

MINUTES

**UTAH
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST
LICENSING BOARD MEETING**

June 9, 2011

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

CONVENED: 9:11 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 12:16 P.M.

**Bureau Manager:
Board Secretary:**

Richard J. Oborn
Lee Avery

Board Members Present:

Scot M. Allgood, Ph. D., Chairperson
Veon G. Smith, DSW
Jean N. Soderquist, Ph. D.
Alan Springer, Ph.D.
Karen Feinauer

Guests:

Melinda Talbot, Argosy University
Allison Stewart, Argosy University
John Robins, Argosy University

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

MINUTES:

The Board reviewed the minutes from March 10, 2011. Dr. Springer motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Ms. Feinauer. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Oborn reviewed the MFT license reinstatement requirements found in Marriage and Family Therapist Licensing Act Rule, R156-60b-306.

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that there are 2 applicants meeting with the Board requesting reinstatement of their MFT licenses. The Board needs to help the Division assess if the individuals are able to practice in the MFT profession competently and safely. Mr. Oborn noted that the Board has an option to recommend a 6 month temporary licensed or the

Awaiting Formal Approval

Board could recommend a full unrestricted license.

APPOINTMENTS:

Camille Delong, applicant for reinstatement of MFT license

Ms. Delong met with the Board. The Board was introduced to Ms. Delong. Ms. Delong let her license expire September 30, 2006 and would like to reinstate it. The Board reviewed Dr. Delong's curriculum vitae (CV) and her letter of intent including the continuing education courses she plans to attend. Ms. Delong stated that she has signed up for additional CEs. The next class she plans to attend will be Saturday, June 11, 2011. She is focusing on CE hours that will help fill the gaps in her skills. The Board noted that the CE requirement allows for up to 10 hours of distance courses, audio, reading, online etc. The other 30 hours will need to be contact hours. Mr. Smith motioned to issue Ms. Delong a temporary license. While practicing as a temporary MFT, the Board requested that Ms. Delong do the following:

1. Submit certificates or other documentation to verify completion of at least 40 contact hours of continuing education directly related to her professional practice. At least 15 contact hours must be directly related to marriage and family therapy. At least 6 hours must be in ethics or law of which three must be directly related to marriage and family therapy.
2. Verify completion of at least 10 hours of supervised experience completed at a public or a private agency that engages in mental health therapy.
3. Verify that at least 2 of the 10 hours of supervised experience was either video or audio recorded and reviewed by the supervisor or completed as co-therapy with the supervisor physically present.
4. Verify that the supervisor of the experience meets qualifications to be a marriage and family therapist training supervisor established in Utah Admin. Code R156-60b-302d. In short, the supervisor must be a licensed MFT

currently approved by AAMFT as a MFT supervisor.

5. Verification from her supervisor confirming that her practice is ethical and that her practice plan for the future is appropriate.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Feinauer. The motion carried unanimously. The Board asked to see Ms. Delong December 15, 2011 to review her progress.

David Coombs, applicant for MFT license reinstatement

Mr. Coombs was contacted via telephone. Mr. Coombs was introduced to the Board. Mr. Coombs let his license expire September 30, 2006 and would like to reinstate it.

Mr. Smith motioned to issue Mr. Coombs, a temporary license for 6 months to complete the following: While practicing as a temporary MFT, the Board requested that Mr. Coombs do the following:

1. Submit certificates or other documentation to verify completion of at least 40 contact hours of continuing education directly related to his professional practice. At least 15 contact hours must be directly related to marriage and family therapy. At least 6 hours must be in ethics or law of which three must be directly related to marriage and family therapy.
2. Verify completion of at least 10 hours of supervised experience completed at a public or a private agency that engages in mental health therapy.
3. Verify that at least 2 of the 10 hours of supervised experience was either video or audio recorded and reviewed by the supervisor or completed as co-therapy with the supervisor physically present.
4. Verify that the supervisor of the experience meets qualifications to be a marriage and family therapist training supervisor established in Utah Admin. Code R156-60b-302d. In

short, the supervisor must be a licensed MFT currently approved by AAMFT as a MFT supervisor.

5. Verification from his supervisor confirming that his practice is ethical and that his practice plan for the future is appropriate.

The motion was seconded by Dr. Soderquist. The motion carried unanimously. The Board asked to talk with Mr. Coombs December 15, 2011 to review his progress. The Board approved a telephone interview.

DISCUSSION:

Possibility of definition of “direct personal, face to face supervision” in MFT Act Rule

The Division recently received questions about whether the 100 hours of “direct personal, face to face supervision” could be gathered remotely via live video conference. The Board reviewed the applicable text in statute found in Utah Code 58-60-305 (1)(f).

Mr. Oborn noted that this can be further defined in the MFT Rule; however, the Division’s preference is for this definition to appear in the Mental Health Professional Practice Act Rule so it will apply to all of the mental health professions.

The Board discussed the possibility of allowing individual licensees to complete hours of supervision via live videoconference in cases approved on a case by case basis as long as certain criteria are met. The Board recommended that the criteria include:

1. a contract in place between the supervisor and the agency supervising the supervisee;
2. the supervisee must practice in an geographic area where there is a shortage of qualified MFTs available to provide supervision when physically present;
3. the supervisee must submit a written request to be able to do the 100 hours of supervision via live videoconference; and
1. the supervisor must physically visit the site where the supervisee practices at least twice.

The Board noted that without the physical presence of a supervisor, problems could be easier to hide. The

Counting time spent providing therapy via remote methods toward “500 hours in couple or family therapy with two or more clients present”

Board wants to ensure that the supervisor is seeing ethical practice. Mr. Allgood will do some research to see if distance could be an issue for supervision. He will need a list of the Associate MFTs and MFTs to see how close they are together. Mr. Oborn will contact UAMFT for information regarding concerns they are hearing about. The Board discussed meeting with representatives from each of the mental health professions and associations regarding their concerns with face to face distance supervision.

Mr. Oborn shared with the Board questions the Division received regarding counting time spent providing therapy via remote methods toward 500 hours in couple or family therapy with two or more clients present if one of the clients is participating via live videoconference. The Board discussed the issue. The Board asked Mr. Oborn to draft language reflecting the Board’s position of allowing one of the clients to participate via live videoconference, skype or telephone as long as at least one of the clients was physically present with the licensee. The Board will review this at the Board meeting in September.

Counting time spent as a LAMFT doing marketing toward 4,000 training requirement

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that the Division has received questions about whether time spent marketing for their agency may count towards the 4,000 hours of supervised training. After a discussion regarding the issue, the Board agreed that the time should count.

DOPL position that providing mental health therapy via remote methods to patients physically located in Utah requires Utah license

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that the Division will be drafting a position regarding how providing mental health therapy via remote methods to patients physically located in Utah requires Utah license. Mr. Oborn will consult with other mental health Boards.

MFT demographics

Mr. Oborn shared the following demographics with the Board, noting that these statistics are not complete. As of May 1, 2011 there were 96 Associate MFTs. There are 476 total MFTs. Mr. Oborn will send this info to Alan Springer and Kevin Barlow at UAMFT.

Upcoming Board vacancy

Mr. Oborn noted that Dr. Soderquist has completed her term on the Board. Mr. Oborn thanked Dr. Soderquist for her dedication to the marriage and family therapy field and for her service to the Board

and Division. Mr. Oborn noted that due to recent statute changes during the last legislative session, Dr. Soderquist will be invited back to the Board until her replacement is appointed.

EMFT exam online registration

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that the online registration for EMFT exam has started. The applicant receives an e-mail from PES that tells the applicant how to register online. This new process will have a quicker turn around for pass/fail scores too.

Not one the agenda:

The Board reviewed a letter addressed to the MFT Licensing Board regarding a concern that the National Marriage and Family Therapy Boards (AMFTRB) exam is currently taking 4 weeks to send the exam scores to the licensing Boards. It is felt that this allows other mental health professionals an unfair advantage because their exam results are received 1 to 2 weeks sooner. The Board noted that the individual may take the exam anytime after receiving their associate license and most postpone taking the exam until the end of their supervised hours. The Board requested that Mr. Oborn contact AMFTRB and recommend that they release preliminary score reports.

Paul Flack request to supervise over 3 LAMFT supervisees

The Board reviewed the letter from Mr. Flack. Mr. Flack is requesting to supervise over 3 LAMFTs. The Board noted that currently in Wasatch County there is one supervisor. The Board discussed the option of approving him to supervise up to 4 supervisees. The Board noted that his request is no longer relevant because one of his supervisees has moved out of the area. Mr. Oborn will contact Mr. Flack to advise the Board the next time he has more than 3 supervisees and the Board will consider his request.

Mr. Oborn reviewed R156-60b-302e. Duties and Responsibilities of a Supervisor of Marriage and Family Therapist and Mental Health Therapy Training with the Board. The Board discussed expanding the scope of supervision and opted to not make any changes at this time.

Practice of Neurofeedback

The Board reviewed the position paper for standards

of practice for Neurofeedback and Neurotherapy. It has become evident that there are unlicensed individuals offering neurofeedback services to the public for psychological psychiatric and medical conditions that are both clinically and legally unqualified to treat. The Board noted the importance of appropriate education and training.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None at this time.

Mr. Oborn reviewed the proposed rule changes the Board agreed to at the March 10, 2011 Board meeting. Mr. Oborn advised the Board that because this Board does not meet again until September, 2011, the rule hearing is scheduled for August 1, 2011, to become effective August 22, 2011, unless there is a major opposition to the changes.

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR:

Mr. Oborn shared with the Board that State offices will be going back to the 5 day work week starting September 2011. The Board noted that meeting on a Friday works better for everyone's work schedule. The Board moved the Board meeting for 2011 to Friday, September 9, and Friday, December 16, both meetings to begin at 9:00 A.M.

ADJOURN:

The Board adjourned at 12:16 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.

Date Approved

Chairperson, Utah Marriage and Family Therapist
Licensing Board

Date Approved

Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational &
Professional Licensing

Awaiting Final Approval