



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

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

September 24-25, 2015

Thursday, September 24, 2015

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

Staff Present: Ms. Margaret-Ann Adorjan, Ms. Rhonda Franklin, Ms.
Paula Broome, Ms. Tammy Tingle

1. Meeting Called to Order

Ms. McCloud called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Discussion/Approval of Agenda

Agenda stands as distributed.

3. Approval of July 2015 Minutes

Minutes stand as distributed.

4. Executive Director's Report

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

- HB184 has been introduced that would allow for the licensing of music therapists. Lobbyists for music therapy will be coming to meet with the

CSWMFT Board on Thursday afternoon to provide information and answer any questions board members might have.

- The licensees of this Board have been named in a bill – SB33 that will require health care professionals to obtain three hours of continuing education in cultural competency.
 - Mr. Carnahan is interested in writing a letter in response, contending this Board has its own CE standards and process and it is not necessary to mandate this.
 - Ms. McCloud's thoughts: this Board already has the authority to implement this and has, for the Social Workers, so why would we need a statute for it? Why are not lawyers, accountants, teachers, etc. included in this bill? Also, since cultural competency could benefit many different types of licensees, why not everyone obtain these hours, not just this board of professionals.
 - Dr. Demmitt would like to see cultural competency become an item on the checklist for provider/program approval.
 - As a related topic, social workers can now take CEUs in cultural competency instead of ethics so Ms. Knerr pondered the question of whether social workers are comfortable that their fellow social workers might not ever get ethics training again.
 - The MFTPSC would like for Mr. Carnahan to watch this bill and also to ask questions of the aide: what is the logic behind picking the professional licenses they did? Also wording is odd and doesn't mention counselors or MFTs.
- The MFTPSC needs to review the current set of draft rules. Mr. Carnahan is looking to file them in January.
- The Executive Committee will be completing their annual review of the Executive Director at this month's meeting.
- Policy 6.2 concerns the process of how this Board investigates its own board members. Currently, they do not; another state regulatory board does. The MFTPSC would like to see a formal policy on this process and review it in November.
- Mr. Carnahan has drafted guidelines for the Board's options in addressing rule and policy issues. He will be sending the board members a document for them to edit and return to him by October 30. The revised document will then be reviewed at the November board meeting.

5. Policies for MFT post-program approval

Ms. Broome and Ms. Franklin presented information to the MFTPSC.

- Ms. Broome and Ms. Franklin would like an equivalent five hour refresher course to be defined. Ms. Knerr stated that she passed along specific criteria to Ms. Franklin that could be used to evaluate the equivalency of a supervision course.
- In conjunction with the above issues, Ms. Broome discussed the current pilot program regarding CE Broker. The Committee raised the question of

whether and when the pilot program was approved by the Board. There was no specific recollection of a vote to do so at the May meeting.

- Ms. Broome and Ms. Franklin would like the CEU post-program approval policy revisited because it has been ten years and there are many more available programs with MFT approval now. Currently, all programs requesting approval for counselors are also given approval for MFTs. The Committee did not make a decision regarding this issue; therefore it appeared on this meeting's agenda.
 - The MFTPSC voted on the following: beginning in one year, October 1, 2016, all in-state programs and providers will need to contain the "T" approval to be accepted for MFTs as approved continuing education. After that date, MFTs will no longer be able to request post-program approval for in-state programs approved for counselors and/or social workers. Ms. Knerr made the motion to approve this new policy, seconded by Mr. Heaton.
 - It was suggested that OAMFT locate CE providers and encourage them to collaborate with MFTs on their provider status so as to incorporate the "T" into their provider approval number.
- Ms. Franklin presented correspondence from an MFT licensee requesting a waiver to do all her continuing education hours online because she lived out of state and needed to quickly renew her license to accept a job offer back in Ohio. Ms. Knerr made a motion to deny the waiver request on the basis it didn't meet the current waiver requirements, seconded by Mr. Heaton.
- Ms. Franklin asked the opinion of the Committee on two questions related to acceptable continuing education credit:
 - Is editing the same as authoring? The consensus was that editing can mean many things depending on the extent of the editing but ultimately decided the answer was no.
 - Is translating a textbook acceptable for CE credit? The consensus was no it is not because you do not receive credit for reading a book and translating is considered similar to reading.

6. Goldman Review (Licensure)

Randi Pritikin – A motion was made by Ms. Knerr to deny Ms. Pritikin's licensure application for not possessing the educational requirements to sit for the MFT examination. Seconded by Ms. McCloud. Motion carried. Dr. Demmitt recused himself.

7. Consent Agreement

David Kelner – Mr. Kelner has agreed to a suspension of his license as he is non-compliant with his current consent agreement. A motion was made by Ms. Knerr to accept the new consent agreement. Seconded by Ms. McCloud. Motion carried.

8. Review of Examination Requests

The Committee reviewed and approved six requests for licensing examination.

9. Discussion Issues

Rule revisions

- 4757-25-01 Educational Requirements to sit for the MFT Examination
 - The MFTPSC continued discussion and revision to this rule.
 - Ms. Adorjan discussed relevant data research on other states' MFT educational requirements and the comparison to Ohio's rule.
 - In regard to maintaining retention of MFT and IMFT licensees in Ohio, it was suggested that OAMFT take an active role in marketing the MFT profession so as to facilitate better communication and awareness of the license.
 - Ms. Knerr stated that Northcentral University is offering a practicum/internship course which can be completed outside of enrollment in a degree program. If so, this will allow the new paragraph (B) to be an option. Ms. Knerr said she would give Ms. Adorjan a name from that department to confirm Northcentral's policy.
 - Minor corrections were discussed to the existing revision and an updated revised copy will be presented at the November meeting for further review.
- 4757-5-02 (B) (5)
 - This section of the rule relates to the use of search engines and social media by the licensee in regard to their clients.
 - The language is utilized in the social worker model law and was adapted for this rule. This is also something similar in the ACA professional ethics.
 - Ms. Knerr explained that there could be safety issues regarding why you would "google" a client, although proposed rule doesn't say you cannot do so, just that you must inform client and document such in their file.
 - Ms. McCloud does not think it is a good idea to place it in a rule and that it is more of an education issue that can be relayed to students or in continuing education ethics.
 - Ms. Knerr would like to see more research on the topic.
- 4757-5-04
 - MFTPSC is in agreement on removal of paragraph (E)
- 4757-5-13

- MFTPSC is fine with minor changes to this rule
- 4757-9-05
 - The proposed change to this rule relates to a reciprocal CE credit agreement with another state board or commission. The MFTPSC would like more information on this and will table this discussion until the Ohio Chemical Dependency Board comes to speak on it at the November board meeting.
- 4757-9-06
 - MFTPSC is fine with removal of paragraph (D)

Friday, September 25, 2015

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

Staff Present: Ms. Margaret-Ann Adorjan

Guest Present: Ms. Callie Mitchell, IMFT
 Ms. Kristen Puckett, administrative assistant for ICFT, a private counseling practice

1. Meeting Called to Order

Ms. McCloud re-convened the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

2. Approval of Applications for Licensure

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

IMFT - Two Application Approved

MFT - Seven Applications Approved

3. Statistics from MFT Coordinator

- Ms. Adorjan reported on exam and application statistics compiled since the July Board meeting:
 - Four examination eligibility letters were issued to COAMFTE applicants.

- Seven applicants have passed the national examination in the July and August windows, yielding a 100% pass rate for both windows.

4. Correspondence

- The Committee reviewed correspondence from an IMFT licensee regarding the ongoing discussion surrounding SOCE, also referred to as conversion therapy. The letter is strongly opposed to any form of SOCE as it is harmful to clients and the licensee would like to see this Board take a strong public stance against it.
 - The Committee thanked the licensee for sending his letter with his concerns and wishes to express that this is an issue they continue to review.

5. Discussion Issues

Rule revisions

- 4757-5-02 Standards of ethical practice and professional conduct
 - The MFTPSC discussed and agreed to revisions of this rule, specifically (G) (1) & (2).
 - (1) Counselors, social workers, and marriage and family therapists shall not practice, condone, facilitate or collaborate with any form of discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, marital status, political belief, religion, veteran status, or mental or physical challenge.
 - (2) Counselors and social workers, and marriage and family therapists, should obtain education about and seek to understand the nature of social diversity with respect to race, ethnicity, national origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, marital status, political belief, religion, immigration status, or mental or physical challenge.

Music Therapy Bill

- The MFTPSC discussed the previous afternoon's meeting with lobbyists for the Music Therapy legislation.
 - The MFTPSC had some reservations about what the music therapists wanted to achieve. Namely, there is a lack of clarity in the bill in regard to scope of practice and it is unclear what the definition of music therapy is.
 - Dr. Demmitt commented that music therapy is more of a modality than a separate profession and Ms. Knerr

contended that it is not a theory-based separate field with any evidence-based research.

- The MFTPSC is requesting that Mr. Carnahan draft opponent testimony of behalf of the CSWMFT Board.

Board relationship with Assistant Attorney General (AAG)

- Dr. Demmitt would like to have a discussion as it pertains to the attorney-client relationship between this Board and its assigned AAG.
 - Ms. McCloud agreed to help facilitate a discussion on the use of the legal counsel process on Thursday afternoon at the November meeting.

6. Report from annual AMFTRB conference

Ms. Adorjan reported to the Committee on the recently attended AMFTRB meeting in Boston.

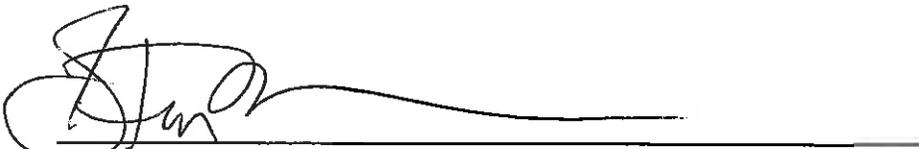
- Eighteen states were in attendance and among the larger topics was the national examination, e-therapy and ELL (English Language Learner).
- A noteworthy topic which might have larger implications on other states' MFTs, is the ongoing legal battle in Texas between the Texas Medical Board and MFTs in that state where the Medical Board has challenged the MFTs ability to treat and diagnose. If ultimately successful, this will create significant problems for MFTs in Texas and possibly other states where the treat and diagnose language is not in statute.

7. Working Meeting

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

8. Meeting Adjourned

Ms. McCloud adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.



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