

North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board
12:00pm. September 13, 2019
Durham, NC

Board Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Laura Veach, Mark Crabtree, Elizabeth Ramos, Flay Lee, Kate Gomes, Lynn Jones, Danny Graves, David Turpin, Stephanie Robinson, Johnny Bass, Richard Hicks, Anthony McLean, Michael McGuire, Carol Hoffman, Geri Miller, Al Mooney, Sylvia Parsons

Members Absent: Brenda Smith Williams, Cheryl Gentile, Fran Gordon, John Sanders, Starleen Scott Robbins, Angie Banther

Staff: Barden Culbreth, Katie Gilmore, Nelson Harris, Randolph Cloud

Call to Order: President Laura Veach called the meeting to order and read the **Ethics Awareness Statement**. She asked members if there were any conflicts of interest or potential conflicts. Elizabeth Ramos said she would abstain from voting in an Ethics Hearing before the Board today.

Welcome and Announcements

Introductions: Board members and staff introduced themselves to the newly elected and appointed Board members

Swearing in of new Board Members: Board Counsel Nelson Harris swore in the new members with Laura administering the oath. New members sworn in at this meeting: Danny Graves, Lynn Jones, Stephanie Robinson, Dennis Hagarty, and Michael McGuire.

Oath of Elected Offices: Nelson Harris and Laura Veach administered the oath of office to Mark Crabtree and Johnny Bass, elected to second terms for Vice President and Treasurer, respectively.

Board Orientation: Barden Culbreth provided a brief orientation training in accordance of NCGS 93B, Nelson provided information on the State Tort Claims act.

Nelson then gave an overview on ratified House Bill 770 which changes the way all occupational licensing boards must consider applicants with criminal histories. He will be working with staff and committee chairs to develop a new application procedure for applicants who are “denied” based on criminal history. “Denied” applicants will have a wide array of options to contest the Board’s decision. Much of this bill will invalidate our Administrative Rule .0216.

Laura then described her experience at the Occupational Licensing Board seminar in the Spring.

Approval of the Agenda: David Turpin motioned to accept, Flay Lee seconded and the agenda was approved.

Disciplinary Hearing – *The Board considered the case of William Faulkner, Certified Substance Abuse Counselor, upon recommendation from the Office of Administrative Hearings is to revoke the credential,*

the Board accepted this recommendation. Two abstentions were recorded; Elizabeth Ramos and Geri Miller.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Elizabeth motioned to accept with corrections, Mark seconded. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Johnny Bass read the current checking balance to the Board. He then provided a quarterly update of the Board's Revenues and Expenses, followed by a description of investments and returns.

Laura discussed the Board's decision to invest much of its cash in stocks and bonds, as well as the Board's decision to no longer participate in the Division of Health and Human Services Prevention Block Grant funding.

Carol asked about plans for Board's bonds as they mature. This was then referred to the Finance Committee for consideration.

Government Policy Update: Randolph Cloud was recognized to provide an update on the NC Legislature. He introduced himself to the new members and described his role as consultant to the Board.

He provided an overview of the purpose of occupational licensing boards as well as recent scrutiny in how Boards and Board members are supervised by the NC General Assembly. He described specific legislation now moving through the NC General Assembly which would alter the way the Board is composed. Stephanie asked if there were specific dates to go into effect. Barden reported that the language was not final, but it was to be some time in 2020 or 2021.

Administrator's Report: Katie Gilmore turned her report over to David Turpin to talk about the ICRC. The ICRC semi-annual meeting will be held in Savannah, GA on October 28th and 29th.

Committee reports:

Standards Committee: Chair Kate Gomes presented a summary of the Standards Committee meeting. The Committee held a video conference with three Criteria C schools for an update on their program since approval. Those programs were Wake Forest University, East Tennessee State University, and East Carolina University (Master of Rehabilitation Counseling). Kate reported that all three presented impressive progress reports and graduates were reporting a steady career placement outlook.

Ethics Committee: Chair Elizabeth Ramos presented a report from the Ethics Committee meeting. Activity since the last meeting: Sixteen cases closed. Twenty-one cases opened; of these: Nineteen were complaint driven and two were self-reports. There have been two investigative sub-committee meetings since the June meeting, including one informal meeting with complaint respondent. For aged cases, there are two cases over six months old.

Quality Assurance Committee: Chair Flay Lee reported on the activity of the QA Committee. One application was discussed. Nelson would be developing a follow-up letter for the applicant. The committee discusses ways to securely communicate with applicants that have criminal histories.

Nominations and Elections: Richard Hicks is the new chair of the committee. The committee had no agenda items and did not need to meet.

Unfinished business: Gambling Disorder Scope of Practice –Board still reviewing.

Adjourn: Elizabeth motioned to adjourn. Johnny seconded, and the meeting ended.

Next Meeting: December 6th, 2019, 12:00pm. Sheraton Imperial, Durham.