



**Board of Psychological Examiners**  
**Office of Professional Regulation - Vermont Secretary of State**

89 Main Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor • Montpelier, VT 05620-3402

<https://sos.vermont.gov/opr/>

UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE  
VERMONT BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINERS  
MAY 12, 2023, MEETING  
REMOTE ONLINE MEETING

Members Present: James Huitt, Psy.D. Richard Root, EdD., ABPP  
Carolyn Basiliere, Ph.D. Ellen Grimes, RDH, MA, MPA, EdD.  
Michael Doyle

Staff Present: Lauren Layman, General Counsel; Noura Eltabbakh, Staff Attorney; Emily  
Tredeau, Staff Attorney; Diane Lafaille, Licensing Administrator II; and other OPR  
Staff

Others Present: Theo Kennedy, Esq. and Daria Turkova

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:09 a.m.
2. Dr. Grimes moved, seconded by Mr. Doyle, to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2023 meeting as written. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Additions to Agenda
  - a. Continuing education request for:  
CA 179767 – Domestic Violence in the Counseling Setting  
CA 179776 – Overcoming Barriers to Protecting Children from Sexual Abuse
  - b. Notice of June agenda item
  - c. Discussion of completing a certification course
4. Other
  - a. Attorney Layman updated the Board on the legislative session, which included discussion about legislation related to the adoption of PsyPact and legislation authorizing psychologists to prescribe certain medications.
  - b. Attorney Layman notified the Board that OPR has been tasked with conducting a study on the possibility of streamlining licensure of mental health professions (Act 117 of 2021). OPR will make a presentation to the Board at its June meeting.

- c. The Board received a continuing education (CEU) request where it stated that one receives a certification after taking the course. Offering a certification for specific activities was of concern to the Board. The Board is tasked with reviewing CEU requests to determine if they meet the requirements as outlined in the Board of Psychological Examiners Administrative Rules. The Board does not have the authority to determine how organizations promote their course. There are safeguards in place under Title 3, Section 129a (13) which states, “Performing treatments or providing services that the licensee is not qualified to perform or that are beyond the scope of the licensee’s education, training, capabilities experience, or scope of practice.”

## 5. Applications

- a. Turkova, Daria – Dr. Grimes moved, seconded by Mr. Doyle, to approve her education. This motion was withdrawn. Additional information is needed about the applicant’s coursework. Dr. Turkova noted it will be difficult to obtain course descriptions because her coursework was completed over ten years ago in Ukraine. OPR will follow-up with the credential evaluation service to determine whether the service’s conclusion that Dr. Turkova’s education is equivalent to a U.S. doctoral degree considered Vermont’s regulatory requirements for clinical psychology doctoral degrees.
- b. Wales, Stephanie – Mr. Doyle moved, seconded by Dr. Root, to preliminarily deny her application as it does not meet the requirements as outlined in Rule 3.5 (f) (4) and (g). Rule 3.5 (f) (4) requires a 60-credit degree, which are semester credit hours. Her degree is based on a quarter credit system. She has approximately a 44-credit degree. Rule 3.5 (g) states that to qualify for consideration under this rule, degrees from programs, including acceptable foreign degree programs, must require a minimum of 275 hours in program and clinical courses, exclusive of internship, to be in person on campus. Her degree does not meet this requirement. Therefore, her application for a master’s level license on the basis of examination is preliminarily denied. Motion passed unanimously.
- c. Weierstall, Karen – Dr. Root moved, seconded by Dr. Basiliere, to approve her education. She is eligible to sit for the EPPP. Motion passed unanimously.

## 6. Continuing Education

Dr. Root moved, seconded by Dr. Basiliere, to approve the actions taken by the Board in the following continuing education requests:

- a. CA 173777 – 2-Day Anxiety Certification Course – approved.
- b. CA 177766 – Suicide Risk Assessment for Clinicians – approved.
- c. ICE 214583 – Certificate in Dismantling Oppression – additional information is needed.
- d. ICE 211643 – Medicalisation of Distress Formulation & Relational Psychotherapy – approved.

- e. CA 173828 – Ethical Practice & Decision Making During Times of Challenged Resources – 5 ceu's were approved.
  - f. CA 175772 – Vermont Zero Suicide Academy – approved.
  - g. CA 171786 – 2023 Integrative Pain Management Conference – approved.
  - h. CA 176771 – Psychopharmacology Training – approved.
  - i. CA 175774 – Creative, Sexuality & Technology – approved.
  - j. CA 179767 – Domestic Violence in the Counseling Setting – approved.
  - k. CA 179776 – Overcoming Barriers to Protecting Children from Sexual Abuse – approved.
7. Public Comment – There was no public comment.
8. The Board adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

2023 Scheduled Meetings of the Board: June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13,  
November 10, and December 8