

**Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board  
Marriage and Family Advisory Committee Meeting  
June 24, 2022  
Approved Minutes**

- I. Call to Order.** Mary Jones, Chair of the Advisory Committee, called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

**Committee Members:** Advisory Committee members present by Zoom were Mary Jones, Leslie Sewester, Joyce Baptist, Jurdene Coleman, Rebecca Culver-Turner, and James Godbey.

**Staff:** BSRB staff present by Zoom were David Fye and Leslie Allen.

- II. Approval of Agenda:** James Godbey moved to approve the agenda with the addition of adding discussion of draft language on pre-approval of continuing education providers and programs under new business. Jurdene Coleman seconded. The motion carried.
- III. Approval of Minutes:** Jurdene Coleman moved to approve the minutes from the Advisory Committee meeting on April 8, 2022. James Godbey seconded. The motion passed.
- IV. Executive Director's Report.** David Fye, Executive Director for the BSRB, reported on the following items:
- A. BSRB Staff Update.** The BSRB is still under the Governor's direction to avoid in-person meetings. The Executive Director noted he will update the Advisory Committee when that direction is changed. Until the limitation is lifted, the BSRB will continue to hold most Board and Advisory Committee meetings virtually. The Executive Director provided an update on the BSRB Fee Fund, which has a balance of about \$2.0 million. As part of the yearly performance evaluation process from the Department of Administration, all state employees should have a mid-year check-in to allow supervisors to provide feedback on their performance, allow questions from staff, and consider changes to work responsibilities. The Executive Director noted that the BSRB will provide mid-year check-in meetings for all employees later this month.
- B. Board Meeting on May 9.** The Board discussed the pre-approval of continuing education (CE) hours and the pre-approval of CE providers. All Advisory Committees were asked to discuss whether their profession would want pre-approved CEs, as currently only the social work profession has pre-approved CE providers and pre-approved CE classes. At the Board meeting, there was a split as some Advisory Committees requested this change while other Advisory Committees did not. Also at the Board meeting, 15 Advisory Committee members were reappointed to new two-year terms and those terms will start in July, as the state fiscal year begins on July 1. The Board recognized three Advisory Committee members that had served the

maximum number of years of service on the Advisory Committees. The Board passed a delegation motion allowing for alternate presiding officer in the event that the Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Board are unavailable for a meeting; reviewed draft language for regulations discussed at past meetings; and considered a model from Minnesota to provide a temporary license to students who graduate from schools that are in candidacy for Council for Social Work Education (CSWE) accreditation. The Board received a report from the Executive Director with potential changes to the Board's Investigation Policy and creation of subcommittees were requested by the Professional Counselor Advisory Committee (unprofessional conduct regulation review) and the Marriage and Family Therapy Advisory Committee (creation of a supervision manual similar to the existing manual for the social work).

**C. Other Meetings and Events.** The Executive Director attended an Educator meeting for the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) and the Mid-Year Meeting from the Association of State and the Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB). The Executive Director provided a summary of items discussed at these meetings, including an announcement from the American Psychology Association (APA) that the body is working on accreditation standards for Master's Level Psychology programs and hopes to have these standards available for comment in the fall of 2023. The Executive Director will be attending a conference on August 3, 2022, hosted by the National Board for Certified Counselors in Philadelphia. The Executive Director noted that several of the conversations at several of the national meetings have included discussions on multi-state compacts, though he was not aware of any current discussions on a multi-state compact for the marriage and family therapy profession.

## V. Old Business

**A. Advisory Committee Membership.** The Advisory Committee discussed candidates for membership at the previous meeting and recommended three specific applicants be added to the Advisory Committee. Prior to the recommendations being formally presented to the Chair of the Board for consideration, the recommendations were held in case the Advisory Committee wanted to revisit the recommendations and allow additional staggering of membership for applicants from educational institutions. Members of the Advisory Committee noted value in staggering appointments, but recommended that this method be prioritized in future discussions on members, rather than reopening the previous recommendations of the Advisory Committee. Joyce Baptist moved to uphold the recommendations as determined at the last meeting. Jurdene Coleman seconded. Leslie Sewester recused herself from the vote and James Godbey abstained from the vote. The motion passed. The Advisory Committee noted it intends to add more emphasis to staggering terms of applicants from educational institutions when considering future applicants for the Advisory Committee.

**B. Continued Discussion of Unprofessional Conduct Regulations.** At a previous meeting, Advisory Committees were asked to review the unprofessional conduct regulations for the professions and identify possible updates or other changes. The Executive Director noted the meeting materials included several supplemental

documents: the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards (AMFTRB) teletherapy guidelines from 2016; the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) Best Practices in the Online Practice of Couple and Family Therapy from 2017; AAMFT Clinical Guidelines for LGBTQIA Affirming Marriage and Family Therapy from 2021; and an edited copy of K.A.R. 102-3-12a, the unprofessional conduct regulations for the professional counseling profession, which included potential changes identified by a past Advisory Committee. Advisory Committee members discussed the following areas for potential changes to the unprofessional conduct regulation K.A.R. 102-5-12 or other regulations involving unprofessional conduct:

- **K.A.R. 102-5-16 Unprofessional Conduct Regarding Recordkeeping.** The Advisory Committee previously requested clarification on the reason this regulation was separate from the general unprofessional conduct regulation and whether combining the regulations would cause issues. The Executive Director noted other Advisory Committees discussed this same topic and any reasons for the separation had not been identified, however combining the regulations would not cause problems;
- **Boundaries and Social Media.** Advisory Committee members expressed support for the potential changes identified in K.A.R. 102-3-12a(55) and (56) and requested this language be carried forward as a potential change to the marriage and family therapy unprofessional conduct regulations;
- **Sexual Conduct Involving Clients.** K.A.R. 102-5-12(b)(26), which prohibits making sexual advances towards or engaging in physical intimacies with someone who has been one's client within the past 24 months. Advisory Committee members expressed support from changing from 24 months to a standard where it is never appropriate. Advisory Committee members recommended including family members of clients under this unprofessional conduct regulation as well;
- **Speaking Poorly of Other Practitioners.** Advisory Committee members discussed whether a new item should be added on speaking poorly of other practitioners. It was the consensus of Advisory Committee members that this topic should be left to practitioner ethics or included under the general grounds of other unprofessional conduct regulations; and
- **Discrimination.** K.A.R. 102-5-12(b)(12) prohibits discriminating against any client, student, or supervisee based on certain criteria. Advisory Committee members recommended expanding the criteria listed to be consistent with the Association of Marital and Family Therapy (AAMFT) standards, with the additional phrase "*or any other marginalized groups.*"

**C. Subcommittee for Clinical Supervision Manual.** The Advisory Committee members previously requested approval from the Board for a subcommittee on creating a supervision manual for the marriage and family therapy profession, similar to the supervision manual that exists for the social work profession. The Executive Director reported the Board approved the creation of the subcommittee for this purpose. The Advisory Committee decided to table activity for this subcommittee until after the August Advisory Committee meeting, when new members will be added to the Advisory Committee.

**VI. New Business**

**A. Examination of Licensure Requirements and the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE) Accreditation Standards.** The Executive Director noted it would be helpful for the Advisory Committee to review the statutes and regulations on licensure for discussion at a future meeting, to examine how closely the BSRB requirements align with the current standards from the national accrediting body recognized by the BSRB. Also, K.A.R. 102-5-3 includes an “in residence” component, which requires that a student is physically present at the institution for some of the coursework. The Executive Director noted that the other Advisory Committees are discussing whether to remove the physical presence requirement and asked the Advisory Committee to review this language and be prepared to discuss this topic at a future meeting.

**B. Pre-Approved Continuing Education Programs and Providers.** At a previous meeting, the Advisory Committee requested the creation of draft language for pre-approval of continuing education programs and pre-approval of continuing education providers. This draft language was provided by Leslie Allen, Assistant Director and Licensing Manager for the BSRB. By consensus, the Advisory Committee recommended tabling this topic for discussion at a future meeting.

**VII. Special Recognition of Members Reaching Their Maximum Length of Service.** The Advisory Committee thanked Joyce Baptist and Rebecca Culver-Turner for their service on the Advisory Committee.

**VIII. Next Meeting.** The next meeting was scheduled for August 12, 2022, at 10 a.m.

**IX. Adjournment.** Mary Jones moved to adjourn the meeting. Joyce Baptist seconded. The motion carried.