

**BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES REGULATORY BOARD
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 2, 2023**

Draft Minutes

- I. Call to Order.** Laura Shaughnessy, Chair of the Advisory Committee, opened the meeting and called roll.

Advisory Committee Members: Advisory Committee members who participated by Zoom were Laura Shaughnessy, Jim Kilmartin, Harriet Bachner, Melissa Briggs, Michael Countryman, Acha Goris, Bob Kircher, and Vanessa Perez. Andrew Secor and Edil Torres-Rivera were absent.

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

Guests: None.

- II. Agenda Approval.** Jim Kilmartin moved to approve the agenda. Michael Countryman seconded. The motion passed.
- III. Review and Approval of Minutes from Previous Advisory Committee Meeting on August 7, 2023.** Jim Kilmartin moved to approve the minutes from August 7, 2023. Acha Goris seconded. The motion passed.
- IV. Executive Director's Report.** David Fye, Executive Director for the BSRB, reported on agency updates, updates from recent Board meetings, and legislative updates.
- V. Updates on Professional Counseling Multi-State Compact.** The Chair of the Advisory Committee, who also serves as the Commissioner for Kansas, discussed implementation of the multi-state compact. There should be around 30 states that adopt the compact.
- VI. Old Business**
- A. Continued Discussion on Possible Changes to Clinical Training Plan Amendments in K.A.R. 102-3-7a(h).** The Advisory Committee continued discussion on the 45-day requirement for making changes to a clinical supervision training plan and what should constitute as a change. The Advisory Committee discussed the possibility of removing the 45-day requirement out of the statute completely. BSRB staff noted that an alternative to adjusting the current language would be to remove the strict language that the Board "shall" disqualify all hour attained after failing to follow the 45-day requirement. This would provide the Board greater flexibility to approve hours later, if the only issue was failing to meet the 45-day requirement. The Committee was in agreement to keeping the first two sentences in 102-3-7a(h) and remove the rest of the regulation.
- B. Continued Discussion on Proposed Changes to Unprofessional Conduct Regulations from Other Professions.** The Advisory Committee was provided a packet of proposed changes to the unprofessional conduct regulations for the

other professions, based on discussion by the other Advisory Committee. These proposed changes were discussed by the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will continue discussing further changes to the regulations for professional counseling at the next meeting.

C. Continued Discussion on Supervision by Licensees from Other Professions.

The Advisory Committee discussed whether it was best to continue to allow individuals from other professions to provide supervision professional counselors under extenuating circumstances. Currently, statutes require supervision to be provided by professional counselors as long as they are board-approved supervisors, but current regulations also allow certain individuals from other professions to become board-approved supervisors and provide supervision to professional counselor with board approval if extenuating circumstances can be shown necessitating those individuals serving as supervisors. The Advisory Committee will discuss this topic further at the next meeting.

VII. New Business

A. Discussion on Possible Change to K.A.R. 102-3-3a(b)(1)(A). The Executive Director noted that for most professions under the BSRB, the regulations cite a national accrediting body for educational programs, so that applicants who receive their education from those programs would be able satisfy most educational requirements for licensure. The regulations provide a second path of substantial equivalency by meeting alternate requirements in regulations. However, language in the regulations for professional counseling provides a third path, due to the language stating the person should have received their education from a program that is “not below the accreditation standards of (national accrediting body,” rather than the phrasing used for other professions which notes being accredited by those specific national accrediting entities. The Executive Director notes that this language is currently placing a heavy burden on the BSRB to be able to evaluate whether a program is not lower than the national accrediting body’s standards. The Executive Director asked the Advisory Committee to consider whether to recommend a change to the language of this regulation to make it more consistent with the other professions, to allow applicants to either attend a program accredited by the national accrediting body or to meet the requirements in the regulations.

B. Setting Dates for Meetings in 2024. The Advisory Committee expressed support for continuing to meet the first Monday of the month, every other month, at 10am for remote meetings in 2024.

VIII. Next Meeting. Monday, December 4, 2023, at 10 a.m.

IX. Adjournment. Vanessa Perez moved to adjourn. Bob Kircher seconded. The motion passed.