West Virginia Board of Examiners in Counseling  
815 Quarrier Street, Suite 212  
Charleston, WV 25301  
Telephone: (304) 558-5494 Fax: (304) 558-5496

Meeting Minutes  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 2019 @ 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

The WV Board of Examiners in Counseling held a telephone board meeting on August 2, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 AM.

Board Members Present:  
Guy Gage, Chair  
Regina Burgess, Secretary  
Lori Ellison  
Lisa Westfall  
Anthony Onorato  
Jeff Jones

Others Present:  
N/A

Quorum Established:  
A quorum was established.

Public Comment:  
No one appeared before the board for public comment.

Distance Counseling/Mobility Committee:  
Consideration of Position Statement for Endorsement licensure was discussed. The Board unanimously accepted the following Position Statement as written:

Portability and Telecounseling Solutions

Telecounseling as an Origin Based Service instead of a Destination Based Service (verbiage from state sales tax laws)

- Telecounseling takes place at the business location of the counselor  
- The state in which the counselor’s business is located is the regulatory jurisdiction of record  
- Counselor needs to be licensed in all regulatory jurisdictions from which they are conducting business (professional or home office locations)
  - Rationale –
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- **An Origin based model simplifies what has become a huge mess under a Destination based model. States are mostly interested in a destination model in regard to the collection of sales tax through regular commerce. Health Care services are exempt from sales tax.**
- **The public wants access to the provider they want to use regardless of their own location. This model makes that happen.**
- **This model more easily satisfies the goals of the deregulation movement since it doesn’t require the “burden” of being licensed in every destination.**
- **This model makes the regulatory board’s job easier since the licensee is located within its jurisdictional borders.**
- **Regulatory boards in every jurisdiction take their responsibilities seriously regardless of where the recipient of the service is located (live, work, travel).**

**Shared National Database**

- All licensees, and their corresponding information, is contained within one national database that is shared by all regulatory boards (copies of official transcripts, test scores, supervision documentation, disciplinary actions, contact and demographic info, etc.)
- Owned, operated and maintained by AASCB
- Funded through revenue from state licensure exams
  - **Rationale** —
    - **The society is far too mobile to have 50 disconnected and varied regulatory databases that can’t share information among them**
    - **It’s a necessity with either an Origin or Destination Telecounseling model in relation to licensure endorsement and portability.**
    - **State regulatory boards comprise the membership of AASCB**
    - **Revenue from state licensure exams needs to fund some element of regulatory operations and this is a universally beneficial function.**

**Licensure Endorsement** recognizes that we are dealing with people who have already earned a license to practice in at least one state regulatory jurisdiction and are seeking a license to practice in an additional state regulatory jurisdiction. These applicants are not new to the profession.

- **Option 1** — Applies primarily to include a path for long time licensees who may not have taken a test
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- Applicant has maintained a license at the highest level for independent practice in good standing for all current and previous jurisdictions for **five (5) years** prior to the date of application for licensure endorsement and is not currently under investigation by any regulatory board.

  *Rationale* – The applicant has a minimum of a 5-year track record of competence in addition to a minimum of 75 CE (Avg of 15 CE/yr.) for licensure renewal. This track record is more valuable and reliable information than transcripts, test scores or certifications.

OR

- **Option 2** – Applies to licensees who do not meet criteria for Option 1
  - The applicant meets current standards for endorsement adopted by the receiving state counseling licensure board
  or
  - The applicant has maintained a license at the highest level for independent practice in good standing for all current and previous jurisdictions for **two (2) years** prior to the date for application for licensure endorsement, is not currently under investigation by any regulatory board, can prove they have passed an exam (NCE, NCMHCE or other board approved examination) and background checks as required by the state regulatory body
    - **Rationale** –
      - The applicant has demonstrated a track record of competence.
      - They have already passed a test and been supervised in order to obtain licensure making NBCC certification a moot point.
      - CACREP is the only accrediting organization recognized by the US Federal Government and will be required by regulatory boards over the next 10-15 years making that issue a moot point as well.
      - This format doesn’t punish licensees, who through no fault of their own, graduated from non-CACREP schools.
      - Regulatory boards in every jurisdiction take their responsibilities to protect the public seriously.

(M/S/P: Onorato/Jones)

Enter Executive Session: (M/S/P Ellison/Jones) 10:32 a.m.
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Personnel Committee:

Consideration of ED position: Discussed hiring of candidate.

Exit Executive Session: (M/S/P: Jones/Ellison) 10:52 am

Motion to offer E.D. position to Cheryl Henry. (M/S/P: Westfall/Ellison)
Motion carried unanimously. Personnel Committee will negotiate salary and start date.

Announcements:

On 8/30 decision will be made regarding House Bill 118: Keith has completed language we could use that other boards are using.
ASCB is 9/23
Next Board Meeting: Friday, August 16, 2019 (telephonic).

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made at 11:03 AM. (M/S/P: Jones/Westall)

Respectfully Submitted,

Regina Burgess, MS, CRC, LPC
Secretary