

**State of Nevada**  
**Board of Examiners for Marriage & Family Therapists & Clinical Professional**

**MINUTES OF TELEPHONIC MEETING**

**Friday, March 20, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.**

Teleconference Location  
Nevada Board of Examiners  
For Marriage & Family Therapists and Clinical Professional Counselors  
7324 W. Cheyenne Avenue, Suite 9  
Las Vegas, NV 89129

**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).

Public comment is welcomed by the Board. Public comment will be limited to five 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)

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

1. Call to Order, roll call, Confirmation of Quorum. 9:02 AM.
  - Steve Nicholas, Erik Schoen, Hal Taylor, Marta Wilson, John Nixon, Sheldon Jacobs, Adrienne O'Neal, Sara Pelton
  - Staff present: Henna Rasul-Senior Deputy Attorney General, Lynne Smith, Joelle McNutt, Stephanie Steinhiser
  - Public members: Lisa Thoms, Delores Glenn-Lewis, Michelle Cambridge, Taneshia Branson, Adrienne Renwick, Wendy Knorr, Brian Sheremeta

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)

No public comment.

3. Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding review and approval of minutes from February 21, 2020 meeting (For possible action)

Motion to approve last month's minutes made by Hal, Erik 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved unanimously.

4. Wendy Knorr, Program Manager, Veterans Healthcare Champions, is presenting information regarding their Veterans' Program (For discussion and possible action)
  - Help veterans connect with their benefits, presumptive conditions (preapproved medical conditions that the VA has determined are directly related to military service). We believe that 50-60% of Nevada veterans are not using the VA system. 70% of veterans are not using benefits, missing out on potential compensation, out in the private sector seeing

providers. We are not asking you to become a subject expert, just want licensees to identify veterans in your practice, ask if anyone has served in the Armed Forces, refer them to us.

We will be setting up a section on our website for health care professional's resources. We will work with them to identify claims. For example, an unidentified veteran referral, if an individual for example had a 10% military injury; he was unaware that his Parkinson's later was a result of his military injury, they were able to get additional benefits. We want to help the veterans complete their paperwork and be a liaison between the veteran and the VA hospital. We are developing an acknowledgement process for participating health care professionals.

- Steve: thanks for that review, can we send the document out to all of our licensees? It would be worthwhile to share
- Wendy: I will continue to work with Lynne on how to get this information disseminated
- Hal: I have done social security benefits and disability and have worked with the VA, you have a list here of presumed conditions and it is not inclusive, there may be other medical conditions
- Wendy: you are 110% correct, your licensees are not expected to be experts, a person that has lung cancer may be something they can get benefits for. We can also work with advocates, and family members of those who have served in the Armed Forces.

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 CCE Approved Certificate/ Supervisor Course	Transcript of 45-hour Graduate-level Supervision Course	Mentor Signature of Supervisory Experience	Mentor Contract
Raelara Tilden	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes
Annette Love, PhD	No	Yes	Yes	N/A
Steven Barcia	No	Yes	Yes	N/A

- Steve: I have looked over all the qualifications and it looks like they have all required documents

Motion to approve these three Primary Supervisor applications made by Erik; Adrienne 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved unanimously.

6. Taneshia Branson petitions the board for licensure as a CPC or CPC-Intern (For possible action)

- Lynne: Taneshia is coming to Nevada from California after surrendering her license there. My question is at what point in the process do we bring her in as a licensee and are there any parameters that we would like to put in place regarding when full licensure would be available to Taneshia. Does the board approve of bringing her in as a licensed CPC-Intern and are there any conditions to impose?
- Steve: I have read through the infractions and they were of a personal nature, not of a professional nature.
- Lynne: I'd also like to mention that she was short 2 courses for her CPC application and once she was made aware of that, she immediately took the necessary courses including a 3<sup>rd</sup> internship.
- Steve: if we are allowed to count the hours because the intern license was surrendered

- Hal: I have worked with other CA boards and they do odd things sometimes, they put ambiguous language in the documents. We can make a determination for her in Nevada based on her experience.
- Erik: I'd like to provide some context is that we frequently do give credit for hours obtained in another state, so they don't lose those hours. I move that we accept her hours that were accrued with an approved supervisor in California.
- John: I agree
- Lynne: Hyde Street Community Services, one internship site, 1590 direct contact, 159 supervision hours
- Erik: It was signed off on by a clinical director
- Tanisha: she was both executive director and licensed supervisor in California

Motion to approve Taneshia's CPC-Intern license with 1590 direct and 159 primary supervision hours transfer made by Erik; Sheldon 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved unanimously.

7. Brian Sheremeta petitions the board for licensure as a MFT by endorsement (For possible action)

- Steve: Brian was licensed here in Nevada in 1991 and let his license lapse and is currently licensed in Wyoming
- Brian: licensed in Wyoming in 2003-2006 under a different number so the length of time there is 2003-2020.
- Hal: I see on the self-query there are two claims
- Steve: there are civil suits – one for sexual misconduct and another for alleged intimate relationship with a client
- Brian: those are two different claims
- Steve: these are egregious professional complaints
- Brian: I did not do what they said I did. I was not convicted
- Hal: we have to be cautious making a decision based on the payout from the insurance company, it might just have been a financial decision
- Steve: I appreciate that, Hal
- Brian: that is correct. The civil suit went on for 5 years and it wasn't going anywhere, it wore me down. I teach ethics and it brings to light how a person that has been sued and branded with a scarlet letter
- Sara: can you expound upon what your review of the ethical code was?
- Steve: can you tell us in your own words what happened?
- Brian: CEUs on ethics, an essay on ethics, my documentation was less than disciplined and that led to the case going on so long
- Hal: if it isn't recorded, it didn't happen
- Steve: what are your professional intentions?
- Brian: I would like to get my license and then teach again and be a clinician
- Motion to approve the application for full licensure made by Hal; 2<sup>nd</sup> John. Marta and Steve oppose. Motion approved.

8. Lynne Smith, Executive Director, petitions the board to approve Joelle McNutt, Administrative Assistant, to move from part-time to full-time employee status. (For possible action)
  - Lynne: due to going back to completely manually processing all the office paperwork; the volume of new applications flowing into the office; working to consolidate and clean up the database; manual verifications of licenses; all this requires that Joelle work full-time, at least for the next few months.
  - Motion to approve Joelle going to full-time employment status effective immediate made by Hal; 2<sup>nd</sup> Sheldon. Motion approved unanimously.

John, Sheldon, and Adrienne left the meeting at 10:00 AM. Quorum still maintained.

9. Disciplinary Matter – Recommendation for Dismissal (For possible action)
  - Hal recuses from all
  - a. Case No. NV07MFT006: court appointed counselor in high conflict divorce
  - b. Case No. NV08MFT001
  - c. Case No. NV10MFT007
  - d. Case No. NV11MFT003
  - e. Case No. NV11MFT012
  - f. Case No. NV15MFT013
  - g. Case No. NV15MFT016
  - h. Case No. NV15MFT020
  - i. Case No. NV15MFT021
  - j. Case No. NV15MFT022
  - k. Case No. NV16MFT003
  - l. Case No. NV17MFT002
  - m. Case No. NV17MFT009
  - n. Case No. NV19MFT010

Motion to dismiss all the above listed case numbers made by Erik; 2<sup>nd</sup> Marta, Hal abstains. Motion approved unanimously.

10. Report from Complaints Investigator (Advisement)

Number of cases, age of complaints, etc. will be provided next meeting.
11. Report from Treasurer (Advisement)

Erik: I don't have a report at this time.
12. Report from Executive Director (Advisement)

The office is closed to the public but Joelle and I are happily working to keep things moving; working to process applications as efficiently as possible; Joelle is fielding a number of questions regarding telehealth during COVID-19; I need to finalize the lease and personnel costs before presenting the final budget to the board.

13. Report from Senior Deputy Attorney General Henna Rasul (Advisement)
  - Working on complaints
14. Discussion regarding future agenda items and possible future meeting dates:
  - a) Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 AM (Public Meeting)
  - b) Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 AM (Public Meeting)
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)
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- Michelle Cambridge: I appreciate that we were able to email or fax our hours!
16. Board member comments
    - Marta: I am very concerned about COVID-19 and would like to make sure our board staff is protected and getting paid
    - Steve: telehealth is being wildly supported during the current crisis
    - Marta: Medicaid is reimbursing telehealth during this time
    - Hal: time for the Board to deal with telehealth and we need some standards in the regulations
    - Sara: encourage interns and state licensees to work on our ethical codes and continuing education
    - Hal: the board was twisted up with bad Karma in the past, so it's wonderful to be able to have the time to review these regulations going forward.
  17. Adjournment 10:21 AM.

Anyone desiring additional information including meeting materials may contact Dr. Lynne Smith at 702-486-7388. Meeting materials are also available for download from the Board website at <http://marriage.nv.gov> or can be requested at the following location: 7324 W. Cheyenne Avenue, Suite #9, Las Vegas, NV 89129.

The Board is 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 the Board office at 702-486-7388; or fax 702-486-7258 no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. Requests for special arrangements made after this time frame cannot be guaranteed.

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 of meetings must request so in writing on an annual basis.

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

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<p>Grant Sawyer Building 555 E. Washington Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada</p>	<p>State of Nevada Board of Examiners for Marriage &amp; Family Therapists and Clinical Professional Counselors 7324 W. Cheyenne Avenue Suite #9, Las Vegas, Nevada</p>	<p>Nevada State Library 100 North Stewart Street Carson City Nevada</p>
<p>Legislative Building 401 South Carson Street Carson City, Nevada</p>	<p>Board's Website <a href="http://www.marriage.nv.gov">www.marriage.nv.gov</a> State of Nevada Administrative Website <a href="http://notice.nv.gov">notice.nv.gov</a></p>	<p>Kayenta Legacy 9418 W. Lake Mead Boulevard Las Vegas, Nevada</p>