

(approved April 26, 2002)

**BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
FULL BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

JANUARY 25, 2002

**HYATT REGENCY ISLANDIA
1441 QUIVIRA ROAD
SAN DIEGO, CA**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mark Burdick, LEP Member, Vice Chair
Glynis Morrow, Public Member
Roberto Quiroz, Public Member
Howard Stein, Public Member
Susan Ulevitch, LCSW Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

Karen Pines, MFT Member, Board Chair

STAFF PRESENT

Sherry Mehl, Executive Officer
Mary-Alice Coleman, Legal Counsel
Laura Freedman, Legal Counsel
Julie McAuliffe, Administrative Analyst
Janene Mayberry, Licensing Evaluator

GUEST LIST ON FILE

The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:10 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Ms. McAuliffe called the roll and a quorum was not established.

**2. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 8, 2001 LICENSURE OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER
DRUG COUNSELORS PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES**

Due to lack of a quorum, the Board deferred the approval of the minutes to the April Board meeting.

3. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 9, 2001 MINUTES

Due to lack of a quorum, the Board deferred the approval of the minutes to the April Board meeting.

4. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Due to Ms. Pine absence, there was no Chairperson's report. Ms. Mehl stated that Ms. Pines had asked that each committee member begin to identify issues to be addressed in their committee and submit them to her or Ms. Mehl.

5. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

a. Budget Update

Ms. Mehl stated that due to the hiring freeze, the Board is seeing a cost savings in personnel. The Governor has begun to borrow funds from several state departments. At this point, our fund balance is intact. She then stated that the only way for the Board to obtain money from our fund balance identified in the Budget materials is through a budget change proposal authorized by the Legislature and this is not a possibility at this time.

b. Miscellaneous Matters

1. Website Statistics

The current statistics were included in the meeting materials. The amounts of hits have exceeded one million and the highest hits included the Laws and Regulations, our Home Page, and on-line verifications. The design of the website has been modified in compliance with the Governor's Executive Order. We are beginning to prepare to go online with renewals. Within the next year licensees and registrants should be able to renew online.

Ms. Mehl then indicated that license applications are processed within 30 days and fingerprints have been processed in an expeditious manner. Ms. Mehl introduced Janene Mayberry to the Board and indicated that she is solely responsible for evaluation of all the Licensed Clinical Social Worker license applications and has trained two other staff to evaluate applications for Associate Clinical Social Worker registration.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING 2002 BOARD LEGISLATION PROPOSALS

Ms. Mehl stated that the meeting materials included Board clean up legislation proposals that have been submitted to the Senate Business and Professions Committee for inclusion in their committee bill.

a. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Other Legislation of Interest to the Board

Assembly Bill 269 - Ms. Mehl stated that the bill originated with the intent of giving the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) hiring power of executive officers. The bill has been significantly amended to take out any reference to the hiring power and now reads that the protection of the public is the highest priority of boards and bureaus within DCA.

Senate Bill 564 – Current law does not identify an amount of hours for the required domestic violence training for pre-licensed individuals. This legislation would identify an hour requirement of fifteen hours as well as require that licenses who began graduate training prior to January 1, 2004 complete a one-time fifteen-hour continuing education course. Ms. Mehl stated that the Legislature has requested that the Board complete a survey of school to identify how many hours of training are currently being taught. Staff will complete this survey and submit it to the Legislature as well as the Education Committee.

Geraldine Esposito, Executive Director of the California Society for Clinical Social Work, indicated that the Society is in the process of preparing legislation for 2002 and will inform the Board of their legislative proposals at a future meeting. She then indicated that the Society is in support of Senate bill 564 and feels that this training should be a separate course and not integrated into other courses because the issue of domestic violence is a growing concern and is escalating in younger populations.

Mary Riemersma, Executive Director of the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists, stated that the association was not fully sure of their legislative agenda at this point but one of the bills will address a penalty for employers who terminate an employee for reporting child abuse. Another legislative proposal will address administrative actions and potentially bar from discovery any apologies that are made by the respondent of a complaint. They are also looking at hearsay issues regarding administrative actions. Ms. Riemersma then stated that the association would assist the Board if needed to find an author to carry the legislation to change the name of marriage, family and child counselor to marriage and family therapist through the law. She then recommended that the words “marriage, family, and child counseling” be left in 4980 (b) and 4980.10. She clarified for Ms. Ulevitch that this change would allow the license title to be more nationally recognized and explained that every other state has the title of Marriage and Family Therapist. She then indicated that the scope of practice was not changed and the terms counseling and therapy are recognized as synonymous terms.

Shari Tridwell for the National Association of Social Workers stated that the Association is in support of Senate bill 564 as it currently reads but the association may change their position if language were included to require that the coursework must be taken within the masters of social work degree program.

7. APPROVE/ NOT APPROVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

a. Consumer Services/ Consumer Protection Committee

Dr. Stein indicated that the Committee did not take any action on items of discussion.

b. Examination Committee

Dr. Burdick indicated that the Committee did not take any action on items of discussion.

c. Licensing / Education Committee

Dr. Burdick stated that the Education Committee would begin to review school approval processes and current course content and determine if changes are needed.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

David Fox, Marriage and Family Therapist, commended Ms. Mehl for her leadership of Board staff and daily functions. He then suggested that the agenda materials be posted on the website prior to meetings so individuals may review them beforehand. He then asked if there was a way the minutes from the public hearing held on January 24, 2002 could be approved before the next meeting in April so people could review them on the website beforehand. Ms. Mehl stated that she had discussed this with Ms. Pines and a general synopsis of the hearing will be posted on the website.

Enrique Monteagado from the Center for Public Interest Law suggested that some outreach programs be initiated in traditionally underrepresented areas to address the issue of the shortage of social workers. Ms. Mehl stated that she currently sits of two different taskforces regarding the shortage of social workers in California and indicated that these taskforces are looking at numerous solutions to the shortages and some ideas include outreach programs in high schools in underrepresented areas.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:45 a.m.