open cases

2 closed cases for investigation and two closed cases from previous period.

10:35 Break for 10 min, back on record at 10:45

Agenda item #8 Application Review

Members agreed to vote during meeting.

A. New Applications

208035 - Approved contingent with changes to course documentation.

B. Tabled Applications

209015 – Tabled. Requires further clarification on course descriptions.

Agenda item #9 Division Director

During M. Dumas’s presentation, Sylvan Robb joined the conversation to answer questions from board members. No questions were asked.

Agenda item #10 Board Business

A. New Guidance-Board Committees vs. Subcommittees vs. Workgroups

R. Carabajal discussed additional guidance from Department of Law regarding work groups with governmental boards and commissions. N. Shields discussed vacant board member seats and voting, later mentioned work group and its public members. R. Clampitt wanted clarification about board correspondence, R. Carabajal referenced opening meetings requirements.

B. Louisville AMFTRB Conference Summary Presentation

N. Shields summarized licensure language, state-by-state licensure process, score standardizations, quality of CEUs, ethics codes refresher, and compact membership and its impacts on Alaska.

C. Subcommittee to research pros/cons of Interstate Licensing Compacts

Discussion between R. Carabajal, N. Shields, and R. Clampitt revealed Alaska’s unique situation regarding mental/health professional compact guidelines and decisions at the legislature. Agreed an email would be sent about making work group for compact discussion.

Break for lunch at 12:26

Back on Record at 12:56 p.m.

D. Listserv

Discussed the use of Listserv – program used for communications between boards and licensees.

A motion duly made by Richard Clampitt, seconded by Kayla Green, and approved by unanimous consent, was:

Resolved to approve the use of Listserv as a means of communication between board administrative staff, board members, licensees, and applicants.

E. Statute/Regulations Review

Members discussed statute and regulation wording to include simplification of phrases, supervision jurisdiction issues, group supervision hours, fees after retirement (set aside for further discussion), definitions, regulations project, synchronous and non-synchronous training, real time interaction meanings. Alaska statutes were updated to reflect more cohesive language.

F. Board Annual Report

Members assigned to address various sections of the board's annual report and will approve final report via OnBoard.

11. Adjourn

A motion duly made by Richard Clampitt, seconded by Kayla Green, and approved by unanimous consent, was:

Resolved to adjourn the meeting.

Adjourned at 2:46 PM – off the record.

Minutes Approved by the Board during the September 14th 2023 meeting.