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Dr. Sheldon Jacobs, *Member*  
Dr. John Nixon, *Member*

MEETING MINUTES  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2023 at 9:00AM

Teleconference

Nevada Board of Examiners  
For Marriage & Family Therapists and Clinical Professional Counselors  
7324 W. Cheyenne Avenue, Suite 10  
Las Vegas, NV 89129

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**Please Note:** The Board may (a) address agenda items out of sequence to accommodate persons appearing before the Board or to aid the efficiency or effectiveness of the meeting; (b) combine agenda items for consideration by the public body; and (c) pull or remove items from the agenda at any time. The Board may convene in closed session to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health of a person. (NRS 241.020, NRS 241.030).

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**Action by the Board on any item may be to approve, deny, amend, or table.**

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Confirmation of Quorum. Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM.
  - Board members present: Steven Nicholas, Jennifer Ross, Lauri Perdue, Marta Wilson, Sheldon Jacobs, John Nixon (arrived at 9:02 AM), Hal Taylor, Sara Pelton
  - Board members not present: Jenny Stepp
  - Staff present: Joelle McNutt, Stephanie Steinhiser, Senior Deputy Attorney General Henna Rasul
  - Members of the public present: Carly Shadid, Bobbi Wilkinson, Latosha Campbell, Emilia Grissette, Jaime Clemens, Lisa Stapleton, Sommer Bergdale, Quinn Kennedy, Brandon Eddy, Amanda Henderson

***Public comment is welcomed by the Board. Persons wishing to provide public comments remotely may access the meeting by telephone at (253) 215-8782 or through the electronic link posted on the agenda. Public comment will be limited to three (3) minutes per person and comments based on viewpoint will not be restricted. A public comment time will be available prior to any action items on the agenda and on any matter not specifically included on the agenda prior to adjournment of the meeting. At the discretion of the President, additional public comment may be heard when that item is reached. The President may allow additional time to be given a speaker as time allows and at his/her sole discretion. (NRS 241.020, NRS 241.030) Prior to the commencement and conclusion of a contested case or a quasi-judicial proceeding that may affect the due process rights of an individual, the Board may refuse to consider public comment. (NRS 233B.126)***

## 2. Public Comment

No vote may be taken upon a matter raised during a period devoted to public comment until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

- Carly Shadid: I've just been seeing a lot of our interns, both CPCs and MFTs, mostly from other states talking about just having a lot of trouble having the understanding of what internship looks like here. Now I understand most of that is a programming issue, what they're getting from the information they're getting from their own programs, that they're going to, what they're giving and providing and not providing as far as information. But I had reached out just wondering if there was anything that I didn't know. She informed me, she goes and speaks to UNLV and UNR. I know when I went to UNLV, I had a very strong understanding of what this process was, the payment, the fee, everything. But I know not everybody has that same privilege and opportunity of having that information. And so, I wasn't sure if there was anything already out there, anything that anybody else was already doing that was like a, I don't know in my head it was like a group or a coalition or something. A coalition or something that helped provide support for interns at the beginning of their internship process of like, hey, you've come to our state, this is really what it is. Almost like handholding. And I know they get that if they call the board, but not everybody does, right? Because they just don't. And so I'll be honest and I say I don't know what I'm asking or what I'm looking for and I don't know if it's like I'll just be asking a bunch of different organizations, how can we put together, but that was kind of my thought behind it of how can we better support our interns and make this process as easy as possible and give them the power of the knowledge so they can make the best decisions possible of what jobs they're going to take. Getting connected to supervisors, some of them aren't realizing that payment is a part of that thing, a part of the process. So, at this point I just feel like I'm rambling, but that was kind of my thought. That was my purpose.
- Steve: I know that in the north that there are some opportunities in the community to do internship and mentorship like informational days and connecting days. So, finding some concepts that can be brought out to all our communities is a terrific comment.
- John: Apart from the idea of connecting events and things like that, I think it would be helpful if you could take a look at our website and give us specific feedback perhaps in written form that you could get to Joelle about what is on our website that you feel like would be helpful to be there. You don't see that is there as well as if you haven't looked at the website yet, how much is there that you didn't know was there that you realize, or it is there and that is useful to you.

### 3. Disciplinary hearing on Complaint and Notice of Hearing in the Latosha Campbell, Case No. NV23MFT003. This agenda item may include review and consideration of a consent decree (For possible action)

- This agenda item was stricken.

### 4. Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding review and approval of minutes from the August 18, 2023, meeting (For possible action)

- Motion to approve minutes from August 18th: 1<sup>st</sup> Jennifer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sheldon; No abstentions; Motion approved unanimously.

5. Review/Decision regarding the following licensees who have petitioned the Board to be Primary Supervisors for Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT) and Clinical Professional Counselor (CPC) Interns: (For possible action)

Supervision Applicant	AAMFT Approved Supervisor/Supervisor Candidate or Approved Clinical Supervisor	University transcript showing 45-hour graduate-level supervision course	Mentor Signature of Supervisory Experience
<b>Jamie Kordich</b>	Yes	N/A	N/A
<b>Taisha Kaaiali</b>	Yes	N/A	N/A
<b>Alicia Joseph Rivers</b>	Yes	N/A	N/A
<b>Megan Weller</b>	Yes	N/A	N/A
<b>Brittney Santillo</b>	Yes	N/A	N/A
<b>Robyn Flores</b>	Yes	N/A	N/A
<b>Katy Hartley</b>	Yes	N/A	N/A
<b>Gerardo Wence-Munoz</b>	Yes	N/A	N/A
<b>Sommer Bergdale</b>	N/A	Yes	Yes

- Motion to approve Jamie Kordich, Taisha Kaaiali, Alicia Joseph Rivers, Megan Weller, Brittney Santillo, Robyn Flores, Katy Hartley, Gerardo Wence-Munoz and Sommer Bergdale as Primary Supervisors: 1<sup>st</sup> Lauri, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jennifer; No abstentions; Motion approved unanimously.

6. Review, discussion, and possible action regarding approval of Brandon Eddy's application to be a Primary Supervisor for Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT) and Clinical Professional Counselor (CPC) Interns (For discussion/possible action) – Brandon Eddy

- Brandon Eddy: So, when filling out the primary supervisor application on there, you have to check one of the first three boxes: Approved supervisor from AAMFT, AAMFT approved clinical supervisor candidate or NBCC approved supervisor candidate proof of 30 hours and supervisor candidate verification form. I obviously qualify for the first one approved supervisor from AAMFT, and I've had that since 2017 and was just renewed recently through 2028. So, on this sheet I do qualify for that. On the second half of this sheet, it does say in lieu of the qualifications above and it lists have been fully licensed for three years, professional liability, et cetera. But the in lieu or instead of or alternate is not necessary because I hold the prior AAMFT. Joelle referred me to the regulations which talks about the qualifications and in the qualifications three A says hold the license and good standing, which I have that three B says, have been licensed in this state district of Columbia or any other state or territory. It never does say in your regulations in the statutes fully licensed anywhere. So that goes down to then what do we consider licensed? License means a license issued by the Board to practice as a marriage and family therapist, a marriage and family therapist intern, a clinical professional counselor or a clinical professional counselor intern. So, if we are going by the defined statutes for the state of Nevada, I have been licensed since October 17th, 2018, in the state of Nevada. So that would be just over five years.
- Steve: I appreciate your preparedness and giving us the opportunity to discuss this. NAC 641A.182 specifically describes evidence that needs to be submitted that is satisfactory to the Board of training experience and qualifications. So again, I appreciate your preparedness.
- Brandon Eddy: I would like to be a primary supervisor for MFTs, and CPCs and I'd love to be a secondary as well. I work with students at UNLV in the couple and family therapy master's program. I have been here since 2017 and I love my work with students and some of my favorite work is

supervision and not just for students but for those in the community as well. Research is certainly part of my job, but I love to teach, and I love to supervise.

- Steve: I appreciate that. I imagine that all of us on the Board really agree with student development. Imagine being an intern, what level of experience do you think an intern deserves in their supervisor?
- Brandon Eddy: I think first and foremost, someone who's an AAMFT Approved Supervisor and someone who knows the state laws and the state regulations.
- Steve: How long have you been practicing?
- Brandon Eddy: In my own private practice or since I became a master's student.
- Steve: I don't think that's going to count because the spirit of protecting the public and educating the public requires that we insist that supervisors are experienced and that's what seems to be lacking.
- Brandon Eddy: I've been licensed since 2018.
- Steve: An internship license, correct?
- Brandon Eddy: Yes
- John: Full disclosure, I'm counselor education faculty at UNLV, different department, different college. I understand where you're coming from in terms of how credentials accrue within the academic world and how it conflicts with how it is in the licensed world because we developed training programs and counseling before there was licensure. We had the NCC credential and MFT may have had a similar type of professional credential in lieu of licensure in certain states to indicate having achieved a certain minimal level of preparation and training. So, I understand how you can become an AAMFT supervisor through the academic process and as a doctoral student, et cetera. NBCC may have a similar process for mental health counselors, being in both worlds and having done that really throughout my working life since receiving my doctorate, I see the difference between where it's fuzzier in the academic world because again, you use the term fully licensed, and you used ambiguous terminology to say fully. When we say fully licensed, we mean independent practice license and fully licensed usually, within our circle connotes, independent practice. Intern license is an intern license. You're practicing under supervision. Our standing interpretation and application have been that you have to have full licensure for three years and that basis of experience that comes under independent practice as a licensed clinician is part of the basis for the qualifications to be a supervisor in the state, notwithstanding what particular certifications you may have. That's where we come from on the legal license side, which is a different frame of reference than the academic side.
- Hal: You've now heard a couple of times references to fully. I know it was in one of the emails from our Executive Director and I think it's a shorthand way of explaining what Dr. Nixon just mentioned. Let me say this, under NAC641A.182, each potential supervisor must offer evidence satisfactory to the Board of his or her training or experience or both, which qualifies him or her to supervise. So therefore, that's another element in addition to the certifications. In addition to, as we read it, the licensure as an MFT or CPC, as opposed to those in the intern category. There is additional information that we can inquire into to make sure you're qualified in the way that we are familiar with those who qualify for licensure as primary supervisors. I just want to make you aware that checking

boxes is one of the steps the Board goes into to determine qualifications. So that's why you're getting some of the questions that you are because frankly I think there would be some concern not having the three years' experience, not as an intern license, but a license as an MFT or CPC. Those kinds of experiences tend to be of a more fully realized nature than those one receives under supervision as an intern. That's what our experience is.

- Brandon Eddy: I've been a resource for students for seven years in supervising their work and I have a hard time believing that I'm a good, acceptable resource for students on December 20th when they haven't graduated, but then on January 1st, 20 days later that I'm all of a sudden not an acceptable resource for them. That feels like a large jump that doesn't fit that I've been a great resource this whole time in ethics, in practice, in theory, in every aspect of that. And then just because they graduated, well now I'm not an acceptable resource 20 days later. The number of years someone has practiced doesn't necessarily mean that they're going to be a better clinician. There are certainly clinicians who are sharp as a tack and there are certainly clinicians who have more experience who could probably use more experience.
- John: So, if I may, by way of analogy, does a person suddenly have knowledge once they've graduated and have the degree in hand versus the day before the degree posts the date of official graduation? Are they suddenly qualified with a fund of knowledge once they have the degree in hand versus the day before they have the degree in hand? I think that's not applying the statutes and the law in the way that we have to as a Board because ethics are read broadly, but law is read very narrowly, very specifically. That's what we're charged with doing.
- Jennifer: As faculty in UNR's counselor education department too, I see my colleagues who are unlicensed, and I see the value that they bring and the things that they know. To Dr. Nixon's point there is such a discrepancy between how we determine competency outside in the professional world versus in academia and at times I think really unfair. As a primary supervisor, in the professional sector of things, I think about interns who have come to me not having just graduated. Some folks are switching from other supervisors for various reasons. I have one intern that I'm working with now who is in the last six months of her internship but had to leave her primary relationship for some reason. I think in those instances then you're really only six months or so ahead of the person that you're supervising. And so, while I agree with you that you definitely have a leg up on folks who are newly coming out, that's just developmentally, not necessarily
- who will be seeking you out and I worry that this really opens us up to a gray area that the Board may not be comfortable with in the future.
- Motion to deny Brandon Eddy's application to be a Primary Supervisor for Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT) and Clinical Professional Counselor (CPC) Interns: 1<sup>st</sup> Steve, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marta; No abstentions; Motion approved unanimously.

7. Review/Decision regarding the following applicants who have petitioned the Board for approval of prior experience hours from out-of-state: (For possible action)

Applicant	Total Number of Hours	Prior Experience Form	State Verified Hours	Letter from Previous Supervisor
Lisa Stapleton	1141	Yes	Yes	No

- Steve: My only consideration is how old the hours are. So perhaps Ms. Stapleton can offer the Board some words on her continuing education and staying up to speed in our field.

- Lisa Stapleton: Thank you so much for your consideration. I was very involved in the field of mental health up until the year 2000. I had a family business that I needed to work in for approximately 20 years, which is what took me away for the 20 years. I've actually been working in the field. I'm working at a facility currently and have been for a year and I'm very excited about going forward and passionate about continuing forward to get my license in the state of Nevada. So, I've kept up with the work between now and then. I was hired really quickly at this job. I love what I do, and I want to go forward and get licensed. I work at Reno Behavioral Health Hospital and am currently in the outpatient program. I'm the adolescent director of services, so I'm working with teenagers and their families currently.
- Sheldon: I was looking at the hours in question and there's a lot of hours that were completed in a short period of time. I was doing some math, and it looks like you were probably on average seeing between 30 and 40 clients a week, which to me is a very high number. I was wondering if you could speak to that, as well as your supervision, because it looks like your supervision during that timeframe was averaging around five hours of supervision.
- Lisa Stapleton: I was working for the county of Santa Cruz Children's Mental Health Services. I did have a caseload of between 30 and 40 clients. I was seeing a lot of them individually. We did have meetings daily, which was my five hours a week of supervision to go over cases and discuss what needed to be done. It was a really heavy caseload. I rose to the occasion. I was really good at my job. They loved having me there. I loved being there and doing the work. And yeah, it was a lot definitely. I really enjoyed it and learned a lot as I was going through it. I was also going to school obviously initially up until I got my intern license and started doing my supervision. So, I worked there for about 15 years doing that work. So, I had longevity, and I was able to sustain what I was doing to help clients.
- Motion to approve prior experience hours from out-of-state for Lisa Stapleton: 1<sup>st</sup> John, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marta; No abstentions; Motion approved unanimously.

8. Disciplinary Matter – Recommendation for Dismissal (For possible action)  
 a. Case No. NV21CPC007

- This agenda item was stricken.

9. Report from President (Advisement)

- Steve: No report.

10. Report from Treasurer (Advisement)

- Lauri: Everything is fine. Nothing to report.

11. Report from Executive Director (Advisement)

- Joelle: I included the productivity spreadsheet for your review. We have issued 629 licenses this year to date. We are now processing renewals and Valerie is helping with that. We have audit functionality through Certemy, and the system randomly selects licensees for audit. Our financial audit is ongoing. I haven't heard anything from them recently. I had a meeting with the Governor's office regarding the reports we submitted. The directive of that meeting was to remove the regulations that we selected in our report through the regulation change process. Any new regulations will have to wait for a later time. So, we could have a workshop at the November

meeting. I do have information regarding the Board office relocation. They would like us to move either February or March of next year. Our office space will decrease with an option to reserve a conference room for Board meetings since the office is our physical location. We have an appointment on October 23<sup>rd</sup> to see the space. I also wanted to remind you that the Board office has purchased a state license for Board member training through AASCB. Please do that at your earliest convenience before your log-in details expire.

- John: I know that you were working on updating the website for disciplinary actions.
- Joelle: The website is current for licensees that have Board action.
- Hal: If somebody is researching discipline on someone, are they able to access the Board's decision?
- Joelle: We provide the consent decree to those individuals that contact the Board to request it.

#### 12. Report from Senior Deputy Attorney General Henna Rasul (Advisement)

- Henna: No report.

#### 13. Discussion regarding future agenda items and possible future meeting dates

- Steve: Let's open up the calendar. I know we are looking at November 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### 14. Board member comments

- No comments.

#### 15. Public comment

No vote may be taken upon a matter raised during a period devoted to public comment until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

- No public comment.

#### 16. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 10:03 AM.

Meeting agendas are available for download at the Nevada State Board of Marriage Family Therapists & Clinical Professional Counselors website: <http://marriage.nv.gov>. Anyone who needs the agenda or supporting materials for this meeting is invited to call or email Joelle McNutt at (702) 486-7388 or [mftbd2@mftbd.nv.gov](mailto:mftbd2@mftbd.nv.gov). The agenda and supporting materials may be provided by email or can be arranged to be picked up in person. This agenda has been sent to all members of the Board and other interested persons who have requested an agenda from the Board. Persons who wish to continue to receive an agenda and notice should make a formal request to Joelle McNutt at [mftbd2@mftbd.nv.gov](mailto:mftbd2@mftbd.nv.gov).

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify Joelle McNutt at (702) 486-7388 or [mftbd2@mftbd.nv.gov](mailto:mftbd2@mftbd.nv.gov) no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. Requests for special arrangements made after this time frame cannot be guaranteed.

THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED IN THE FOLLOWING PUBLIC LOCATIONS AND WEB SITES:

State of Nevada Administrative Website: <https://notice.nv.gov/>

State of Nevada Board of Examiners for Marriage & Family Therapists and Clinical Professional Counselors: 7324 W. Cheyenne Ave. Suite #10 Las Vegas, Nevada 89129

State of Nevada Board of Examiners for Marriage & Family Therapists and Clinical Professional Counselors Website: <https://marriage.nv.gov/>