West Virginia Board of Examiners in Counseling Board Meeting
February 28, 2014
Meeting Called to order 10:15 AM

Board Members Present: Deb Frost, Chair
Dr. Chris Schimmel, Secretary
Dr. Marilyn Cassis
Dr. Lori Ellison
Beth Wright-Bragg

Others Present: Jean Ann Johnson
Roxanne Clay

Minutes: Minutes were reviewed and approved for the following meetings:
October 11, 2013
December 17, 2013
M/S/P (Wright-Bragg/Cassis)

Travel: All travel requests and invoices were signed.

Credentialing: The following persons were submitted for licensure:
Sarah M. O’Neil
Benjamin W. Childers
Jennifer E. Randall
Clarissa Elizabeth Coleman
Meagan E. Powers
Margaret M. Morton
Jennifer Lynne Walker
Jennifer Maia Rodriguez
Crista Nicole Nezhni
Siri McDonald

NEW ALPS
Ashley Tasker
Melody Morgan
Susan Fry
Donald Worth
Dee Nazzaro
M/S/P (Cassis/Frost)


OLD BUSINESS:
Verification of Licensure/
Complaints: The Board currently charges $20 per license verification. Because of the way Series 2 reads, that fee is non-negotiable.

Board of Risk National Safety Council’s Defensive Driving Course: Roxanne Clay and Jean Ann Johnson both are in the process of completing the training.

NBCC State Boards Meeting: August 7-8 in Greensboro, NC will be the date and place of the next NBCC State Boards meeting. Registration information will begin in March. Two Board members expressed interest in going. Members are checking their calendars to see availability.

Board Meetings: Dates for future board meetings:
New Spring Board meeting will be April 25, 2014.

Visitor: Susie Mullen made a presentation to the Board about distance counseling. Her company, First Choice, is offering training through a grant to provide training to already licensed professionals in the state on best practices in distance counseling. This training and credential (Distance Credentialed Counselor – DCC) is supported by NBCC.

Board Appointment: New Board appointments are still awaiting approval from the Governor. ED was told that appointments are on the Governor’s desk. The Board has been awaiting new appointments for over 18 months. The Board is in desperate need for additional members to fill all open spots on the Board. ED will call all potential Board members to confirm that our nominees remain interested in serving.

Executive Director’s Report: Current balance is $168,313.00 as of February 27, 2014.

Oasis Update – Oasis implementation continues. It will go live in July 2014. Staff has been attending webinars and trainings on a regular basis.

Informed Consent: A discussion ensued regarding the lack of commitment on the part of LPCs to maintain an updated, thorough informed consent. The Board is entertaining the idea that LPCs be required to submit a copy of their informed consent during the application process as well as on a regular basis upon licensure renewal. Board staff will consider how they can best handle such a request. This item will be further discussed at the next meeting.
The Board reviewed a potential new hours logged form on which MFT candidates (and possibly LPC candidates) may be asked to keep track of hours.

Enter Executive Session:

Motion was made to enter Executive Session. M/S/P (Schimmel/Frost)

**Case #01-14:** Client’s family member filed complaint that LPC represented themselves as a psychologist, that the LPC was not qualified to treat client’s specific issues, that LPC violated the “do no harm” aspect of the Code. LPC, in fact, does have extensive training in the area of concern for the client. Complainant has had no direct contact with LPC and no aspect of the complaint was filed by the actual client. Recommend dismissal.

**Case #02-14:** Client’s representative filed complaint that LPC broke HIPPA regulations by contacting family members of minor client to confront a family member about an issue.

**Case #03-14:** Client complaining that LPC represented herself a psychologist. Recommend dismissal along with a note to employer to more clearly display credentials of employees.

**Case #04-14:** LPC is accused of accessing non-client, electronic files at worksite.

Motion was made to Exit Executive Session. M/S/P (Frost/Schimmel)

**Case #01-14:** Recommend dismissal

**Case #02-14:** Place under consent agreement with the following terms:
1. See therapist weekly for six months by a Board approved therapist; therapist will submit quarterly reports to the Board;
2. Engage in weekly supervision to include information regarding personal/professional boundaries and a thorough review of her practice’s documentation to include her current Informed Consent (including discussion about HIPPA) for up to 12 months by a Board approved ALPS; ALPS will submit quarterly reports to the Board.

**Case #03-14:** Recommend dismissal

**Case #04-14:** Place LPC under consent agreement with the following terms:
1. See therapist weekly for 12 months by a Board approved therapist to address issues of impulsivity; therapist will submit quarterly reports to the Board;
2. Engage in weekly supervision for at least 12 months to include information regarding professional boundaries by Board approved ALPS cannot be employed or affiliated with the LPC’s current employer; ALPS will submit quarterly reports to the Board;

3. LPC is required to take Board approved training in ethics (3 hours) that cannot be used for licensure renewal.

**03-13:** LPC under consent order has retired from counseling.
M/S/P (Wright-Bragg/Ellison)

Meeting Adjourned: 1:29 pm M/S/P (Wright-Bragg/Frost)

Respectfully Submitted:

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Dr. Christine Schimmel, LPC, Secretary