

MINUTES

Mississippi State Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors
Robert E. Lee Building
239 North Lamar Street, Suite 402
Jackson, MS 39201

Regular Board Meeting
Monday, August 22, 2016

Board Members Present

Dr. Walter Frazier, Chair, Congressional District At Large
Dr. Juawice McCormick, Vice-Chair, Congressional District IV
Dr. Aretha Hargrove-Edwards, Congressional District II
Steven Rollins Stafford, Congressional District II

Others Present

Wm. Jeffrey Jernigan, Board Attorney, Special Assistant Attorney General
LeeAnn Mordecai, Board Executive Director

Board Member Absent

Congressional District I – Vacant

I. Call to Order

The Regular Board meeting of the Mississippi State Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors (“Board”) was called to order at 9:18 a.m. by Dr. Walter Frazier, Chair (“Chair”) on Monday, August 22, 2016. The meeting was held at the Board office, located in the Robert E. Lee Building, 239 North Lamar Street, Suite 402, Jackson, Mississippi 39201. A roll call of members was taken and a quorum was present.

II. Board Operations

A. Minutes Approval

Upon motion by Stafford, seconded by McCormick, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, July 17, 2016, Board meeting with the following revision: Correct the next regular Board meeting/Informal Hearings day from Wednesday, August 22, 2016, to Monday, August 22, 2016, (VI. Next Meeting, Page 7 of 7).

B. Financial Matters

1. Outstanding Invoices for Payment

No outstanding invoices were submitted for payment by Cornerstone Consulting, Inc.

2. Payment of Routine Expenditures

No routine expenditures were presented by Cornerstone Consulting, Inc.

3. Travel Vouchers

Upon motion by Frazier, seconded by McCormick, the Board unanimously agreed to authorize payment of travel vouchers totaling \$311.04.

III. New Business

A. Lapsed License Renewal Request

Upon motion by Frazier, seconded by Stafford, the Board unanimously agreed to suspend the rules and accept the request for licensure renewal, under conditions that the requester do the following: complete an updated renewal form; provide reasons why the license lapsed; and submit results of a background check.

IV. Old Business

A. Mississippi Counseling Association (MCA) Conference Activities

Upon motion by Frazier, seconded by McCormick, the Board unanimously agreed to authorize LPC Board to pay for hotel and mileage for Board members to attend its Regular Board meeting and a make presentation at the MCA Conference. Mordecai will make hotel accommodations for members at the South Beach Hotel in Biloxi, Mississippi. Members will check in on Tuesday, November 4, 2016, and check out on Friday, November 7, 2016.

B. Rules and Regulations (Tabled)

1. Process to reinstate inactive license
2. Lapsed, inactive, and retired status
3. Juris Prudence Exam

C. License Exam/ Two Tier (Tabled)

D. Evaluation and Approval of Online Programs (Tabled)

E. Electronic Board Meeting Equipment and Software (Tabled)

V. Executive Session

It was motioned by Stafford, seconded by McCormick, and unanimously carried that the Board close the meeting at 9:30 a.m. to consider the necessity of an Executive Session. The Board determined that an Executive Session was needed to review complaints and licensure applications, hold informal hearings for denials of applications, and to discuss issues pertaining to matters of potential litigation. It was motioned by Stafford, seconded by McCormick, and unanimously carried that the Board go into Executive Session at 9:35 a.m.

The Chair recessed the Executive Session at 12:56 p.m.

The Chair reconvened the Executive Session at 1:10 p.m.

Upon conclusion of the business of the Executive Session, motion by Stafford, seconded by Frazier, and unanimously approved, the Board agreed to exit Executive Session, and return to open session at 4:21 p.m.

Upon return to open session, the following was announced as actions taken while in Executive Session:

Review of Licensure Applications

- A. Signed completed certificates of:
 - (1) Licensure
 - (2) Board Qualified Supervisor (BQS)
- B. Review of BQS applications
- C. Review of LPC applications

Complaints/Denied Applications

- A. Review complaints
- B. Review requests for administrative hearings
- C. Review requests for informal hearings

It was motioned by Stafford, seconded by McCormick, and unanimously carried that the Board review for a second time an updated application for candidacy to consider the denied application as a form of informal hearing, as requested by the applicant.

It was motioned by McCormick and seconded by Stafford to accept a recommendation from Frazier to take no action on Complaint 2016-11. Ayes – 3; Nays – 0; Abstention – 1 (Frazier).

Following an informal hearing, it was motioned by Frazier, seconded by Stafford, and unanimously carried that the applicant for Complaint 2016-13 be required to have more direct and indirect service hours because hours accumulated after July 1, 2014, cannot be accepted for failure to have supervisory agreement and contract on file with the Board prior to beginning supervision.

As a result of Complaint 2016-13, it was motioned by Frazier, seconded by Stafford, and unanimously carried that the Board file a complaint against the LPC-S for failing to follow a Board directive to submit a Supervision Agreement before serving as an LPC supervisor. As a result of such negligence, an applicant's request for licensure was denied. The Board complaint will cite a violation of the American Counseling Association (ACA) Code of Ethics regarding supervision.

Following an informal hearing, it was motioned by Frazier, seconded by Stafford, and unanimously carried to maintain denial for Complaint 2016-14 because the applicant lacks three (3) classes that are required for licensure.

Following an informal hearing, it was motioned by Frazier, seconded by McCormick, and unanimously carried that the supervision hours for Complaint 2016-15 be accepted. Application approved for Candidacy for licensure following receipt of a passing score on the National Clinical Mental Health Counselor Examination (NCMHCE).

Following an informal hearing, it was motioned by McCormick, seconded by Hargrove-Edwards, and unanimously carried to maintain denial for Complaint 2015-22 due to a lack of supervision hours.

In response to Complaint 2015-22, it was motioned by Frazier, seconded by Stafford, and unanimously carried that the following action be taken: The LPC Board will file a complaint against the referenced LPC-S for violation of the American Counseling Association (ACA) Code of Ethics regarding supervision.

The following charts outline actions taken, with abstentions noted:

**MS BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS
APPLICATION REVIEW - EXECUTIVE SESSION
Monday, August 22, 2016**

CR or Denied Apps for Licensure	BOARD DECISION	ABSTENTION	YAYS	NAYS
Johnson, Stanley Darren	Denied	0	4	0
Walton, Darby D.	Approved	0	4	0
Jackson, Melissa Rena	Continued Review	0	4	0

CR or Denied Apps for Candidacy	BOARD DECISION	ABSTENTION	YAYS	NAYS
Alexander, Mechelle L.	Approved	0	4	0
Bufkin, Dinah Marie	Continued Review	0	4	0

New Apps for Licensure	BOARD DECISION	ABSTENTION	YAYS	NAYS
Peterson, Thomas C.	Approved	0	4	0
Stevenson, Jeana Michelle	Denied	0	4	0

New Apps for Candidacy	BOARD DECISION	ABSTENTION	YAYS	NAYS
Kilman, Sarah Nicole	Approved	0	4	0
Lawless, Jonathan Patrick	Approved	0	4	0
Pradillo, Surah Marie	Approved	0	4	0
Bailey, Tijuana Michelle	Approved	0	4	0

Apps for LPC-S	BOARD DECISION	ABSTENTION	YAYS	NAYS
Roberts, Jessica Floyd	Continued Review	0	4	0

Board Request	BOARD DECISION	ABSTENTION	YAYS	NAYS
Hampton, Karen Joan	Continued Review	0	4	0

MS BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS
License Report to Board - August 22, 2016

Licensed Since Last Meeting - July 27, 2016	Issue Date	Lic Number
Susan Elizabeth Beard	7/29/2016	2115
Deborah J. Boggan	8/16/2016	2119
Robin Latisha Bolton	8/2/2016	2117
Paula Denise Davis	7/29/2016	2116
Byron Devon Dukes	7/28/2016	2112
Cali Marisa Foreman	7/28/2016	2111
Denise A. Gilstrap	8/17/2016	2121
Caitlin Brock Thigpen	8/3/2016	2118
Sarah Beth Walker	8/16/2016	2120
Misty L. Weaver	7/28/2016	2113
Ashlie Swindol West	7/28/2016	2114

MS BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS
Executive Session - August 22, 2016

COMPLAINTS	BOARD DECISION	Investigating Board Member
2013-02	Pending	Update on Appeal
2014-12	Pending	Frazier - Compliance with Agreed Order
2015-09	Pending	J. McCormick
2015-11.1 & 11.2	hearing October 19 - 9:30 a.m.	G. Waller
2015-22 denied application (T Straughter)	Maintain Denial	J. McCormick
2016-02	Pending	W. Frazier
2016-03 - denied application (M Johnson-Waldington)	hearing November 30, 2016	W. Frazier
2016-04	hearing September 21, 2016	W. Frazier
2016-05	hearing September 21, 2016	W. Frazier
2016-06	Pending	J. McCormick
2016-07	Pending	J. McCormick
2016-10	Pending	A. Hargrove-Edwards
2016-11	No Action	W. Frazier
2016-12	Pending	S. Stafford
2016-13 denied application (M Williams)	Maintain Denial	J. McCormick

2016-14 denied application (S Gambe)	Maintain Denial	W. Frazier
2016-15 denied application (T Drake)	Denial changed to Continued Review	J. McCormick
2016-16	Pending	W. Frazier
2016-17 denied application (M Madaris)	informal hearing November 30 at 1:00 p.m.	
2016-18 denied application (R Gandy)	Informal hearing November 30 at 1:20 p.m.	
2016-19 denied application (E Wells)	Informal hearing November 30 at 1:40 p.m.	

VI. Next Meeting

A regular meeting of the Board is scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, September 21, 2016, (Time: immediately following conclusion of administrative hearing

Robert E. Lee Building
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Administrative hearing of the Board is scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, September 21, 2016, 9:15 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Robert E. Lee Building
239 North Lamar Street, Classroom C, 2nd Floor
Jackson, MS 39201

VII. Adjourn

It was motioned by Stafford, seconded by McCormick, and unanimously carried that the Board adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:37 p.m. by Frazier.

Approved this the 2nd day of November, 2017 .

/s/

Board Chair

/s/

Board Member