



**State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage & Family
Therapist Board**

**Marriage and Family Therapist Professional Standards Committee
Minutes**

March 17-18, 2016

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Members Present: Dr. Alan Demmitt, IMFT-S, LPCC-S
Mr. John Heaton, MFT
Ms. Margaret Knerr, IMFT-S

Members Absent: Ms. Stephanie McCloud, Public Member
Dr. Sara Salkil, IMFT

Staff Present: Ms. Margaret-Ann Adorjan, Mr. Bill Hegarty

Guests Present: Ms. Brittany Boch

1. Meeting Called to Order

In the absence of the Committee Chair Ms. McCloud, Mr. Heaton called the meeting to order at 9:41 a.m.

2. Discussion/Approval of Agenda

Agenda stands as distributed.

3. Approval of January 2016 Minutes

Minutes stand as distributed.

4. OAMFT Update

Brittany Boch is a visitor from OAMFT and gave an update on that organization.

- The annual conference will be in April in Columbus. The day-long event will feature online therapy and its implications on the ethics and practice of marriage and family therapy.
- The OAMFT is currently working on their three year strategic plan, which includes recruitment and the use of social media.

5. Executive Committee Report

Ms. Knerr led a discussion of the Executive Committee meeting.

- All three committees need to discuss the process of electing a Board chair. The tradition has been to rotate between the committees each July. The role should be for 1-2 years depending on circumstances of the rotation of Committee chairs as well as appointment and expiration dates. Mr. Heaton suggested bringing up this conversation in the afternoon planning meeting.
- The Medical Board is looking at a rule change regarding impairment. Currently a diversion type program exists through a third party entity which allows a practitioner to seek help without their license impacted. The Ohio Medical Association has been in favor of this. However, the Medical Board is now seeking to end this program and any impairment issues would need to be reported to the Board for action. Ms. Knerr cautioned the Committee that the CSWMFT Board should keep this issue in its sights.

6. Investigations

Closed cases

- Dr. Demmitt made a motion to close the following case. Ms. Knerr seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - 2016-14 Improper supervision. Close with a strong caution.

7. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Knerr led a discussion of the Executive Director's report.

- The annual financial disclosure statements and online ethics course are due.
- The application brochure has been sent to Ohio college programs to inform them of basic licensure requirements and the application process for prospective students graduating. Dr. Demmitt said he didn't receive one; Mr. Carnahan will be ordering more and will see that he receives copies.

8. Correspondence

- The MFTPSC reviewed correspondence from an IMFT who has concerns regarding dependent level MFTs in private practice. The Committee is grateful to the licensee for the input; however, they are currently constrained by statute and it is not clear what the best options would be to revise this situation, and if it is warranted. The Committee reiterated the need for licensees to be mindful and always contact the Board if there are concerns regarding MFTs in private practice.

9. Review of Examination Requests

The Committee reviewed and denied one request for licensing examination.

10. Approval of Applications for Licensure

A motion was made by Dr. Demmitt to approve the following applications for licensure, seconded by Ms. Knerr. Motion carried.

IMFT - Two Applications Approved

MFT - Five Applications Approved

11. Discussion Issues

Parenting Coordinator Memo

- The Psychology Board recently revised a rule as it relates to a licensee acting in the capacity of a parenting coordinator. This is often a role that comes along with custody and divorce court cases.
 - Since the January meeting, MFTPSC continued the discussion but concurs that 4757-6-01 covers this matter. So at this time the CSWMFT Board will step back on creating a separate rule regarding this parenting issues.

Endorsement Rule

- Under 4757-25-06 (B) (5) substantially equivalent to the MFTPSC will be a minimum total of 200 supervision hours, regardless of how many individual. Ohio's rule is a minimum of 100 individual hours.
 - The MFTPSC requested Ms. Adorjan to research the states which border Ohio and do a comparison of their supervision requirements.

AMFTRB - ELL

- Ms. Adorjan discussed with the Committee the policy and request form created by AMFTRB regarding ELL (English Language Learner) arrangements for taking the national MFT examination. The MFTPSC was supportive of the form for such arrangements. However, Ms. Knerr had a question regarding the use of a dictionary and what the process would be if allowed. Other questions related to why New York refuses to allow any ELL arrangements and what is the process for the LPC examination, if any.
- Ms. Adorjan was tasked with finding this information and putting this topic on the agenda for the May meeting.

Rule revisions

- 4757-29-01 Marriage and family therapy supervision
 - Revisions to (F) (3) and (4) removal of grandparenting language in paragraph (3) and change requirement of continuing education hours from five every five years to three every two year renewal cycle.

12. CE Committee Report

Dr. Demmitt presented program and provider guidelines as discussed in the CE Committee meeting.

Friday, March 18, 2016

Members Present: Dr. Alan Demmitt, IMFT-S, LPCC-S
Mr. John Heaton, MFT
Ms. Margaret Knerr, IMFT-S

Members Absent: Ms. Stephanie McCloud, Public Member
Dr. Sara Salkil, IMFT

1. Meeting Called to Order

Mr. Heaton re-convened the meeting at 10:04 a.m.

2. Executive Committee Report

Ms. Knerr led a discussion of the Executive Committee meeting.

- Ms. Knerr reported that the Executive Committee is still working on obtaining appropriate compensation for the Executive Director position.
- A topic to be considered for an upcoming Planning Session is reviewing the code in the counselor ethics regarding protecting privacy of clients.
- In relation to the ongoing conversation regarding internet searches by licensees, the ACA says a client is yours from the minute you pick up the phone. A discussion was had regarding the variability of why a licensee might be doing the searching. A suggestion would be to place a disclaimer in the informed consent that the licensee “may use electronic sources to gather information” or something to that effect.

3. Discussion Issues

Barriers Memo

- The MFTPSC continued their discussion from the January meeting of the memo regarding suggested rule/policy changes by staff.
 - MFTPSC is okay with eliminating the use of wall certificates. This will require a statute change, which the Committee was in favor of, next time the option is available.
 - The MFTPSC agrees licensees should have a valid e-mail address with the Board to maintain correspondence and important updates regarding rule changes.

4. Statistics from MFT Coordinator

- Ms. Adorjan reported on exam and application statistics compiled since the January Board meeting:
 - Seven examination eligibility letters were issued to COAMFTE applicants.
 - Nine applicants have taken and passed the national examination in the January and February windows.
 - Two applicants have taken and failed in the same windows.
- At the January meeting, Mr. Heaton requested Ms. Adorjan undertake research on the pass/fail rate based on academic program, for the past ten years. The results of this research project were presented at the March meeting.

5. Correspondence

The MFTPSC reviewed a request to revise a pending rule regarding practicum hours needing to be re-done. The Committee contended that no revision was needed as the interpretation of the rule allows for the difference of hours to be

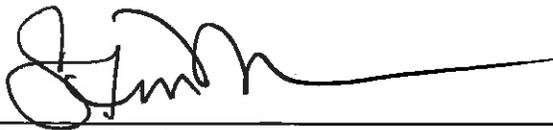
completed and not the entire experience to be repeated, thereby benefitting applicants.

6. Working Meeting

The MFTPSC proceeded with a working meeting to review CEU Programs and Providers.

7. Meeting Adjourned

Mr. Heaton adjourned the meeting at 11:23 a.m.



Ms. Stephanie McCloud
Chairperson of the Marriage and Family Therapist Professional Standards Committee
(MFTPSC)