

MINUTES

**UTAH
SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELOR
LICENSING BOARD MEETING**

October 26, 2011

**Room 474 – 4th Floor – 9:00 A.M.
Heber M. Wells Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

CONVENED: 9:02 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 4:45 P.M.

Bureau Manager:
Board Secretary:

Richard J. Oborn
Lee Avery

Board Members Present:

Pete Prazza, Acting Chairperson
Lori Buhler
Georgia Hare
David Felt
Santiago Cortez

Board Members Absent:

Stephen R. Sheppard, Ph.D.
Gloria Boberg

Guests:

Betty Nielsen
Julie Murdock
Tiffany Norris

DOPL Staff Present:

Susan Higgs, Compliance Specialist

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Swear in new Board member Lori Buhler

Ms. Buhler was sworn in as a new Board member.

Swear in new Board member Santiago Cortez

Mr. Cortez was sworn in as a new Board member.

Elect a new chairperson

Mr. Prazza nominated Mr. Felt as the new chairperson, seconded by Mr. Cortez. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board recognized Mr. Prazza and Mr. Cortez as vice chairpersons.

Minutes:

The Board reviewed the minutes from the July 27, 2011 Board meeting. Mr. Prazza motioned to approve the minutes with changes, seconded by Ms. Hare. The motion carried unanimously.

COMPLIANCE REPORT:

Susan Higgs, Compliance Specialist

#1. Ms. Apo (Ewers) is in compliance with her stipulation. She submitted her supervisor reports and has not missed calling the drug screen telephone number. Her UA's have been negative. Ms. Apo chairs the support group meetings she attends.

#2. Mr. Marble is in compliance with his stipulation. He submitted his supervisor reports and completed his 6 hours of CE. Would the Board consider moving his employer/supervisor reports to be submitted quarterly?

#3. Mr. Garrett is in compliance with his stipulation. He submitted positive supervisor reports for April, May and June. He submitted his support group attendance documentation and a certificate for 6 hours of continuing education that he completed. His essay is due November 2011.

#4. Mr. Robertson is in compliance with his stipulation. He submitted positive employer and supervisor reports. His therapy was terminated in August 2010. His supervisor is Sabina Weil.

#5. Ms. Kopaunik-Berg is in compliance with her stipulation. She submitted her supervisor reports and her support group attendance meetings. She completed 7 hours of continuing education.

#6. Ms. Nish is in compliance. She submitted a CV for Richard Simmons, Susan Dezell and Barry Adams. Richard Simmons is her supervisor at Metamorphosis. She completed the psych evaluation; however, she is still paying for it. This should be completed by 10/31/11 and will be submitted to the Board at this time. Ms. Nish submitted a new essay for review.

#7. Ms. Bruce is in compliance with her stipulation. She resubmitted her essay. She needs to submit a CV for her supervisor Ryan Salters, LCSW. Ms. Bruce submitted support group attendance documentation.

Discussion:

Ms. Hare motioned to close the Board meeting at 9:45 A.M. to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual, seconded by Mr. Cortez. The motion carried unanimously. There were no written notes taken. A recording was not made. The Board meeting opened at 9:47 A.M.

#8 Ms. Beutler is in compliance with her stipulation. She submitted supervisor reports and a CV for Paul Dymock, LCSW, for the Board to review. Ms. Beutler submitted her support meetings attendance documentation. She is requesting early termination of her probation. Her supervisor, Mr. Dymock, and therapist, Ms. Stewart, submitted letters supporting her request for early termination of her probation. Her drug screens have all been negative.

Discussion:

The Board noted that her probation is from August 19, 2010 to August 19, 2012 and she has completed over half of her probation. Ms. Beutler has been in compliance the entire time of her probation. The Board noted it felt comfortable recommending early termination.

#9. Ms. Rigin is in compliance with her stipulation. She has submitted her supervisor reports and is attending support groups regularly. She may need to submit another probation plan.

#10. Ms. Catherine Cartisano is a new probationer. She is on a 2 year probation. She needs to do drug screens. She submitted one supervisor report since her license was placed on probation. Ms. Cartisano charges are:
2/8/2008 she plead guilty to 2 counts of possession of

drug paraphernalia, class B misdemeanors.
12/17/2008 she plead no contest to one count of attempted illegal possession and/or use of a controlled substance, class A misdemeanor.

APPOINTMENTS:

Ms. Heather Apo, probation interview

Ms. Apo met with the Board. Ms. Hare conducted the interview. Ms. Apo gave the Board her essay and CEs. Ms. Apo advised the Board that things are going well. She reminded the Board that she was approved to go on vacation from September 25 to October 21 and was unable to contact the drug screen line because there was no cell phone service in the area. Ms. Apo stated she may change her employment in the near future. The Board reminded her to contact the Division with new employment information as soon as possible. The Board advised Ms. Apo that her essay is good. Mr. Cortez motioned to approve her essay, seconded by Ms. Buhler. The motion carried unanimously. The Board asked to see Ms. Apo on January 11, 2012. **Ms. Apo is in compliance with her stipulation.**

Mr. Dee Marble, probation interview

Mr. Marble met with the Board. Mr. Prazza conducted the interview. Mr. Marble stated that things are going well. The Board noted that he is in compliance with his stipulation. Mr. Marble stated he still works at Cold Creek. He usually works thirty five hours a week. Mr. Marble stated that there is always a therapist at the facility. The Board noted that Mr. Marble has been on probation since June 1, 2010. His probation is for two years. Mr. Marble's reports have been quarterly and he has been in compliance the entire time. The Board asked to see Mr. Marble on January 11, 2012. **Mr. Marble is in compliance with his stipulation.**

Mr. Michael Garrett, probation interview

Mr. Garrett met with the Board. Mr. Felt conducted the interview. Mr. Garrett stated that things are going very well. He is working with Ms. McMillen on creating a medical support group. Mr. Garrett stated that he has been certified for prime for life and may be doing a course in Nephi. Mr. Garrett stated that he interviewed to be in a band. They play in clubs. The Board encouraged him to be careful involving himself in activities that would take him into clubs as this

could cause a relapse. Mr. Garrett states he is making sure he takes care of his recovery. He attends two support meetings a month. Mr. Garrett stated that he is volunteering as a guest speaker at a group home for teenage boys. He will talk about meth addiction. The Board reminded Mr. Garrett that his essay is due November 23, 2011. The Board noted that Mr. Garrett has missed calling the drug screen line and needs to establish a routine to keep this from happening again. Mr. Garrett asked the Board if it was possible to request early termination from his probation. The Board advised Mr. Garrett that he needs to show a history of being in compliance with his stipulation. He would need to submit a letter requesting early termination and justifying why he feels he should be granted early termination. He will need to have his supervisor submit a letter supporting his request for early termination of his probation. The Board asked to see Mr. Garrett on January 11, 2012. **Mr. Garrett is in compliance with his stipulation.**

Mr. Chuck Robertson, probation interview

Mr. Robertson met with the Board. Mr. Felt conducted the interview. Mr. Robertson advised the Board that his job and school are going well. He hopes to have his bachelor's degree in human services completed in March 2012. Mr. Robertson stated that he still attends support meetings one a month. The Board noted that Mr. Robertson completed his essay and finished his therapy requirement in August 2010. His reports are current and positive. He sees his supervisor once a week and more often when needed. Mr. Robertson advised the Board that he attended the fall conference for his continuing education credit. The Board asked to see Mr. Robertson on January 11, 2012. **Mr. Robertson is in compliance with his stipulation.**

Ms. Julie Kopaunik-Berg, probation interview

Ms. Berg met with the Board. Mr. Prazza conducted the interview. The Board noted that Ms. Berg is in compliance with her stipulation. Her supervisor reports have been submitted and are positive. She has completed her CEs and submitted her support group attendance record. Ms. Berg stated she attends support groups two times a week. She is not working with a sponsor at this time. Ms. Buhler motioned to move

Ms. Berg's supervisor reports to quarterly, seconded by Mr. Cortez. The motion carried unanimously. The Board asked to see Ms. Berg on January 11, 2012.
Ms. Berg is in compliance with her stipulation.

Ms. Charmele Nish, probation interview

Out of order on the agenda

Ms. Nish met with the Board. Mr. Cortez conducted the interview. Ms. Nish advised the Board she is feeling good about her probation. She is doing what the Board is asking. She has been attending therapy once a week and more often as needed. Ms. Nish stated she will have her psychological evaluation paid for soon and will have it submitted to the Board. The Board reviewed Ms. Nish's essay. Mr. Cortez motioned to accept Ms. Nish's essay, seconded by Mr. Prazza. Ms. Nish submitted CVs for Richard Simmons, Barry Adams and Susan Dezell. Mr. Cortez motioned to approve Dr. Simmons, Ms. Denzell and Mr. Berry Adams as Ms. Nish's supervisors, seconded by Ms. Hare. The motion carried unanimously. The Board asked to see Ms. Nish on January 11, 2012.
Ms. Nish is in compliance with her stipulation.

Ms. Paula Bruce, probation interview

Ms. Bruce met with the Board. Mr. Cortez conducted the interview. Ms. Bruce stated she is doing well. The Board noted that her supervisor reports have been received. She submitted her group attendance documentation. Ms. Bruce submitted her new essay. The Board reviewed her essay. Ms. Hare motioned to accept her essay, seconded by Mr. Cortez. The motion carried unanimously. The Board encouraged Ms. Bruce to know what her practice is and to refer clients with problems or issues that are beyond her scope of practice. Ms. Bruce stated that the women's support group she attends is for a group of women who get together, usually over lunch. She does not run the group. The purpose of the group is for social support only. Currently there are approx. 15 women attending. Ms. Bruce stated she attended a spiritual retreat where she participated in different types of meditation and spiritual awareness. The Board advised her that her participation in these functions could be misunderstood and cautioned her to ensure she is not leading the group or using her license. Ms. Bruce gave Mr. Oborn the new amendment to her order she needed to sign. The Board noted that Ms. Bruce needs

to submit a CV for her supervisor, Mr. Ryan Souther. The Board advised Ms. Bruce that her supervisor needs to be approved by the Board. Once this is done, the Board may consider moving her supervisor reports to quarterly. The Board asked to see Ms. Bruce on January 11, 2012. **Ms. Bruce is in compliance with her stipulation.**

Ms. Rochelle Beutler, probation interview

Ms. Beutler met with the Board. Mr. Prazza conducted the interview. Ms. Beutler stated she has a new supervisor. She has some family stresses, her daughter is having surgery and her supervisor, Mr. Paul Dymock, is on medical recovery. She has been working with Mr. Craig Bleek. She is working at I Promise Foundation. Ms. Beutler stated she attends support meetings daily. Mr. Prazza motioned to approve Mr. Paul Dymock as her supervisor, seconded by Ms. Hare. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Beutler was advised that she needs to submit a CV for Mr. Craig Bleek to be approved as her supervisor. Ms. Beutler submitted a letter requesting early termination. The Board advised her that since she did not work for the first four months of her probation, the Board wants to see her work until January 2012. She will then have one year of employment on record. The Board will consider her request then. Mr. Prazza motioned to move Ms. Beutler's supervisor reports to quarterly, seconded by Ms. Buhler. The motion carried unanimously. The Board asked to see Ms. Beutler on January 11, 2012. **Ms. Beutler is in compliance with her stipulation.**

Ms. Lilia January Riggin, probation interview

Ms. Riggin met with the Board. Mr. Felt conducted the interview. Ms. Riggin advised the Board that she attends one to three support meetings a week. She works to not mix her employment with her personal recovery. To keep these relationships separate she has been traveling a lot more for her recovery and building a new support group. The program she works for uses the 12 step as a resource. She is doing a lot of reading to ensure she is not crossing boundaries. She stays in contact with her supervisor, Natalie Gallegos, LCSW. The Board encouraged Ms. Riggin to attend a PIR support group. Ms. Buhler motioned to have Ms. Riggin's reports submitted quarterly, seconded by Mr. Prazza. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Riggin

was advised her next report is due by January 1, 2012. The Board asked to see Ms. Riggan on January 11, 2012. **Ms. Riggan is in compliance with her stipulation.**

Catherine Cartisano, new probation interview

Ms. Cartisano met with the Board. Ms. Buhler conducted the interview. The Board was introduced to Ms. Cartisano. Mr. Prazza reviewed the purpose of the Board, noting that the Board is here to support and guide her through her probation. Ms. Cartisano stated she works at First Step House and is applying to the program at the University of Utah. Her employer and co-workers are very supportive. Ms. Cartisano submitted a supervisor report from Doug Staffer. The Board noted that Mr. Staffer has been approved to supervise other probationers and will approve him to supervise Ms. Cartisano. The Board advised Ms. Cartisano that she needs to submit a written plan of how she is going to manage her probation. This needs to be submitted to the Division as soon as possible. The Board advised Ms. Cartisano that she will not be required to do additional CEs or an essay at this time. Her reports need to be submitted ten days before the Board meeting. The Board asked to see Ms. Cartisano on January 11, 2012. **Ms. Cartisano is in compliance with her stipulation.**

Deirdre Piotrowski, proposal to modify supervision requirement established in Substance Abuse Practice Act Rule, R156-60d-302b(1)(d)

Discussion:

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that Ms. Piotrowski is a LCSW. She is pursuing licensure as a CSAC. The Utah Navajo Health Systems Reservation Tribe does not allow her to provide mental health therapy until she obtains her CSAC license. Ms. Piotrowski is proposing the Board modify the supervision requirement established in the Substance Abuse Counselor Practice Act Rule, R156-60d-302b(1)(d).

The Board met with Ms. Piotrowski. The Board reviewed R156-60d-302b(1)(d). The Board noted that Ms. Piotrowski could obtain an ICRC certification. This may not work unless she knows the Navajo Tribe will accept this certification. If she pursues a license as a CSAC, she is required to gather 2,000 hrs under a mental health therapist supervisor. There is not another CSAC available and she cannot supervise herself. Mr. Cortez motioned to change the language

of the paragraph to include “unless otherwise approved by the Board and Division”, seconded by Ms. Hare. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Oborn noted that a rule hearing will be held in January 11, 2012.

Julie Murdock, applicant for CSAC license

Ms. Murdock met with the Board. The Board reviewed Ms. Murdock’s application for a CSAC license. Ms. Murdock advised the Board that her court probation was terminated unsuccessfully only because she has not paid her restitution yet. She has worked out a payment plan with the court. Ms. Murdock stated she is working at Odyssey House since October 2007. She went into treatment there and graduated February 2007. She was hired later that month. Ms. Murdock stated she helped supervise the highest level clients, sat in on group therapy and helped supervise the senior clients. Ms. Murdock completed the program at the U of U in December 2010.

Mr. Oborn advised the Board there are 3 options for the Board to consider:

1. recommend her license be issued without restrictions;
2. recommend denial of her application based upon her criminal history; and
3. recommend her license is issue with restrictions.

Ms. Hare motioned to recommend Ms. Murdock be issued a license with restrictions, seconded by Mr. Cortez. The Board discussed issuing an unrestricted license. No further motions or discussion, the motion to recommend a license with restrictions carried unanimously.

Jody Harris, applicant for LSAC relicensure

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that Ms. Harris was licensed as an LSAC on March 5, 1999. Ms. Harris was charged with engaging in an inappropriate dual relationship with a client. On May 28, 2002 she agreed to voluntarily surrender her license to practice as a licensed substance abuse counselor and she could not reapply for five years. Ms. Harris is meeting with the Board to request that her substance abuse license be reissued.

Ms. Harris submitted an application in 2009. This was denied because she did not realize the education requirement changed and she needed the substance

abuse education program and 40 hours of continuing education.

Ms. Harris met with the Board. Mr. Oborn noted Ms. Harris completed the LSAC program at Utah Valley University and completed additional continuing education since 2002. She submitted letters from several individuals that supported her obtaining a LSAC license. On June 1, 2011, she passed the NAADAC exam. Mr. Cortez motioned to close the Board meeting at 3:37 P.M. to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual, seconded by Ms. Buhler. The motion carried unanimously. There were no written notes taken. A recording was not made. The Board meeting opened at 3:53 P.M. Ms. Harris noted that her violation took place over ten years ago. She is currently working at Northwest Associates, Inc. Her employer/supervisor Dr. Chappuis submitted a letter supporting her license be reissued. Ms. Harris put herself through additional schooling, continuing education courses, including current ethics, and therapy. In 2009, her therapist, Penelope Eicher, LMFT, submitted a letter of support for her relicensure.

Mr. Oborn advised the Board there are 3 options for the Board to consider:

1. recommend her license is issued without restrictions.
2. recommend denial of her application based upon her criminal history.
3. recommend her license is issue with restrictions.

Mr. Prazza motioned to reinstate Ms. Harris' LSAC license, unrestricted, seconded by Mr. Cortez. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Update regarding potential legislation to modify substance abuse counselor license categories and scope of practice

Mr. Oborn noted that there is potential legislation to modify substance abuse counselor license categories and scope of practice. If the bill passes, there will be additional meetings to do rule changes.

2. Janice Lohrmeyer, surrender of license

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that Ms. Lohrmeyer surrendered her license.

3. Noelle Carter, surrender of license

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that Ms. Carter surrendered her license.

4. Hernan Ferron, cease and desist order

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that Mr. Ferron was issued a cease and desist order.

5. Joanie Jones, LSAC and APC license suspension

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that Ms. Jones is not in compliance with her stipulation. Her probation is being monitored by the Professional Counselor Licensing Board. Ms Jones failed to stay in compliance with her stipulation and the Professional Counselor Board recommended that her LPC license be suspended for 6 months. She will need to obtain a fitness for duty evaluation and she is required to do UA testing before her professional counselor license will be placed back on probation. Mr. Cortez motioned to have the restrictions on Ms. Jones' LSAC license mirror the LPC license, seconded by Ms. Hare. The motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None at this time

Next Board Meeting:

January 11, 2012
2012 Board meetings have been tentatively scheduled
January 11, April 18, July 11 and October 17.

The Board reviewed the meetings scheduled for 2012. Mr. Cortez noted that he could not attend meetings on the 1st Wednesday. Mr. Prazza cannot attend meetings on the 3rd Wednesday.

ADJOURN:

The meeting adjourned: 4:45 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.

January 11, 2012
Date Approved

(ss) David Felt
Chairperson, Utah Substance Abuse Counselors
Licensing Board

January 11, 2012
Date Approved

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