West Virginia Board of Examiners in Counseling
Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2015

The WV Board of Examiners in Counseling held a telephone board meeting on April 24, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 10:12AM.

Board Members
Present:
Christine Schimmel
Deb Frost
Lori Ellison
Marilyn Cassis
Beth Wright-Bragg
Guy Gage

Others Present:
Jean Ann Johnson, Executive Director
Roxanne Clay, Assistant Executive Director

Quorum Established:
A quorum was established.

Public Comment Period:
No appearances for public comment.

Travel:
Board members completed travel authorizations.

Approval of Minutes:
A motion was made to accept February 20, 2015 minutes.
M/S/P (Frost/Cassis)

P-Card Review:
Chair Lori Ellison reviewed the P-Card records for the months of October-December of 2014 and January-March of 2015. It is noted that ED, Jean Ann Johnson had no charges on this set of P-Cards. M/S/P (Cassis/Frost)

Executive Director Report:
Current balance is $101,867.62 as of April 23, 2015

Assistant ED Report:
RC attended recent conference sponsored by the WV Treasurer’s office. RC shared a new system where checks can be scanned vs. directly deposited into the bank. This does involve a cost. RC will look into the cost of implementing this system.

Renewals are underway. So far, 14.6% have already renewed their licenses. Current LPCs are 991, 73 expired in 2013 and could technically renew; 87 Provisional LPCs and
2 provision MFTs; 40 are in the exam process. We have one approved to take the MFT exam. We have 16 in retirement.

RC showed the Board a system of issuing renewal cards as opposed to the stickers. This process is currently being used by the Psychology Board. Where there would be saving with this process in time, the actual cost is undetermined. RC and JAJ will explore the actual cost of this process and report back to the Board.

Credentialing: The credentialing committee recommended the following persons for licensure: (M/S/P): (Frost/Gage)

Applicants ready for LPC review & approval:
Wendy Pruett Young
Leesa Marie Jackson
Ronald L. Rielly
Julianna N. Quick
Joshua S. Cross
Della Marie Swope
Shari L. Modlin
Natalie M. Riggelman
Melisa M. Carrico

Approved MFT
Lori Lunette Holloway

New ALPS
Eugene Mazzocchi
Larry Bell
Stephanie Clarke
Rachel Criss
Jessica Watt
John Gore
Janet Wilkinson
2015 Requirement/Consequences: ED reported that we have 31 current LPCs who are not meeting the 2015 educational requirement. Notices have been sent to all those affected by the rule change. The Board feels as if we have made all efforts possible on our part to notify these individuals. Certified letters will be send to all affected notifying them that their license has lapsed and is no longer valid.

Update on Boyce Hearing: The Board is still waiting for the ruling by the Administrative Law judge. No ruling has been issued to date.

Review of Series Changes: The Board spent a significant amount of time reviewing proposed edits and rule changes in Series 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10. All rules were approved for filing with the Secretary of State’s office.

Review of Board Protocol: Deb Frost made a motion that all financial records be brought to each and every live meeting. M/S/P (Frost/Cassis)

Deb Frost made a motion that Board positions (Chair and Secretary) be limited to two year terms. Guy Gage suggested that more thought given to this process. The Board held discussion on this issue but no motion progressed.

Debbie Frost (Substance Abuse Credential): Deb Frost brought to the attention of the Board the increasing referral of clients to individuals advertised as substance abuse counselors according to the WV Certification Board for Addiction and Prevention Professionals (WVCBAPP). The Board is very concerned that individuals being promoted on this site are not licensed professional counselors and that the public might be confused by this group’s advertising. We also have concerns about various training programs throughout the state of WV. Several Board members will make calls to training programs, Universities and state officials to examine further this issue.
ACA Meeting of Licensure Boards
For South Eastern States:

Chris Schimmel reported to the Board on her recent interaction with Board members from KY, TN, VA, WV and OH. These states are interested in working towards real counselor license portability between these states. This Board determined that they do want to work with all these states to achieve true portability. In saying that, the Board agreed to the following schools of thought:

1. WVBEC is working towards requiring a CACREP degree for licensure;
2. WVBEC wants to work with these states to achieve portability;
3. Lori Ellison will join Chris on this committee of the states to attempt to work out the educational differences between the states.

Chris made a motion that this Board look to require CACREP accreditation of all licensees by Dec. 2018.
M/S/P: (Schimmel/Wright-Bragg)

TeleHealth:

Beth reported on a conference she attended on TeleHealth. Beth recommended some cautionary language be added to our website regarding using software such as Telehealth and other distance counseling software. Beth will develop a list to be added to the website for all Board members to review.

Board Appointments:

The Board reviewed two potential new board members under consideration for appointment to the WVBEC. The Board voted to move ahead with recommending Lisa Westfall to replace Deb Frost and Jeffrey T. Jones and an additional lay person to the board. M/S/P: (Gage/Schimmel)

Complaint #01-15:

Consent order was completed and sent to LPC. LPC, at that time, decided to retire. After some discussion, LPC has decided she wants to enter the original consent agreement to maintain her license. The Board is waiting to see if the LPC will indeed carry out the terms of the original consent order. ED will monitor.

Future Meetings:

June 5 (Phone meeting to license applicants)
August 21 (Live meeting)
October 16 (Live meeting)
Correction to Staff Pay: An error in staff payment has been brought to the attention of Board staff. Staff has been being paid on the basis of 38 hours per week instead of 40 hours per week. A motion was made to continue to pay staff at their current dollar amount per hour. M/S/P: (Frost/Cassis)

Meeting Adjourned: The meeting was adjourned at 4:19pm M/S/P: (Schimmel/Wright-Bragg)

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Christine Schimmel, Secretary, LPC