

**Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board
Licensed Psychology Advisory Committee
Minutes from Meeting on Tuesday, August 10, 2021**

Call to Order: Ric Steele, Chair of the Advisory Committee, called the meeting to order at 6p.m.

Advisory Committee Members in Attendance: Ric Steele, Johnna Norton, Carol Crane, Monica Kurylo, Rodney McNeal, Doug Wright and Abby Callis.

BSRB Staff in Attendance: David Fye and Leslie Allen.

Review and Approval for the Agenda: Doug Wright moved to approve the agenda. Carol Crane seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Review and Approval of Minutes from Meeting on June 08, 2021: David Fye, Executive Director for the BSRB, requested an amendment to the minutes to note that Janine Kesterson was in attendance at the previous meeting. Johnna Norton moved to amend and approve the minutes. Rodney McNeal seconded the motion. The motion passed.

BSRB Executive Director Report. The Executive Director reported on the following items:

1. **State of Emergency Executive Orders:** The state of emergency in Kansas related to the COVID-19 pandemic officially ended on June 15, 2021. The Governor directed state agencies to have most staff return to offices full-time, beginning on Monday June 14, 2021. Agencies were given an option to create telework policies, if they were approved by the Department of Administration. The BSRB researched this concept and were approved to launch a telework pilot program which will be used through the end of December. The agency is limiting participation to just a handful of employees while collecting information on the success of the pilot. If it is shown to be productive, the agency will consider expanding participation to other employees. Recently, the agency had been informed that staff members who were vaccinated would no longer had to social distance or wear a mask when in the office. However, the agency has been instructed to have staff and visitors return to wearing mask and practicing social distancing while around other employees. The Board planned to hold it's next meeting in person, however due to safety concerns, that meeting will be moving back to Zoom. The agency is hopeful that the Board's annual planning meeting/Board retreat on September 27 will still be able to be in person, but the meeting may need to be moved back to Zoom.
2. **Budget for FY 2021:** Overall, revenue for the fiscal year came in slightly above what was previously estimated for FY 2021. The balance in the BSRB Fee Fund is close to two million dollars. The BSRB is currently operating at a deficit each year by design, due to the agency lowering licensure fees in 2019, to have the ending balance in the Fee Fund reduced little by little over a period of years. The balance in the Fee Fund is still dropping, but it is dropping at a slower rate than previously had projected. Expenditures are lower than projected, partly due to savings related to the pandemic. The agency is in sound financial position. The annual budget is due to be submitted on September 15. The Executive Director has been working with the Governor's office on revision of budget revisions. The Executive Director has also been working on end-of-the-year fiscal reports.
3. **HB 2066:** The 2021 Legislature passed HB 2066, which includes language expediting licensure processing times for military members, military spouses, and select other individuals. The bill will primarily affect reciprocity applications. Leslie Allen, Assistant Director for the BSRB and Licensing Manager, has modified language on licensure applications so the agency could collect information to track individuals who apply for licensure meeting these conditions. The BSRB

has spoken with representatives from the Board of Healing Arts (the agency who hosts the online licensure database for the BSRB) to ensure the agency is tracking those totals correctly.

- 4. Association Meetings:** The Executive Director recently attended a conference for professional counseling hosted by the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) in Denver, CO, from August 4-6, 2021. The Executive Director noted success establishing contacts with administrators from other states and noted the benefit of learning information from those states to compare licensing and other practices. The Executive Director noted he will be attending other annual meetings over the next few months, including the end of the year conference for licensed psychologists (ASPPB) on October 15.

Old Business:

PSYPACT: The 2021 Legislature passed SB 170, which added Kansas to a multi-state compact for licensed psychologists as of January 1, 2022. The compact allows licensed psychologists to apply for an e-passport to practice telehealth services in other states who are a part of PSYPACT. At the last Advisory Committee meeting, the Licensed Psychologist Advisory Committee recommended that the Executive Director of the BSRB be selected as the PSYPACT Commissioner for the state of Kansas. At the Board meeting in July, the Board voted to make this official. The Executive Director also noted that the Board voted to charge a \$25 fee for Licensed Psychologists who practice under PSYPACT, mostly to recoup the cost of the yearly assessment by PSYPACT on the BSRB.

New Business:

Advisory Committee Membership: At the end of June, the Executive Director sent a letter to licensees, noting that anyone interested in being added to the Advisory Committee should submit a resume and letter of interest to the BSRB. Seven applicants requested consideration of being added to the Advisory Committee. The Executive Director noted he verified that each of the applicants held an active permanent license issued by the BSRB. The Executive Director provided a handout on advisory committees, explained details about the composition of advisory committees, and walked through the process the Advisory Committee members should use when evaluating candidates for the Advisory Committee. The Chair of the Advisory Committee summarized other qualities the Advisory Committee discussed previously, including vocational areas of interest the Advisory Committee had identified as valuable when selecting new members. After discussion, the Advisory Committee members recommended adding Dr. Zachary Parrett, Dr. Jessica Hamilton and Dr. Tiffany Johnson to the Advisory Committee. The Executive Director noted the Chair of the Board has authority to add members to the Committee, but he would work with the Chair of the Advisory Committee to summarize the recommendations of the Advisory Committee and would provide this information to Leslie Sewester, Chair of the Board of the BSRB, along with the names of other applicants who nominated themselves for consideration of being added to the Advisory Committee. Advisory Committee member Monica Kurylo will be stepping down from the Advisory Committee, as she has reached the maximum length of service on the Advisory Committee. The Chair of the Advisory Committee and the Executive Director of the BSRB thanked Ms. Kurylo for her years of service on the Advisory Committee.

Next Meeting Date: October 12, 2021

Adjournment: Rodney McNeal moved to Adjourn. Abby Callis seconded. The motion carried.