

## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES June 28, 2010**

**The Board of Behavioral Sciences met via telephone on June 28, 2010 at the following locations:**

Department of Consumer Affairs  
Stanislaus Room  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor South, S203  
1625 N. Market Blvd.  
Sacramento, CA 95834

925 Harbor Plaza  
Long Beach, CA 90802

3900 Main Street  
Riverside, CA 92522

1151 Dove Street, #170  
Newport Beach, CA 92660

5506 Ranchito Avenue  
Sherman Oaks, CA 91401

3539 Mt. Laurence Drive  
San Diego, CA 92117

415 Karla Court  
Novato, CA 94949

1615 E. 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100  
Santa Ana, CA 92705

10800 E. Benavon Street  
Whittier, CA 90606

### **Members Present**

Renee Lonner, Chair, LCSW Member  
Elise Froistad, MFT Member, Vice-Chair  
Samara Ashley, Public Member  
Jan Cone, LCSW Member  
Gordonna (Donna) DiGiorgio, Public Member  
Patricia Lock-Dawson, Public Member  
Michael Webb, MFT Member  
Christine Wietlisbach, Public Member

### **Staff Present**

Kim Madsen, Interim Executive Officer  
James Maynard, Legal Counsel  
Marsha Gove, Examination Analyst

### **Members Absent**

Harry Douglas, Public Member  
Mona Foster, Public Member  
Judy Johnson, LEP Member

## **I. Call to Order and Establishment of a Quorum**

Roll was called and a quorum established.

Per board member request, the open session was conducted first.

## **FULL BOARD OPEN SESSION**

### **II. Discussion and Possible Action on Revising Practicum Requirement for Degrees Granted Prior to 1996 During Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor Grand-Parenting Period**

Ms. Rhine reported that concern had been expressed by the California Coalition for Counselor Licensure (CCCL) related to the practicum requirement for individuals applying for LPCC licensure during the grand-parenting period. Specifically, BPC Section 4999.32 allows the Board to accept an equivalent to practicum, while BPC Section 4999.54 states that the qualifying degree must include required practicum, or the equivalent. Ms. Rhine reported that while the Board has some discretion regarding the structure of the practicum or field study experience, it does not appear to have the authority to accept that experience outside the degree program. As a result, a barrier to licensure is created for individuals who have significant experience practicing in another state but whose degree did not contain the required practicum.

Ms. Rhine indicated that the intent of the statute is to allow the Board discretion in evaluating LPCC applicants during the grand-parenting period. She noted that the Policy and Advocacy Committee had previously directed staff to draft proposed statutory amendments to BPC Section 4999.54 that would allow the Board to accept degrees conferred prior to 1996 which include 3 semester units or 4.5 quarter units of practicum or field study experience. She referred board members to the draft language.

The matter was opened for discussion. Ms. Rhine outlined the action required by the Board in order to proceed with resolution of this issue. Various board members expressed their understanding and support of the proposed action.

Brian Hooper, audience member, commented that he is currently practicing in California in the capacity of pastoral counselor. He noted that his degree included no practicum, and expressed concern that the committee's action as proposed would eliminate him from the pool of candidates who would be eligible for licensure during the grand-parenting period. Ms. Rhine responded that statute is written to require that practicum must be a part of the qualifying degree program. She clarified that current law requires completion of a specific amount of practicum; the action before the Board at that time was to reduce that amount. Mr. Hooper asked if the Board could assist him in obtaining information about the national LPCC examination.

Jan Cummings, Vice-President, CCCL, encouraged Mr. Hooper to speak with Dean Porter, President, CCCL, and provided contact information for Ms. Porter. Ms. Cummings also commented about the CCCL request to reduce the hours of practicum required in existing law, and provided background in support of the request.

**Patricia Lock-Dawson moved that staff be directed to draft appropriate language regarding the LPCC practicum requirement for inclusion in the Board's current omnibus bill. Renee Lonner seconded. The Board voted unanimously (8-0) to pass the motion.**

Ms. Cummings thanked the Board for their action.

**III. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda**

No public comments were received.

**IV. Suggestions for Future Agenda Items**

No suggestions were received.

The open session meeting adjourned at 8:56 a.m.

**FULL BOARD CLOSED SESSION**

**V. Pursuant to Government Code section 11126(c)(3), the Board Will Meet in Closed Session to Deliberate and Take Action on Disciplinary Matters**

The Board discussed and took action on disciplinary matters.