



## *Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board*

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### **State of Ohio Counselor Professional Standards Committee Meeting July 21, 2011**

**Members Present:** Ms. Maureen Cooper, Dr. Terri Hamm, Dr. Victoria Kress, Dr. Otha Gilyard, and Mrs. Mary Venrick

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

**Guests Present:** None

Venrick called the meeting to order at 9:14 a.m.

#### **Discussion/Approval of Agenda**

Hamm added "Correcting the March 2011 minutes" to Old Business  
Gilyard moved to approve the amended agenda. Cooper seconded. There were no more additions and the motion passed unanimously.

Elliott entered at 9:25 a.m.

#### **New Committee Chair**

Kress moved that Venrick continue to serve as Chair of the Counselors Professional Standards Committee. Gilyard seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed, unanimously.

#### **Executive Committee Report**

Venrick reported that the retreat will take place at 2 p.m. She announced that Jennifer Riesbeck-Lee (SWPSC) may not attend. If this is the case, Tommie Robertson (MFTPSC) will take her place.

The budget was approved, and the Senate Bill 5 vote is still pending.

A new person, Andy Miller, was hired to take over Doug Warne's position. Doug moved into Marcia Holloman's position, as she left the agency 2 months ago.

## **CT Issues**

### *Robert Moore*

He is conducting his studies in an out of state program, and moved from the school's MFT program to their Counseling program. His transcripts reflect the change. Cooper moved to grant Moore's Counselor Trainee status, advising that his coursework may not qualify him for Ohio's PC license. Kress seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

### *Joshua Johnson*

Cooper moved to deny Johnson's CT application, due to poor moral character. Gilyard seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Hegarty entered at 9:45 a.m., and left at 9:52 a.m.

At 9:48 a.m., the committee worked on program reviews and CEUs until Hegarty re-entered to give the investigations report.

Hegarty, Tingle, and Hosom entered at 10:29 a.m. Hegarty announced that he met with Manzetta Jackson.

## **Investigations Report**

Hegarty passed out closed cases that Venrick and Kress reviewed. He shared that in the last few months, there have been more counselor cases than social work cases. Venrick moved to close the seven cases that she reviewed. Gilyard seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed, unanimously.

Kress moved to close the three cases that she reviewed. Gilyard seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed, unanimously.

Hegarty requested that the committee go into executive session to discuss investigative cases.

Venrick conferred Executive Session with a roll call. All, in attendance answered with "yes" at 10:35 a.m., and returned from executive session at 10:47 a.m.

### *David Crager*

Kress moved to deny his license due to coursework deficiencies. Gilyard seconded, and Hamm recused herself. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed, unanimously.

## **Consent Agreement**

### *Jerry Sedwick*

Kress moved to accept the consent agreement based on information contained within. Gilyard seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

### *Richard Anderson*

Cooper moved to accept the consent agreement. Gilyard seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

### *Barbara Henry*

Kress moved to accept the consent agreement. Gilyard seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

### *Diane Zieger*

Kress moved to accept the consent agreement. Gilyard seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

## **Notice of Opportunity for a Hearing**

### Doris Murray

Hamm moved to issue the notice of opportunity for a hearing for Doris Murray. Gilyard seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed, unanimously.

Hegarty advised that hearings are scheduled through January and the committee will need to come in for a day to catch up.

Hegarty, Hosom & Tingle left the meeting at 10:54 a.m.

## **CEU Committee Report**

Cooper reported that the committee discussed that Assistant Attorney General shared that using the language “fine” will entitle the applicant to a public hearing. They may use the term “penalty.”

Funding is in the budget to hire a new CE auditor to audit 50% of licensure renewals.

Margaret Anne reported a 10% failure rate for audits. She suggests a middle ground (a grace period to make up the deficiency instead of immediately turning the file over to investigations). As an example, she used a “penalty” of \$100 would be levied for not completing greater than 15 CEUs, a greater amount for more CEUs, etc.

She shared that the belief is that the most detrimental thing for a violator is inclusion of the infraction in the Agency Newsletter. It can be outdated, though, by the time it’s received. The committee is considering doing it more often (after a cost/benefit analysis). Penalty payments will probably pay for it.

There was a discussion of a minimum standard of words/hour for online CEUs.

The U.S. Department of Education's standard is 6,000 words/hour of credit, and that will be the recommendation. Providers will have 6 months-1 year to comply.

Regarding INR, the committee finds that they (the committee) routinely refuse their programs because a lot have to do with physical health. The question they're asking is "should INR be a provider if most of its programs are disallowed?"

Upon initial review, it was discovered that 4 of 12 of their programs are acceptable.

Kress shared that she is reluctant to give provider status as there have been consistent challenges with INR.

Gilyard confirmed that the social workers don't review them because they have NASW approval, which is acceptable to the Social Work committee.

The CPSP doesn't think that 30% program acceptability is sufficient for provider status.

**State of Ohio  
Counselor Professional Standards Committee Meeting  
July 22, 2011**

**Members Present:** Dr. Terri Hamm, Ms. Maureen Cooper, Ms. Mary Venrick, Dr. Otha Gilyard, Dr. Victoria Kress

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

**Guests Present:** None

Venrick called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

**Discussion and Approval of Agenda**

Hamm added "Endorsement Policy" to New Business

Kress added "CACREP Program Requirements" to New Business

Hamm added "Consent Agreements to PhDs" to New Business

Hegarty asked that the committee add "Audit Fines" to New Business

**Executive Director Report**

Rough reported that the July retreat meeting was held the day before, and it went well.

Rep. Gonzales agreed to introduce the Bill regarding CEU providers that violate the rules. He's working on the language to make CEU failures a non-disciplined item (fees are levied, but not formal discipline).

He discussed SB 111 and HB 62, and shared that a section was added to increase penalties of assault on a health care professional to a 4<sup>th</sup> degree felony. Rep. Gonzales didn't want to add social workers to it.

The NASW's stance is that they'd rather see the focus on reducing the incidents via de-escalation training, since the violators of this offense tend not to be concerned with the penalty.

With regards to the budget, Rough reported that he will file for CE provider fees after SB5 is determined.

Total revenues, \$1,195,901.23, with disbursements of \$1,106,877 spent. The total number of encumbered was \$1,179,768, which is 6% less than appropriated.

\$16,000 was contributed to general revenue fund.

Rough met with the Juvenile Sex Offender Treatment Program Certification Advisory Board (JSO), to discuss removal of the Civil Services exemption, issues regarding who can provide treatment. All agree that licensees must treat anyone who is diagnosed with a mental health disorder.

Pending rules to file, the diversity paragraph will change some wording.

Rough needs to speak with the director of JCARR to discuss an issue with one of these rules.

Rough left at 9:27 a.m.

### **Approval of May '11 Minutes**

Venrick moved to approve the minutes. Cooper seconded.

During the discussion, Hamm proposed to add "CEU committee" to read "Cooper left for the CEU committee meeting, and Venrick & Kress left for the investigative liaison meeting at 11:00 a.m."

Under "CEU committee report," "Hamm" was replaced with "Cooper" to read "Cooper reported at the last board meeting that it was agreed to charge a fee..."

Venrick added "asked and it was" to read "Venrick asked, and it was confirmed that the statistic was greater than ½ of the schools are CACREP accredited."

There was no additional discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of PC Applicants**

Cooper moved to approve the list of 163 PC applicants. Gilyard seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of PCC Applicants**

Kress moved to approve the list of 43 PCC applicants. Gilyard seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

## **Counselor Application Coordinator's Report**

Elliott reported that Frazier processed 542 Counselor Trainee/Clinical Resident applications and that she had sent 155 Exam packets.

In May, there were 74 candidates for the NCE. 67 passed, and 7 were unsuccessful. There were 32 candidates for the NCMHCE. 19 passed, and 13 were unsuccessful.

In June, there were 71 candidates for the NCE 69 passed and 2 were unsuccessful. There were 30 candidates for the NCMHCE 17 passed and 13 were unsuccessful.

Kress shared that the State of Ohio is strong, and the data supports it; it's one of the most stringent with regards to the requirements, in the country. She stated that they should, possibly, change the cut-off score on the NCMHCE due to its high failure rate. She shared that it may be time to increase the number of person's passing the exam. Gilyard shared that doctors and medical schools wouldn't tolerate these statistics. Cooper wants to see comparable passage rates with other states, and how close people are getting to passing. She also wants to know how long the NCMHCE applicants are removed from school vs. practicing in the field. She'd like to see the date.

## **Old Business**

### *March 2011 Minutes*

Hamm moved that the March, 2011 minutes more accurately reflect the conversation as recently discovered, reflected in the changes that she proposed.

Cooper seconded. There was no additional discussion as the motion passed, unanimously.

### *CACREP*

Kress shared that OACES sent in a letter approving to adapt CACREP accreditation, OACES and OCA were in support of it as well. Only one program approved by the board METHESCO, voiced concern that the Higher Learning Commission and the NCAC theological school don't believe that they should be bound by CACREP accreditation, particularly, since they are in a graduate theological context.

Rhonda Franklin entered at 10:20 a.m.

METHESCO discourages their inclusion.

WSU counseling programs are CACREP & CORE accredited, and wish that CORE accreditation language be included, as well.

Kress shared that the PC license isn't focused on Rehab counseling, but CORE's accreditation is. It consequently may not be the direction the board wants to go.

Hamm discussed that CORE offers certification, so if a student does the rehab piece, they should also do the counseling piece for the counseling license.

Kress shared that physicians, social workers, and all other professionals must graduate from accredited programs for their license. She says it's a move of legitimacy to have the license appear to be more equivalent. Counseling is behind because it's a newer profession.

Kress believes that the board doesn't have the resources to effectively do what CACREP does.

Gilyard shared that programs try to keep costs down, and their concern is that this increases their cost. He also shared that in seminary, they're taught that they're limited in their scope of counseling, and when they meet the limits of their scope, they are to make referrals. If you don't want to, you must bring in the faculty to support it.

The Committee suggested wanting to wait for the next board meeting to see if more correspondence arrives.

Hamm believes that there's already been two months of waiting, and she believes that waiting further isn't necessary, given how far the profession has come.

Gilyard recommended that if this is done, the committee should correspond with the concerned schools to provide advice on this issue.

Cooper shared that the current make up of standards for the PC license, without the CACREP credibility, is in line, moreso, with the MFT license.

Kress confirmed that it appears the only PhD in METHESCO's program is Vergel Lattimore and he's not a counselor. He is an MFT. She stated that she's, now, more concerned, and situations like this only add to her belief that CACREP accreditation is necessary.

The committee took a 10 minute break at 10:50 a.m.

### **Endorsement**

Hamm shared that there are two cases of concern.

In the first case, a person is coming to Ohio from another state, where they've been diagnosing and treating for 20 years, but have insufficient Diagnosis/Treatment coursework. Hamm proposes accepting her 20 years in lieu of the coursework, particularly, as the applicant has engaged in Clinical Assessment.

Hamm shared that, before, a consent agreement would be given with the coursework required.

Elliott asked how the supervision would be verified.

After it was discussed, Hamm suggested that the missing coursework was integrated throughout the program, and a PCC consent agreement should be issued.

Rough shared that, previously, the PCC level endorsement was awarded, if, all coursework was there.

The recommendation: a PCC consent agreement with the stipulation of a minimum of five years of practice.

In the second case, the applicant has five years of experience, and needs a 2<sup>nd</sup> testing course. She's been diagnosing and treating. She moved from another state, and was

licensed in MA. The recommendation was a PCC consent agreement and taking a 2<sup>nd</sup> testing course.

Hamm suggested offering a PCC consent agreement instead of a PC consent agreement with 2 years to complete additional coursework if the applicant has been practicing in another state for 5 years or more, and diagnosing & treating clients with mental and emotional disorders. This would be extended to applicants that need to complete the following courses, only: Diagnosis, Treatment, and Evaluation of mental and emotional disorders.

Hamm also suggested that when an applicant from another state has 5 years or more diagnosing & treating mental and emotional disorders, this could stand in lieu of the Diagnosis & Treatment coursework; particularly when the applicant has provided substantial documentation of competency in practice.

Kress shared with Rough that she'd like to change the CACREP program requirement language, a letter was sent to programs & professional organizations stating that it would only be done to require program pre-approval. She believes that all licensees, in Ohio, should have graduated from a CACREP program.

There will be more time required to get input from schools and organizations, since this was actually meant as a licensure requirement.

Hegarty, Rough and Franklin entered at 11:27 a.m.

Rough passed out a copy of a revised 4757-13-07

Rough sent out a different copy than was originally thought, however, once it's placed in a better rule (and section), it will achieve the desired goal.

The Committee left for lunch at 11:34 a.m. and returned at 11:55 a.m.

## **New Business**

### *Consent Agreements (continued)*

Hamm moved that Rough send out a letter regarding consent agreements for out of state graduates of PhD Counselor Education programs, that did a clinical internship, which are usually short of the Diagnosis and Treatment coursework; the proposal being to offer them a PC consent agreement and they must take classes to renew the PC, and clinical hours to upgrade to the PCC. Kress seconded. There was no additional discussion, and the motion passed, unanimously.

Hegarty entered at 12:00 p.m.

### *Fines/Penalties for Audits*

Cooper moved to execute the ability to fine/penalize, as already approved. Gilyard seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed, unanimously.

Hegarty left at 12:04 p.m.  
Rough entered at 12:10p.m.

### **Correspondence**

#### *Elizabeth Boblitt*

Kress suggested sending a letter, thanking them for their correspondence and share that the committee is moving forward with trying to improve the flexibility with endorsement.

Hamm suggested applying the new rule.

Elliott shared that they meet the requirements of their consent agreement, and Rough validated this.

Hamm moved to license Elizabeth & Kevin Boblitt with their PCC. Cooper seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

#### *Carrie Underwood*

She is a PC requesting that a Psychologist do her training supervision since there is no other supervising counselor in her practice.

Kress moved to reject the request and send her a list of supervising counselors in the Springboro/Dayton area. Gilyard seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed, unanimously.

#### *Paul D. Williams*

His employer holds the LISW license and has many of the PCC qualifications. He's asking that the LISW provide his training supervision.

Kress moved to deny his request and send him a list of supervising counselors in his area. Gilyard seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed, unanimously.

Franklin entered at 12:21 p.m.

Franklin asked how approving a clinician to create their own CEU plan (Self assessment) protects the public.

Hamm shared that she doesn't like it, but the way the board is moving, there will probably have to be a time where it's necessary, including having budget money for staff to support them going through it.

Rough and Hegarty entered at 12:30 p.m.

### **Continuing Education**

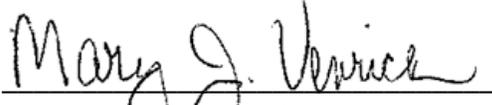
#### *Carol Brown*

Cooper moved to deny the request to read seven books for CEU credit. Gilyard seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed, unanimously.

Kay Lilich

Cooper moved to allow for partial credit (up to 15 hours.) to using nursing for research and education, not related to counseling. Gilyard seconded. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed, unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

  
Mary Venrick, Chair