

MINUTES

**UTAH
SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELOR
LICENSING BOARD MEETING**

August 4, 2010

**Room 464 – 4th Floor – 9:00 A.M.
Heber Wells Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

CONVENED: 9:06 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 3:19 P.M.

Bureau Manager:

Richard J. Oborn

Board Secretary:

Lee Avery

Board Members Present:

Shawn M. McMillen, Chairperson
Marilyn Foster
Stephen R. Sheppard, Ph.D.
Gloria Boberg
David Felt

Board Members Absent:

Georgia Hare

Guests:

Jeremy Boberg, AUSAP
Kristi Erskine, The Salvation Army
Sirinda Leftwich
Penny Dahlen, Argosy University
Teresa Burton, Argosy University
Darin Eckton, Argosy University

DOPL Staff Present:

Susan Higgs, Compliance Specialist

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Swearing in of David D. Felt as new Board member

Mr. David D. Felt was sworn in as new Board member.

Swearing in of Gloria Boberg as new Board member

Ms. Gloria Boberg was sworn in as new Board member.

MINUTES:

The Board reviewed the minutes from the January 20, 2010 Board meeting. Dr. Sheppard motioned to approve the minutes with changes, seconded by Ms. Foster. The motion carried unanimously.

COMPLIANCE REPORT:
Susan Higgs, Compliance Specialist

Ms. Higgs advised the Board that the probationers who are not meeting with the Board at this time are in compliance with their stipulations.

#1. Ms. Noelle Carter is in compliance with her stipulation. She was unable to obtain her counselor report from Dr. Lambert. She is expected to bring this with her. She is requesting early termination of her probation. Ms. Carter is on medical leave from her employment at this time.

Discussion:

The Board noted that Ms. Carter has completed over half of her probation term. This includes the time she was not working in the field.

#2. Ms. Kristi Versteeg is in compliance with her stipulation. She has been in compliance for six (6) months. Her reports have been positive. Her therapist, Linda Steele, was unable to submit a written report; however, she made a verbal commitment that Ms. Versteeg is doing very well.

#3. Mr. Chuck Robertson is in compliance with his stipulation. His therapist reports are due quarterly. They have been received on time and are positive. Mr. Robertson works for Discovery House. His therapist, Michael Negrette, MFT, is recommending that Mr. Robertson no longer be required to complete therapy.

#4. Ms. Colette Nelson is in compliance with her stipulation. Her new therapist is Glen Lambert, LCSW. Ms. Nelson submitted her essay for the Board to review. She is requesting early termination of her probation. She has not been on probation for two (2) years yet. The Board may consider letting her off probation once she is off criminal probation. As of today, her criminal probation has ended. She has submitted letters supporting early termination from her supervisors and others.

#5. Ms. Joanie Jones is not in compliance with her stipulation. The Division has not received her twelve (12) step documentation. Ms. Jones just received her license as an Associate Professional Counselor. The

Board needs to decide if they are going to turn her probation over to the Professional Counselor Licensing Board for the duration of her probation. The Board needs to look at how many doctors she is seeing for prescriptions. The Board may continue meeting with her as well. Ms. Jones stated that she wants to keep both licenses active.

Discussion:

The Board discussed moving Ms. Jones' probation to the Professional Counselor Licensing Board. The Board noted that she is good about informing the Division of all of her physicians. The Division has received copies of all of her prescriptions.

#6. Mr. Robert Peterson is in compliance with his stipulation. He has submitted all reports required by his stipulation. The Board noted that his essay is due on January 19, 2011.

#7. Ms. Julie Kopaunik-Berg is not in compliance with her stipulation. This is because her CSAC Intern license expired on July 28, 2010. She is not working in the field. She is taking the NAADAC examination in September, 2010.

#8. Ms. Rebecka McNeil is in compliance with her stipulation. She needs to submit documentation of her attending a twelve (12) step program. Her drug screens have all been negative. The Board needs to approve Dr. Robert Simmons as Ms. McNeil's supervisor. Ms. McNeil continues working at Metamorphosis. Her interview with the Board will be held via telephone.

#9. Ms. Janice AuBuchon is in compliance with her stipulation. She submitted her essay. The Board needs to remind her to take the NAADAC examination by September 1, 2010. Ms. AuBuchon has not missed any drug screens. Her interview with the Board will be held via telephone.

#10. Dee Marble is a new probationer. The Board needs to approve Mark Dunn as his supervisor. Mr. Marble is attending support groups. He needs to work on his essay and the additional continuing education.

#11. Paula Bruce is a new probationer. She needs to work on her essay and the additional continuing education hours.

Preliminary review of Board business

Mr. Oborn reviewed the discussion items with the Board.

APPOINTMENTS:

Ms. Noelle Carter, probation interview

Ms. Carter met with the Board for her probation interview. Dr. Sheppard conducted the interview. Ms. Carter gave the Board copies of her therapist report. Ms. Carter stated that she was released from the hospital; however, she will be returning for further tests in a few days. Ms. Carter stated that she is not working at this time and signed the papers for short-term disability. Ms. Carter stated she continues to attend her support group meetings. She tries to attend at least two meetings a month. She is still working on her continuing education hours. Her health issues have forced her to delay attending the conference. She is looking into online courses. Ms. Carter stated that she needs to complete 620 additional hours for her LSAC license. The Board reviewed Ms. Carter's request for early termination of her probation. The Board noted that her therapist indicates that he supports Ms. Carter's early release from probation. The Board expressed concern regarding Ms. Carter's health and unemployment issues. The Board advised Ms. Carter that the Board is concerned about removing her from probation at this time. The Board decided to require that she continue on probation; however, this issue will be considered again at the next Board meeting. The Board asked to see Ms. Carter on October 27, 2010. **Ms. Carter is in compliance with her stipulation.**

Ms. Kristi Versteeg, probation interview

Ms. Versteeg met with the Board for her probation interview. Mr. Prazza conducted the interview. Ms. Versteeg stated that she has been working for Clinical Consultants since February 2010. Part of her responsibilities includes being a liaison with the courts. She will be certified for the Prime for Life course in October 2010. Ms. Versteeg stated that she attends two (2) to three (3) support group meetings a month. She attended a support group meeting while on vacation and found it to be very different from

those she has attended in Utah. Ms. Versteeg stated that she has completed twenty nine (29) continuing education hours. Ms. Versteeg advised the Board that she hopes to be working (40) hours a week by the end of summer. Ms. Versteeg stated that there was an error in the January 2010 minutes. She has been sober for five (5) years. The Board requested this be corrected. The Board noted that Ms. Versteeg has been on probation for nine (9) months. She has been in compliance the entire time. Mr. Felt motioned to move her reports to quarterly, seconded by Mr. Prazza. The motion carried unanimously. The Board asked to see Ms. Versteeg on October 27, 2010. **Ms. Versteeg is in compliance with her stipulation.**

Mr. Chuck Robertson, probation interview

Mr. Robertson met with the Board for his probation interview. Mr. Felt conducted the interview. Mr. Robinson stated that he is doing well. He continues working for Discovery House and going to school. Mr. Robertson stated that he is doing his internship at Turning Point in Sandy. Mr. Robertson advised the Board that he currently has a caseload of forty nine (49). Mr. Robertson terminated his therapy. He advised the Board that his time in therapy has helped him learn more about himself and setting proper boundaries. The Board asked to see Mr. Robertson on October 27, 2010. **Mr. Robertson is in compliance with his stipulation.**

Ms. Colette Nelson, probation interview

Ms. Nelson met with the Board for her probation interview. Mr. McMillen conducted the interview. Ms. Nelson stated that things are going well. She is requesting early termination of her probation. She has completed her criminal probation. Ms. Nelson stated that she had a drink in January. She felt guilty and advised everyone. She is back into recovery, working the steps. Ms. Nelson stated that she is working at Discovery House. Her supervisor is Mark Morgan. Stacy Robinson is the unit supervisor. Dr. Simmons is the Clinical Director. Ms. Nelson stated that she keeps very strong boundaries. She keeps work and her personal life separate. She is more involved in yoga and meditation. She makes her own recovery a priority in her life. The Board reviewed the letters from her supervisor and her employer supporting her early termination from probation. Ms. Nelson gave

the Board copies of her continuing education hours and prescriptions. The Board asked to see Ms. Nelson on October 27, 2010. The Board will review her request for early termination at that time. The Board is requesting an additional supervisor and therapy report. **Ms. Nelson is in compliance with her stipulation.**

Ms. Joanie Jones, probation interview

Ms. Jones met with the Board for her probation interview. Dr. Sheppard conducted the interview. Ms. Jones advised the Board that she has obtained her Professional Counselor license. Ms. Jones stated that she is working at First Step House accumulating her hours. She attends her support group meetings. Ms. Jones stated that she has some medical and financial problems, but overall, things are going well. Dr. Sheppard motioned to close the Board meeting at 11:13 A.M. to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual (52-4-205(1)(a)). Mr. Frandsen seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The Board meeting opened at 11:26 A.M. Dr. Sheppard motioned to allow Ms. Jones to move to the Professional Counselor Licensing Board for supervision, seconded by Ms. Boberg. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Jones is in compliance with her stipulation.

Mr. Robert Peterson, probation interview

Mr. Peterson presented himself to the Board. Mr. McMillen conducted the interview. Mr. Peterson stated that he is still trying to decide what topic he is going to base his essay on. Mr. Robertson stated that he has learned the importance of keeping boundaries. Sharing too much often leads to dual relationships. Mr. Peterson stated he attends support groups and doing the steps. Mr. Peterson stated that he is not sure if this profession is the right profession for him. He has applied for several positions, but cannot get cleared through their process. The criminal charges cannot be expunged at this time. Mr. Peterson stated that he has an appointment with vocational rehabilitation for assistance for training in culinary arts. Mr. Peterson stated that he has been in recovery for eight (8) years. The Board discussed Mr. Peterson surrendering his license. The Board noted that Mr. Peterson's probation started January 19, 2010. It is for

two (2) years. The Board advised Mr. Peterson that as long as he is consistently in compliance with this probation and he has completed at least half of his probation term, the Board may consider early termination of his probation term. If he surrenders his license at this time, leaves the substance abuse counselor profession and decides to return at a later time, he would need to reapply for a license and meet with this Board. The Board would then need to make recommendations to the Division. Mr. Peterson was advised that he will need to submit a letter to the Division stating he wants to surrender his license. **Mr. Peterson is in compliance with his stipulation.**

Ms. Julie Kopaunik-Berg, new probation interview

Taken out of order on the Agenda:

Ms. Kopaunik-Berg met with the Board for her probation interview. Dr. Sheppard conducted the interview. Ms. Kopaunik-Berg stated that things are going well. She is not working until she can take the NAADAC examination in September. She attends her support group meetings four (4) times a month, sometimes more, sometimes less. She meets with her sponsor two (2) times a month. Ms. Kopaunik-Berg stated she is getting her BA in October 2010, then she will start the MA program. She is currently studying for the NAADAC exam with a friend. The Board asked to see Ms. Kopaunik-Berg on October 27, 2010. **Ms. Kopaunik-Berg is not in compliance because her license expired.**

Ms. Rebecca McNeil, probation interview

Ms. McNeil met with the Board for her probation interview. Ms. McNeil's interview was held telephonically. Dr. Sheppard conducted the interview. Ms. McNeil stated that she continues working at Metamorphosis. This is a methadone treatment clinic and things are going well. Ms. McNeil stated that she meets with clients between 5:00 A.M. and 10:30 A.M. She meets with clients once a week. She is not involved in many groups. Once a week, she holds a life skills class and a treatment class. Ms. McNeil stated that she also helps with substance abuse and motivation for change. Ms. McNeil stated that she meets with clients once every thirty (30) to forty (40) minutes to an hour. The client has the option of meeting longer when needed. When there is a clinical problem issue, she refers them to Dr. Simmons. The

Board encouraged Ms. McNeil to continue submitting her supervisor and therapy reports and to get her continuing education hours completed. The Board asked to see Ms. McNeil on October 27, 2010. **Ms. McNeil is in compliance with her stipulation.**

Ms. Janice AuBuchon, probation interview

Ms. AuBuchon met with the Board for her probation interview. Ms. Foster conducted the interview. The Board reviewed the essay submitted by Ms. AuBuchon. The Board stated her essay needs to include topics covered in the continuing education courses she attends. The essay should address how information shared in the CE courses applies to her practice as a substance abuse counselor. The Board asked her to resubmit her essay after she completes additional continuing education courses. Ms. AuBuchon was reminded that the continuing education courses she chooses needs to be pre-approved by the Board. The Board asked to see Ms. AuBuchon on October 27, 2010. **Ms. AuBuchon is in compliance with her stipulation.**

Mr. Dee Marble, new probation interview

Mr. Marble met with the Board for his probation interview. This is Mr. Marble's first interview with the Board. Mr. McMillen reviewed the role the Board will have while his license is on probation. The Board introduced itself to Mr. Marble. Ms. Boberg conducted the interview. Mr. Marble stated that Mr. Mark Dunn is his supervisor. He works at Cold Creek Wellness. Mr. Felt motioned to accept Mr. Mark Dunn as Mr. Marble's supervisor, seconded by Mr. Prazza. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Marble stated that Mr. Dunn has a copy of his stipulation. Mr. Marble stated that he attends support group meetings, and is working through the steps. He sees his sponsor once a month. Mr. Marble stated that he has been sober for three and one half (3 ½) years. Mr. Marble stated that his physician has a copy of his stipulation and the Board has received copies of his prescriptions. Mr. Marble advised the Board that his scope of practice only deals with clients' substance abuse issues and that he practices only under the supervision of a mental health therapist. **Mr. Marble is in compliance with his stipulation.**

Paula Bruce, new probation interview

Ms. Bruce met with the Board for her probation

interview. This is Ms. Bruce's first interview with the Board. Mr. McMillen reviewed the role the Board will take during her probation. The Board introduced itself. Ms. Foster conducted the interview. Ms. Bruce stated she works at The Ark of Little Cottonwood and volunteers with the Kids Against Drugs Alcohol (KADA). These are children of clients or people in recovery, ages 5-17. Sometimes the kids are left behind and she teaches them about awareness. She has been sober since May 20, 2008. The Board reviewed the written plan Ms. Bruce submitted. Ms. Bruce stated that she does a lot of education groups. Ms. Bruce stated her supervisor is Jason Webb. He has received a copy of her stipulation. Mr. Felt motioned to approve Mr. Webb as Ms. Bruce's supervisor, seconded by Mr. Prazza. The motion carried unanimously. The Board asked to see Ms. Bruce on October 27, 2010. **Ms. Bruce is in compliance with her stipulation.**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Argosy University Substance Abuse Education Program, Darin Eckton

Ms. Penny Dahlen, Ms. Teresa Burton, and Mr. Darin Eckton, representatives from Argosy University, met with the Board. Ms. Dahlen stated that Argosy University created what they believe meets the requirements of a substance abuse education program as defined in the Substance Abuse Counselor Act and the Substance Abuse Counselor Act Rule. Mr. Felt stated that he is an instructor for the University of Utah Drug and Alcohol Treatment Training Program. The Board reviewed a handout prepared by the representatives of Argosy. The handout compared the statutory requirements and Argosy University course descriptions. Ms. Dahlen advised the Board that Argosy has a list of practicum sites in place. The substance abuse education program at Argosy will be a part of the bachelors in psychology program. Argosy is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, which is recognized by CHEA. Ms. Dahlen indicated that Argosy desires that the Board and Division review the content for courses that make up the program and determine whether the program meets the requirements established in the statute and rule. Mr. Prazza asked whether course syllabi for each course could be obtained. Mr. Eckton indicated that he would email the course syllabi to Mr.

Oborn. Mr. Oborn informed the Board that he would email the syllabi to them once he received them from Mr. Eckton.

2. Possible rule change to reflect updates to NAADAC Code of Ethics

Mr. Oborn stated that the possible rule change is to update the Substance Abuse Counselor Professional Practice Act Rule to incorporate a new version of the NAADAC Code of Ethics. Revisions to the NAADAC Code of Ethics are being reviewed by the NAADAC Board. The association is hoping to have it ready for review and approval at the upcoming national conference. Mr. Oborn is hoping to have a final copy for the Board to review at its next Board meeting.

3. Update on changes to Substance Abuse Counselor Act Rule

Current rule change will become effective August 23, 2010. The public comment period ends August 16, 2010. There has been no comments made to date.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None at this time

Next Board Meeting:

October 27, 2010

2011 Board Meetings have been tentatively scheduled:
January 26, April 27, July 27, October 27

ADJOURN:

The meeting adjourned at 3:19 P.M.

Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.

October 27, 2010
Date Approved

(ss) Stephen Sheppard, PhD
Acting Chairperson, Utah Substance Abuse
Counselors Licensing Board

August 26, 2010
Date Approved

(ss) Richard J. Oborn
Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational &
Professional Licensing