

MINUTES

NORTH CAROLINA SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BOARD

FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2009

Attendance: Danny Graves, President, Flay Lee, David Turpin, Mark Crabtree, Tom Miller, Lynn Jones, Lynn Inman, Cheryl Gentile, Lidia Bly-Herman, Jessica Holton, Clyde Ebron, Joe Fortin, Michael Herring, Helen Wolstenholme, Randy Thornton, Adrian McCoy and Wrenn Rivenbark.

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

Danny Graves, President, called the meeting to order. Danny thanked Anna for organizing and planning this Board meeting at the new meeting location, the Sheraton Imperial in Durham. He welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The first order of business was approval of the March 13th meeting minutes.

Motion: Approve the March 13th meeting minutes.

Motion made by Lynn Inman; Seconded by Al Greene.

Motion carried.

Ann Christian then read the Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest statement. No Board member indicated any known conflicts.

President's Report

Danny referred to his "State of the State" speech he gave at the March Board meeting. At a time of economic uncertainty, the Board appears to have a solid financial foundation. Looking ahead, he intends to schedule a strategic planning session in the near future. He also mentioned the LCAS Reimbursement Panel discussion that occurred on May 15th at the McKimmon Center. Danny felt that the discussion was enlightening and that the Board's own Bert Bennett did a wonderful job serving on the panel. Bert presented on behalf of the state and on behalf of the Board.

Executive Director's Report

Anna said that she also felt that the LCAS Reimbursement Panel discussion went well. Approximately 15-20 people attended and the discussion was streamed via live feed to anyone who accessed the cited website. She is now working with the webmaster to make this video available on the Board's website along with the PowerPoint presentations that were handed out by various panelists. Anna reported that Danny was a wonderful moderator and kept the conversation moving.

Speaking of Board members and their representation of the Board, Anna stated that Flay, Dottie and Danny presented at the ADDICTION: Focus on Women Conference in May while Mark Crabtree presented at the Al Greene Institute and Lynn Inman spoke at the

APNC Conference. When asked for any feedback on these training sessions, Flay reported that approximately fifty people attended the Women's Conference. Many of the participants were counselors just entering the field. Danny believes that the showing at the ADDICTION conference was the biggest crowd he has ever seen at this conference. A majority of questions concerned the Board's Deemed Status organizations. The Board members stayed almost an hour after the session to answer questions. 45-one hour stayed after the training to answer questions. Mark Crabtree said that a majority of the questions that he received concerned advancing one's credential.

Anna announced that the Board will be meeting again on July 28th-29th in conjunction with the NC Summer School. In addition to Tom Miller and Dottie Saxon Greene, who volunteered at the March Board meeting to present at the Summer School, both Joe Fortin and Jessica Holton volunteered to assist. The Board's annual dinner will occur on the Tuesday evening preceding Wednesday's 10AM Board meeting. Anna is circulating a reservation sheet and asked Board members to indicate which nights they will require a room reservation.

Finally, two dates have been scheduled for this year's DMV Evaluators' Training. The trainings will be held on Saturday, September 12th and December 12th at the Ramada Inn in Burlington. Information regarding this training will be posted in the upcoming newsletter.

Deemed Status Reports

As Joseph Adedokun was absent, Wrenn Rivenbark presented on behalf of NAADAC. Their annual conference will be in August in Salt Lake City. Wrenn plans to attend this conference. Political action committees and lobbyist are hard at work to prepare for 2010 mental health and substance abuse parity.

Jessica Holden (NASW) reported that Jack Register has been very busy. The Social Work Board had title protection legislation introduced. This bill has passed and is awaiting the Governor's signature. The Board's Clinical Institute will be held in July in Wilmington. Jessica's role as secretary within this organization is about to end, but she will still have a role on NASW's Board to represent addiction issues.

Joe Fortin told the Board that NBCC continues to advocate for counselors to be involved with returning vets. NBCC is seeking reimbursement via TRICARE for mental health counselors.

Cheryl Gentile stated there are only 9 CRC-MAC's left in NC!

Adrian McCoy (ANCB) said that the Association's annual conference will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Danny inquired about the Impaired Professional Committee. Jessica indicated that Joe Jordan is chairing this committee. A conference call is scheduled for Monday. This will be the committee's fourth conference call. The committee is focusing on substance abuse impairment now, but will be looking at other impairment issues later. Danny asked Board members to pass along their contact information to Jessica if he/she wishes to contribute to this committee.

Executive Committee Report

Flay Lee, Chair, said that he wishes to study the process of bringing information from this committee to the full board. He stated that the committee wishes to develop a schedule of Executive Committee calls instead of scheduling these as needed. Should a call be on the schedule and then not be needed, then the call can be cancelled. Additionally, the committee believes that it would be helpful to educate each Board member on the role and normal operations of each Board committee. Beginning at the September Board meeting, one committee chair will be asked to make a presentation about his/her particular committee and discuss issues that typically come through that committee. Al Greene will present on behalf of the Quality Assurance Committee in September. Finally, Flay also stated the a strategic planning session should be scheduled for the near future.

Business and Operations Committee

Tom Miller that the committee is considering moving to computerized testing. As this will become an option to all IC&RC member boards in September, the committee will await reports at the October IC&RC meeting from member boards who exercise this option in September.

Jane Albers presented recommendations for the Board's credential verification page on the Board's website to the committee last night. The Board office will contact its webmaster to see if the recommendations can be implemented with any additional expenses.

Motion: The Board will inform its constituents that it is considering computerized testing. The benefits should be conveyed as well as the new \$175 fee associated with this exam. Possible implementation would occur in 2010.

Motion initially made by Al Greene and amended by Worth Bolton; Motion seconded by Randy Thornton. The motion passed.

Tom also mentioned that the Board office will conduct a poll to see if counselors would be willing to pay higher credentialing fees in order for the Board to offer an electronic payment option. Finally, he announced that House Bill 221 was ratified yesterday.

A request for consideration submitted by APNC was tabled for Executive Committee discussion at a later date.

Al asked Ann about the rule revision process. When will this process be completed? Ann explained that some of the Board's administrative rules, such as the rules concerning

hearings, are being considered by both the Standards and the Ethics Committees. Once these particular rules have been reviewed and approved by both committees, then the Ethics rules will be ready for submission. Ann said that Standards Committee has a larger task as they are also hearing from the IC&RC about mandated policies that will affect their rules. Ann explained the rules review process and the approval process.

Nominations and Elections Committee

Worth announced that Mr. Tony Beatty has been elected to serve the Western Region. Jessica inquired about online voting. NASW just starting doing this. Anna and Danny asked Jessica to get feedback from NASW about any challenges they might have faced using this medium for voting purposes.

Motion: Approve Tony Beatty to serve the Western Region.

Motion made by Al Greene; Seconded by Flay Lee.

Motion carried.

Quality Assurance Committee

Al Greene said the committee considered the usual type of requests that they get. One request for reinstatement was approved.

Standards Committee

Michael Herring said that there was limited discussion in the committee meeting last night. A hearing that was scheduled did not occur as the applicant was unable to attend. A response was received from Reaching Across the World Ministries regarding several misrepresentations made about the Board's credentials in a recent newspaper article. The committee accepted this response and does not feel that further action is necessary.

Unfinished Business

Danny reported that both the Standards and Ethics Committee have met since our March meeting to discuss the rule revisions. Additionally, the Vice President and Treasurer's terms expire at the Annual meeting next month. Flay and Lidia have both agreed to serve another term. No other nominations came from the floor. The Board will vote on these two offices at the Annual meeting next month.

Legislative Update

Randolph Cloud said that the happenings in Raleigh are reflected in each of the Board member's lives. These tough economic times are the source of debate in the House and Senate budget discussions. The Senate passed a budget some time ago. Three readings are required for the budget to move forward and the second reading will occur tonight. The House's budget package included taxes on alcohol and tobacco sales tax. Alcohol and tobacco taxes have since been taken out. The Governor and her priorities will influence the debates. There have been numerous health and human services cuts across the board: reductions in Medicaid reimbursement rates, cut to programs such as community support programs, some programs being totally eliminated.

Treasurer's Report

The proposed 2009-2010 budget was presented as well as the month-end reports for the months of November, December, January, February and March. David Turpin reported that the 2008-2009 fiscal year end report will be made available at the Annual Board meeting. He also reminded Board members that the computerized testing and electronic payment could impact the proposed 2009-2010 budget, should they be embraced by the Board. Flay suggested that the Board invite its accountant, Anne Wilkins, to come and present at one of the quarterly Board meetings.
to the full board.

New Business

Lynn Inman stated that with the tobacco tax increasing, the recent smoking ban in restaurants, and the charge for the FDA to regulate tobacco if the Board should be concerned with creating and building a workforce to handle these tobacco-focused issues. Worth stated that the Board might experience resistance from groups such as the American Lung Association and Not on Tobacco.

Worth shared his idea about hosting a NCSAPPB sponsored training in December. Worth will discuss this idea with the Executive Committee and the Board office to see if this is feasible. Flay suggested contacting LME's to inquire about the possibility of securing meeting space free of charge to cut back on associated expenses to the Board.

Helen Wolstenholme reported that the State Operated Services Section of the Division of MH/DD/SAS will henceforth be known as the Division of State Operated Healthcare Facilities. Anna will distribute this memo via email on Monday.