

MINUTES

UTAH VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION COUNSELOR MEETING

April 6, 2011

Room 475 – 4th Floor – 1:40 P.M.
Heber Wells Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

CONVENED: 1:40 P.M.

ADJOURNED: 2:17 P.M.

Bureau Manager:
Board Secretary:

Richard J. Oborn
Lee Avery

Board Members Present:

Russell Thelin, Chairperson
Julie Smart
Joel Jolley
Kimberly Nortz
Douglas Roberts

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:
MINUTES:

The Board reviewed the minutes from the December 8, 2010 Board meeting. Ms. Nortz motioned to approve the minutes with changes, seconded by Mr. Jolley. The motion carried unanimously.

Updating of Board member contact information

The Board members updated their contact information.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Amendments to Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor Licensing Act during 2011 Legislative Session

Mr. Oborn reviewed the amendments to the Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor Licensing Act during the 2011 legislative session.

1. *Subsection (f), the date “after January 1, 2011” was removed. This date is no longer applicable.*
2. *Subsection (2), (3), (a-d), (i-iii) was removed.*
3. *Subsection (4) was renumbered.*
4. *58-78-303, Terms of license - expiration – renewal was changed to reflect a 2 year renewal cycle.*

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that HB 243 amended the DOPL licensing act. The Division now has fine and citation authority for the practice of unlicensed individuals and allows Board members with expiring terms to continue serving until the Governor appoints their replacement.

2. Rule changes necessitated by amendments

Mr. Oborn reviewed proposed changes to the Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors Licensing Act Rule to reflect the statute changes.

Mr. Oborn noted the following proposals:

1. *R156-78-102 (4)(viii)(b), delete;*
2. *R156-78-304(2) change "annual" to two-year license renewal commencing April 1;*
3. *Add "odd numbered" year;*
4. *(3) change to 40 hours of continuing education;*
5. *change two hours to four hours must be completed in ethics/law;*
6. *(5)(2)(b), change to "20" hours per "two" year period;*
7. *(5)(2)(c), change to "12" hours per two year period;*
8. *(5)(2)(d), change to "24" hours of continuing education per two year period; and*
9. *(5)(8) add paragraph to allow for up to 10 contact hours of CE completed during prior license renewal cycle to be carried over to the next renewal cycle.*

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that rule changes will require a rule hearing. The Division and Board will want to get them in place as soon as possible.

Dr. Smart motioned to approve the proposed changes, seconded by Mr. Roberts. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Proposal to allow for up to 10 contact hours of CE completed during prior license renewal cycle

Discussed above.

4. Transition period for LVRC experience requirement

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that the way the statute was written, if the Division enforced it literally, then no licenses could be approved between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011 for one year. The Division talked with the sponsor of the bill and determined that this was not the intent of the statute.

The Division has proposed a transition period to allow individuals to count experience that was gathered under the supervision of someone who was not licensed until December 30, 2010. Mr. Oborn stated that the sponsor verbally approved this proposal. The Division wants to ensure that the Board agrees with the extension. The Board indicated that it supported the extension. Mr. Oborn will modify the application to reflect the extension.

5. Rescheduling of December 21, 2011 Board meeting

The Board decided to move the December Board meeting to December 7, 2011 at 2:00 P.M.

6. Governor Herbert's proposal to create regulations that are more business friendly

Mr. Oborn shared the quote from Governor Gary R. Herbert's State of the State address on 01/26/2011 with the Board. Mr. Oborn noted that Governor Herbert has asked all state agencies to separate regulations that serve an important purpose from those regulations that serve no purpose at all. Mr. Oborn asked the Board to let him know when they see something that is overly burdensome to the vocational rehabilitation counselor profession that does not serve a purpose.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:

The next Board meeting is scheduled for:
June 29, 2011

The Board requested that all future meetings be changed to start at 2:00 P.M.

2011 Board meetings have been tentatively scheduled:

June 29, September 14, December 21 Board meeting moved to December 7, at 2:00 P.M.

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn at 2:17 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.

December 7, 2011
Date Approved

(ss) Russell Thelin
Chairperson, Utah Vocational Rehabilitation
Counselor Board

December 7, 2011
Date Approved

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