



Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board

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State of Ohio Counselor Professional Standards Committee Meeting July 15, 2010

Members Present were: Ms. Francine Packard, Dr. Susan Huss, Mr. Otha Gilyard, and Mrs. Mary Venrick

Staff Present were: Mr. William Hegarty and Mr. James Rough, Ms. Tracey Hosom, Mrs. Tammy Tingle and Mr. Simeon Frazier

In Kress' absence, Huss called the meeting to order at 9:15 am., and discussed the role of Committee Chair.

Election of Committee Chair

Gilyard moved to elect Venrick as Committee chair. Packard seconded. There was no discussion as the motion passed unanimously.

Gilyard shared that Venrick's experience in the field is what garnered his confidence.

Discussion/Approval of Agenda

Gilyard moved to approve the agenda. Packard seconded.
During the discussion, Packard added "Application Issue" be added to the top of the agenda.
The motion passed unanimously.

Application Issue

Packard presented, to the committee that an applicant for Counselor Trainee status was found guilty of sexual assault and rape in 200 and 2005, respectively, by reason of insanity. The application packet has letters of recommendations by the professionals that were/are treating him.

The committee discussed concerns regarding sexual offenders vs. Chemical Dependency. It was discussed that Chemical Dependency doesn't cause sexual offense; sexual offense causes sexual offense. The applicant offended twice, and was found guilty twice. The insanity plea didn't identify that he was temporarily insane. The board knew this on the front end, and must act accordingly.

There was additional discussion that they are in a profession that believes that people can change, but the primary function of the board is to protect the public. Huss moved to deny the request for Counselor trainee status. Gilyard seconded. There was no discussion as the motion passed unanimously.

Executive Committee Report

Huss shared that the history of the board is that the office of Chair is rotated amongst the professions. In this tradition, it is the Social Workers' "Turn" and Jennifer Riesbeck-Lee accepted it.

Evaluation: Jim got a 3.56 on a scale of 1-4; it was stated that the Board should be involved more and not complacent with the director simply moving without their input. In the future, they will require an explanation if the rating falls below "above average." Areas where he's commended: Improvement in communications skills, his ability to evaluate others' communication skills, and Fiscal Responsibility.

The committee, then, spent time reviewing PC/PCC applications, CEUs, and Remediation Plans.

Hegarty entered @ 10:17am

Investigation Report

Hegarty thanked Huss and Vicky Kress for looking over the cases, then passed out the cases to the committee. Huss will make the motions to close both sets of cases, in Kress' absence.

Huss moved to close all, presented, cases. Gilyard seconded. There was no discussion as the motion passed unanimously.

Hegarty passed out a request for a PCC to take on a former client as a foster child. The committee concurred.

Hegarty reported that the Hearing Officer report of Heather Hollins, a PCC out of Dayton, took money from an agency, and paid it back after she was caught. The hearing officer report recommends revocation of her license, since she has a history of behaving in a fraudulent manner.

Venrick shared that she is working with the Blair foundation, and doesn't know the individual; she agrees that she can be neutral, so she will vote.

Packard moves to revoke Hollins' license due to fraudulent activity. Gilyard seconded. There was no discussion as the motion passed unanimously. Huss abstained.

Proposed notice of a Hearing for Case 2010-21

A PCC exceeded professional boundaries for asking for and receiving \$1000 from a client, and they didn't cooperate with the investigation.

Gilyard moved to accept the notice. Packard seconded. There was no discussion as the motion passed unanimously.

Hegarty, Rough, Tingle, and Hosom left the meeting at 10:40am.

CEU Committee Report

Packard reported that the agenda and minutes were approved prior to reviewing program audits. She concluded that Patty Miller's physical audits and considered, and a long discussion ensued regarding "INR" and how a lot of their programs are medically based. They use their provider number for a lot of CEUs that have no diagnosing or treating, and they do not involve counseling. She shared that their provider status will probably be removed.

Lapsed Provider Status

One provider continued to provide for 5 years despite their lapsed status. His status was changed to allow for a year long suspension, and a discussion regarding fines ensued. It was discussed that there should be a consideration regarding how much a fine should be, based on the amount of time of the lapse.

RMT II

Redemptive Morital (?) Therapy Part II and Tom wrote a letter regarding the bias in how it's being presented in a religious light. The response was polite and it will be addressed by Tom, as he has the most experience.

Survey Results

The results have been positive. One letter/response indicated concern that a presenter was discussing things she did that were illegal. Rough will look into it.

Automatic Provider Status for Educational Institutions

The discussion to remove the word "Automatic" or, possibly the paragraph, since some parts have not been germane.

In C-(6), it states "Transcripts or Grade Card" thru education credit granted."

Judy Fischer

For Continuing Education Concerns, Judy Fischer (PCC) was involved in a complaint with a partner. She has more credentialing, now, but the presentation is not rooted in counseling, only personal development.

Banking CEU hours was not discussed at length.

Huss shared that the proposed way to bank hours was discussed, but not whether or not to actually move forward and approve banking.

Packard shared that a little while ago, she got 20 hours and if it was approved, she would not need to renew. She fears complacency if this would be allowed beyond 3-5 hours.

Remediation Plans

Kerry Stevens

Huss moved to approve her remediation plan, as it's within precedent. Packard seconded. There was no further discussion as the motion passed unanimously. The committee continued to work on program reviews, CEUs and PC/PCC applications.

State of Ohio Counselor Professional Standards Committee Meeting July 16, 2010

Members Present: Dr. Susan Huss, Ms. Francine Packard, Ms. Mary Venrick, Mr. Otha Gilyard.

Staff Present: Mrs. Rena Elliott, Mr. Bill Hegarty, Mr. Jim Rough, Mr. Simeon Frazier

Guests Present: Thelma Greaser (OCA)

Venrick called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

Gilyard moved to approved agenda. Huss seconded.

Huss added "Bartering Rule Change," "Banking CEU hours," Wall Certificate cost being added to the budget," and, if time allows, "Professional Disclosure Statements."

Venrick added "Provider Status."

There was no further discussion as the motion passed unanimously.

The agenda was altered to allow Hegarty to present regarding "Bartering."

Bartering Rule Change

Hegarty reported that deleting the majority of it, while leaving in "Bartering is prohibited," the second change: "Deleting "Including Bartering" from "Items to be avoided."

There were no additional discussions regarding the rule change and the committee was in support of Hegarty's recommendations.

Packard asked if the committee was prepared to discuss CEU topics that may come up at the full board meeting, since she was not going to be at the meeting. The committee was unprepared to move forward. Gilyard moved to support the Bartering Rule,, and make changes, as presented by Hegarty. Huss seconded. There was no further discussion as the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of May Minutes

Huss made the following changes:

Under “Remediation Plans” Patricia Gillette’s discussion was changed to reflect that her request was approved, instead of denied. Also, the word “All” was added, to read “A licensee is in Japan with the military and wants to know if she may do all CEUs online.”

The “OAC” was corrected to read the “OCA,”

And under the Executive Director’s Report, “statue” was correctly changed to read “Statute.”

Gilyard moved to accept the minutes, as amended. Packard seconded. There was no further discussion as the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of PC and PCC list

Huss moved to approve the lists of PCs and PCCs, as presented. Gilyard seconded. There was no further discussion as the motion passed unanimously.

Application Coordinator’s Report

Elliott reported that since the last board meeting, Frazier processed 512 Counselor Trainee and Clinical Resident applications.

Since the last meeting in May, 148 exam packets were mailed.

In May, 56 candidates took the NCE. 52 passed, 4 was unsuccessful.

23 candidates took the NCMHCE. 14 passed, 9 were unsuccessful.

In June, 70 candidates took the NCE. 66 passed, 4 were unsuccessful.

28 candidates took the NCMHCE. 15 passed, 13 were unsuccessful.

Packard stated that she shares, at her site, that she can provide insight on the NCE, but not the NCMHCE

Greaser stated that she found test takers are having to think differently to take the test, than how they practice. The things that are considered important in the field, in Ohio, aren’t considered important on the test, and the practitioners that are, both, getting supervised and thoroughly going over examples with tier supervisors, are doing well. Meanwhile, those that are studying on their own, aren’t.

Huss and Gilyard shared concern that the test may seem unfair, and not testing what is needed to know. Huss shared that the purpose of the test is not to learn anything new, but to ensure that they can practice unsupervised.

Packard shared that her students are passing the NCE, but only one student took the NCMHCE. She passed, but she was prepped.

Huss suggested finding out who is providing supervision.

Rough entered at 09:34am

He shared that the re-take pass rate is similar to the first time test takers’ pass rate for the NCMHCE, which is uncommon.

Gilyard shared that this is confirmation that they realize that they must think differently after the 1st test.

Huss shared that the pass rate bothers her.

Rough shared that he'll be discussing this at the NBCC board meeting in August.

Huss shared that she wants to confirm if this is only in Ohio, or if it's a trend across the country.

Gilyard shared it must be frustrating to discover that the test doesn't reflect your schooling or your job experience. He added that, in medical school, their passage rate is very high.

Huss stated that she also wants to know the NBCC's plan or recommendation to deal with this issue. She suggests arming Rough with a survey, although it was decided that 1 month wasn't enough time to turn that around.

Gilyard asked what is considered an acceptable percentage. The committee agreed, on or around 74%; although, Gilyard considered this to be low, offering 85-95%

Huss asked Greaser if learning to think differently for the test makes them better clinicians.

Greaser stated that they do not. They forget the information, and revert to what was successful at their job.

Rough asked if they can articulate the difference.

Greaser shared that the whole picture is considered on the job (Culture, diversity, background, etc.), but on the test, it's determined that this isn't needed to make the proper diagnosis.

She (Greaser) went on to state that her agency helps the students.

Gilyard commended Greaser for acting outside of the norm by helping students, and that it wouldn't be desirable to work at an agency where help wasn't provided.

Venrick asked how to get the message out to supervisors. Greaser stated that she'll put it in her newsletter, but Huss shared that supervisors probably don't consider it part of their responsibility to help with test preparation.

Gilyard believes that it's, somewhat, the committee's responsibility to help the students.

Huss shared that, if, the test isn't doing what we would need it to do, then something must be done.

Greaser reminded the committee that many supervisors, today, didn't take the test.

Packard shared that their study materials are often outdated, too.

Rough stated current study materials and coaching help.

Executive Director's Report

Rough congratulated Venrick on her new position as Committee Chair.

The annual governor's ethics training will be held at the September Board Meeting from 2pm-4pm, and it will be administered by Rough.

He mentioned that Superintendents of courts rule regarding assessments for guardianship. He's asking for input to revise the rule to include Counselors, Social Workers, and Marriage & Family Therapists.

House Bill 62 probably won't be acted upon until after the November Elections.

The Mental Health Hold bill is still stagnant.

House Bill 208 is still stagnant.

The Budget increase was granted to cover payroll, health insurance, and the agency audit.

The budget is good, and we took the extra money with the cost savings days.

The agency revenue \$1,185,000, and the expenses were \$ 1,117,000. The budget doesn't need to be turned in until 11/1/10.

He's working on IT changes with the engineering board, which may save a lot of money, to, then, do other things.

The Joe the Plumber rule was filed, and independent of FERPA, we are still able to send out lists of licensees, and supervisors.

Old Business

Banking Hours

The committee agreed to vote as individuals, and not a group, but it was agreed that more than 6 hours of banking would defeat the purpose of continuing education.

Packard asked how it plays out when 15 hours are being banked via home study and internet CEUs. She stated that it's being discussed to determine the committee's role, as often, their recommendations weren't adopted.

Huss shared that there's a lot of value in getting the collective opinion brought back to the committees to discuss, rather than the entire board to have the conversation, but at the end of the day, the committees offer different perspectives on issues. The board members respect the recommendations, but vote as individuals.

Correspondence

Emily Fleisher

She is a retired counselor that wants the cost of licensure renewal to be decreased. She also wants the committee to consider her educational requirements and other methods that are considered valuable.

Huss moved to deny the request and include a letter, stating that 15 hours may be done online, inexpensive and/or free, and also, workshops are offered at discounted rates for students and retirees.

Gilyard seconded.

There was no additional discussion as the motion passed unanimously.

Deborah Foster-Koch/Bernard Jesiolowski

She was not able to find any supervisors in Canton, OH.

Huss moved to deny her request and send her a list of supervisors in the Canton area.

Gilyard Seconded.

During the discussion, Packard stated that the committee gets these requests often, and the thinking is that it's often that people only supervise in their agency, or look for supervision from their agency, as they don't want to take on any additional risk or burden. There was no additional discussion as the motion passed unanimously.

Debora L. Fout

She wants to take the NCMHCE, by having her 4500 hours of Pre-PC supervision approved to qualify her.

In 2000, Pat Sposito sent a letter stating that her Hours with Dr. Jones would be accepted towards the PCC.

On the strength of the letter from Sposito, the committee will honor it.

Huss moved to grant Fout's request to sit for the NCMHCE and honor the hours towards the PCC.

Gilyard seconded.

There was no additional discussion as the motion passed unanimously.

Jan Miller

Has a physical disability and, contrary to her letter, was denied to walk around as needed, and wants to do independent study to meet her needs.

Huss moved to send a letter encouraging her to seek workshops that are supportive to her needs and consider 15 CEUs available online.

Gilyard seconded.

There was no additional discussion as the motion passed unanimously.

Amyliya Renock

She has a chronic illness contracted after graduation from BGSU and didn't take the exam. She wants to sit for the exam, even though her school and agency can no longer produce information documenting her Internship Supervisor Evaluation Rating form, as her former supervisor is no longer comfortable doing another evaluation this many years later.

Huss moved to confirm whether or not we have her Internship Supervisor Evaluation Rating form, at the office, and if not, work with the supervisor to reproduce another evaluation, as we require one in order for her to be licensed.

Wall Certificate Replacement Fee

The Committee has no issue with charging a \$15.00 fee for an additional wall certificate.

Professional Disclosure Statement

The Committee believes that it should remain, as it doesn't harm the client, and it could be potentially helpful to them.

Provider Status

The Committee, for the most part, does not like provider status, but they understand Rough's dilemma.

Fees for Provider status.

Greaser believes that it's inappropriate to charge a non-profit agency for a service provided for the staff, that they (the agency) pays for, but don't charge for. She mentions that the large, for-profit companies, charge, often, and at times, broker their approval number.

Huss brought up the OCA conference and how ½ of the 150 workshops are CEUs and it would kill the conference.

During the discussion, it was mentioned that umbrella organizations or National organizations and Non-profits would not be charged, but other for-profit agencies would be charged. It would require more discussion.

Greaser presented a copy of the OCA's

MaryVenrick, Chair