

Secretary of State
Office of Professional Regulation
BOARD OF ALLIED MENTAL HEALTH PRACTITIONERS
Meeting: Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 8:00 a.m.
89 Main Street, Montpelier, VT

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Present: Tammy Austin, William (Bill) Scarlett, Jaimie Blouin, Scott Giles and Michael Doyle, Ad Hoc; Office of Professional Regulation Personnel: Diane Lafaille and Lauren Hibbert.

1. General Business

- a. The Board called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.
- b. The minutes of the March 15, 2018 and April 5, 2018 meeting were approved as written.

2. Hearings:

- a. 2018-18 – Patricia Ransom – A preliminary denial hearing was held. The Board affirmed its original decision to deny. Approved.

3. Correspondence:

- a. Heather Pierce emailed the Board regarding billing and supervision. The Board referred her to Rule 3.20(b) which states that “A clinical supervisor does not include an employer, financial partner, or shareholder in the same counseling enterprise or other person who gains financially from the practice of the applicant.” The Board encouraged her to consider the wording of this carefully. The supervisor cannot gain financially from the “practice” of the applicant. A supervisor cannot benefit from the services that are provided. However, it is perfectly acceptable for a supervisor to be paid for the service that they are delivering. This means a supervisor’s payment is for the supervisor service of supervision rendered, not for the applicant’s services that they are delivering to their clients.

- b. Karin DiChiara emailed the Board stating that she plans to be supervised by a LCSW from New York and if this would be acceptable. The Board refers her to Rule 3.18 which states:

(a) A clinical supervisor must be familiar with the nature of the applicant’s clinical activities, monitor the quality of the counseling and

contribute to the enhancement of self-knowledge and clinical mental health counseling skills. The supervisor is responsible for monitoring and assessing the applicant's work and compliance with statutes and rules.

(b) Frequency: Supervised practice must be accompanied by no fewer than 100 hours of face-to-face supervision. Under no circumstances may any person in supervised practice accumulate more than thirty hours practice without a minimum of one hour face-to-face supervision. The supervisor and the supervised person are both responsible for ensuring that face-to-face supervision complies with this rule.

(c) Nature and Location Face-to-face supervision is conducted in the formal setting of an office, clinic, or institution, and may be either in an individual setting, between the supervisor and the applicant, or in a group setting, including the supervisor and up to six trainees. Of the 100 hours, at least 50 must be in an individual setting. The applicant must submit satisfactory supervision reports on forms provided by the Office.

- c. John Powell emailed the Board regarding Reiki and psychotherapy. The Board asked Attorney Hibbert to respond to him that the Board is unable to unequivocally state that combining Reiki and psychotherapy is an acceptable practice. The Board sees several issues arising out of the combination of these two practices. These issues are physical boundaries and dual-relationships. He will need to seek his own advice from her insurance providers and ultimately from his clinical supervisor for answers to his questions.
- d. Don Rhoades emailed the Board regarding distance counseling and Act 64. The Board asked Attorney Hibbert to respond to him that it understands this a topic that needs clarification. It does not believe that it requires legislative changes, but instead can be resolved through rule revision and it would like his input.
- e. Joshua Stumpff submitted documentation of supervision and the NCE examination. The Board notes that per Board rules the supervision and the examinations must be completed within 5 years of the final decision on licensure. Also, since 2006, the Boards rules required that the supervisor must be licensed for at least 3 years before they can provide supervision toward licensure. Because the NCE exam was taken over 5 years ago, it will need to be retaken. Because the supervision is either over 5 years old or was from a supervisor who was not licensed for at least 3 years prior to the supervision taking place, it will not be accepted. Updated reports of supervision will need to be submitted. He also needs to apply for licensure.

4. Other

- a. The Board reviewed its current rules in preparation of redrafting rules.
- b. The Board would like to add a section to the report of supervision asking the supervisor if they are benefitting financially from the supervisee.
- c. Continuing education courses were reviewed.
- d. The Board's next meeting is scheduled for June 21, 2018.
- e. The Board adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Diane Lafaille, Licensing Administrator I