

MINUTES

NORTH CAROLINA SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BOARD

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2009

Attendance: Flay Lee, Adrian McCoy, Tom Miller, Nora Noel, Lynn Jones, Bert Bennett, Dottie Saxon Greene, Lidia Bly-Herman, Cheryl Gentile, Joe Fortin, Helen Wolstenholme, Jessica Holton, Michael Herring, Joseph Adedokun, Richard Henderson, Randy Thornton, Lynn Inman, Mark Crabtree.

Board Staff: Ann Christian, Randolph Cloud, Barden Culbreth, Anna Misenheimer.

Danny Graves called the meeting to order.

Ann read the Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest Statement. No Board member anticipated a conflict.

Danny circulated correspondence to the Board members. He gave a report concerning the state of the Board and emphasized that the Board is on a solid foundation fiscally. He outlined the role of each committee in the scheme of the Board's operations. He also thanked the Board office for their role in maintaining the Board's administrative functions.

Legislative Update

Randolph stated that Anna has distributed House Bill 221 via email. A companion bill has been introduced. Given the provisions of the bill, Randolph had an experience reviewing the legislation similar to the feeling Flay and Turp must experience while attending IC&RC meetings. This Board is mature in its history and operation in comparison to other state occupational licensure boards.

There will be budget cuts in the Department of Health and Human Services. Rumors concerning leadership with the Department are rampant. A close look will be given to the stimulus money. The Institute of Medicine has called for an increase of funding for substance abuse services. There has been a proposed House and Senate bill that would increase the alcohol tax. This money would be dedicated to the Division of MH/DD/SAS.

The impact of returning veterans on substance abuse problems in this state has become a topic of study and will be discussed in future publications.

**Motion: Approve the December 12, 2008 Board meeting minutes.
Motion made by Joseph Adedokun/Seconded by Tom Miller. Motion approved.**

President's Report

Danny Graves gave a brief State of the State report:

At a time when the economy is weak and many agencies, businesses and facilities are struggling to stay afloat, the NCSAPPB has a solid financial foundation. He asked each of the Committee Chairs to maintain the charge of his/her committee and work to maintain the Board's strong foundation, protecting the integrity of the Board and the credentials that it offers. He asked for any and all suggestions, ideas, concerns, thoughts, etc. be brought directly to him. Danny welcomes recommendations and feedback from all Board Members. In order to move forward as a Board, it is more important than ever that all its members be united, creating a strong, clear voice and message.

Executive Director's Report

At the December meeting, Anna reported that she had contacted Jim Edmundson, coordinator of the NC Summer School to see if a track could be offered to allow LCAS's to receive the training that is required before a LCAS can make application to join the NC Disaster Response Network. The NC Foundation of Alcohol and Drug Studies reviewed my request and has created two tracks at the Summer School for this training. These trainings will be offered on Tuesday and Wednesday, July 28th and 29th.

Additionally, the Board has been given a mini-track slot on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 28th. Both Tom Miller and Dottie Saxon Greene volunteered. Please note that the NC Summer School was originally planned for August 4th-6th, but the dates have now changed to July 28th through 30th. Information regarding DRN and the application has been posted on the Board's website.

Anna reported that everyone should have received a postcard from the State Ethics Commission regarding the Statement of Economic Interest. These are due by April 15th. After this date, Board members will be assessed a fine. Also, each Board member must attend the mandatory ethics training. Training is being held this afternoon, beginning at 1:30pm at the NC Museum of History. The museum is located at 5 E. Edenton Street in downtown Raleigh.

After receiving several inquiries regarding the Board's Credential Verification query on the Board's website, an explanation on the website for this search result has been posted. That webpage now explains that "no approvals" will result if a counselor is already fully credentialed by the Board. It also provides definitions for approvals that can result from the search (REG, REG-L, INT, etc.).

The January/February 2009 edition of the NC Medical Journal is devoted solely to the topic of Addiction. The cover of the Journal reads "The Face of Addiction and the Pathways to Recovery". The lead article entitled "Substance Abuse in North Carolina" reports the findings of the NC Institute of Medicine's Task Force on Substance Abuse Services that was appointed to study why the state's SA system was unable to serve more people in need. The Chairs of this task force are Rep. Verla Insko, Senator Martin Nesbitt and Dr. Dewayne Book. Several professionals were asked to write commentaries in response to the task force article. Anna was contacted to address workforce

development issues. This article is on page 75. Please take a look at the journal that is circulating.

She also mentioned that Flo Stein is recognized in the beginning of the journal as having a “tarheel footprint in health care”. An outline of Flo’s experience is included as well as mention of our very own, Worth Bolton.

The new location of future Board meetings will likely be the Sheraton Imperial and a location in Greensboro. The June and December Board meetings will be held in Raleigh while the September Board meeting will be held in Greensboro.

Deemed Status Reports

Dr. Joseph Adedokun (NAADAC) stated that advocacy week was last week in Washington, DC. Wrenn Rivenbark was able to attend.

Jessica Holden (NASW) stated that March is National Social Work Month. Lobby day is this coming Wednesday. They expect 1,000 people to participate.

Joe Fortin said NBCC recently updated their procedures concerning ethics hearings.

Nora Noel stated that it is APA’s 60th anniversary. This year’s conference will be April 24th-25th in Chapel Hill. APA wants to get students more interested in thinking about substance abuse as a career. A study outlining men’s attitudes towards women’s drinking habits is posted on APA’s website.

Cheryl Gentile did not have any updates to report from CRCC.

Adrian McCoy (ANCB) reported that their annual conference will be held September 30-October 3rd.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

The Committee met this morning in advance of the Board meeting. After today, Board meetings will rotate between Greensboro and Durham. Anna then discussed the LCAS’s scope of practice and explained that she and the Board office have received inquiries regarding whether or not a LCAS can provide mental health diagnoses. Anna read a letter that was approved by the Committee for distribution. Jessica inquired about the 45 hours of DSM IV TR training. Worth explained that this is the amount of education and type of education that is required for one to seek reimbursement. Worth said that it is this Board’s charge to advocate for our licensed professionals and increase vendorship for this credential in NC.

Business and Operations Committee

The Committee is still working with the Board office on posting the application packets online. Tom stated that if additional training is required for Board members due to House bill 221, then the Committee will ask for this training be made at a Board meeting.

Treasurer's Report

David Turpin stated that he recently spoke with an auditor from A T Allen and Company to answer questions to assist with the 2007-2008 audit.

**Motion: Approve the November and December financial statements.
Motion made by Lynn Inman/Seconded by Al Greene. Motion carried.**

Ethics Committee

Bert reported that there are currently 17 open cases; 5 have been closed since the last Board meeting. A hearing was scheduled yesterday, but the individual did not show. Another ethics hearing is scheduled for April. Dual relationships, relapse and administrative/personnel issues continue to be a constant theme throughout the complaints received. The rules have been reviewed by the attorney for the Administrative Rules Review Commission and his changes have been reviewed by the Ethics Committee.

Nominations and Elections Committee

Worth announced that there was a healthy request for Board scholarships this cycle. A situation recently arose where a scholarship recipient did not realize that she was responsible for boarding costs since lodging was not provided in conjunction with the Winter School conference. He and Anna have worked together and drafted a letter that will be distributed to scholarship awardees in the future to clearly define the expenses covered by the scholarship.

Quality Assurance Committee

Al frequently gets requests to review one's Master's degree program to determine whether or not one would qualify for licensure. One such application was reviewed last night and the Committee decided to deny the applicant's request for the LCAS license.

Standards Committee

Michael said that he and Worth plan to travel to conduct a review of a Board-approved training sponsored by Reaching Across the World Ministries (RAWM).

He gave results from the December exam administration:

CSAC exam: 101 tested; 79 passed, 22 failed. Passing rate: 78.22%

IC&RC pass rate: 72.20%

CSAC Spanish exam: 1 tested; 0 passed, 1 failed. Passing rate: 0%

IC&RC pass rate: 20%

LCAS exam: 92 tested; 60 passed, 32 failed. Passing rate: 65.22%
IC&RC pass rate: 62.87%

CCS exam: 8 tested; 8 passed, 0 failed. Passing rate: 100%
IC&RC pass rate: 68.48%

CCJP exam: 1 tested; 1 passed, 0 failed. Passing rate: 100%
IC&RC pass rate: 50%

CSAPC exam: 2 tested; 2 passed, 0 failed. Passing rate: 100%
IC&RC pass rate: 56.36%

Michael asked Anna to post the exam results in the next Board Buzz.

General Announcements

Cheryl asked what happened with the Impaired Professionals Committee. Jessica said that she was on a conference call with Joseph Jordan yesterday. She will forward information about this group to Cheryl and Ann Christian.

Flay announced that he, Anna, David Turpin and Danny will be attending the IC&RC meeting in April. Please bring any ideas that you'd like to be considered at that meeting to Anna or Flay.

Michael stated that he forgot to mention that Jack Culbreth came to the Standards Committee meeting and presented suggestions regarding clinical supervision requirements. The Ad Hoc Committee will consider these suggestions and bring their recommendations to the full Standards Committee.

Motion: Adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by Al Greene/Seconded by Lynn Inman. Motion approved.