

MINUTES January 27th, 2017
LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS BOARD OF EXAMINERS
Approved March 24th, 2017

The meeting was called to order by L Choate at 10:07AM. The Board Secretary took the roll call and determined a quorum was present. The meeting began with an Administrative Hearing for Margaret Songe, Suspended LPC, Disciplinary Case 16/17-30. L Choate recused herself from the Administrative Hearing proceeding. S Parola served as the Hearing Officer and J Raines as the Prosecuting Attorney for the LPC Board. W Collins served as the Security Officer for the proceeding. M Songe represented herself. E Watkins, J Sutton, and M Olsan were called as witnesses during the hearing. S Parola served as the Court Reporter. A full account of the hearing proceedings, including salient testimony, is provided for in the Opinion and Order for Disciplinary Case 16/17-30 and available on the LPC Board website: lpboard.org.

Members Present:

L Choate P Millhollon
K Steele E Airhia
R Cathey D Mayeux*
C Guillotte N Pierce
J Mims G Perkins
E Cowger

*left after Financial Reports

Staff Present:

M Olsan

Members Absent:

P Millhollon and E Cowger were only present for the Administrative Hearing.

Guests Present for Hearing:

S Murphy J Raines
E Watkins P Wilton
W Collins J Sutton
S Parola M Songe

Guests Present for Board Meeting:

S Murphy K Rice

K Steele, Board Vice-Chair served as acting Board Chair during the Administrative Hearing and jury deliberation pursuant to the recusal of Board Chair, L Choate. Following opening statements by both parties, witness testimony, questioning by the jury, and closing statements, the jury (comprised of current Board Members, excluding L Choate) deliberated in Executive Session. K Steele called for a motion to enter Executive Session. J Mims made the motion to enter Executive Session. E Cowger seconded. All approved. Following the end of deliberations, K Steele called for a motion to exit Executive Session. E Airhia made the motion to exit Executive Session. P Millhollon seconded. All approved.

L Choate resumed her role as Board Chair at approximately 2:14PM. She asked for a decision from the jury regarding Disciplinary Case 16/17-30. K Steele asked the Board accept the decision by the jury for M Songe's license to remain suspended for a minimum of six months and immediately comply with the following requirements: consult and continue treatment when an individual who is licensed by the Board of Medical Examiners or an advanced practice registered nurse licensed by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing who is a certified psychiatric nurse practitioner; participate in therapy with a Licensed Mental Health Professional (LMHP) at least three times a month with monthly status reports to the Board; participate in a mental health evaluation thirty days prior to July 20, 2017 completed by a LMHP and sent to the Board; notify current clients that her licenses is suspended and that she cannot practice mental health counseling; and, finally, remove all references to the ability to practice counseling or refer to herself as a "Licensed Professional Counselor", "LPC", or any similar term, or to supervise provisional licensees on any publically available means. L Choate called for a vote. All Board Members, excepting L Choate, unanimously voted to agree to all terms as set forth by K Steele

with regard to Disciplinary Case 16/17-30. L Choate asked M Olsan to work with S Murphy to draft the Opinion and Order document.

L Choate asked for a motion to recess. P Millhollon made the motion to recess and R Cathey seconded. All approved; no abstentions. No public objections. L Choate asked for a motion to reconvene the Board Meeting and proceed with the standard Board Meeting agenda. G Perkins made the motion and N Pierce seconded. All approved; no abstentions.

Agenda

L Choate asked for a motion to accept the Board Meeting agenda. P Millhollon motioned to approve the agenda. R Cathey seconded. All approved; no abstentions.

Board Meeting Minutes

L Choate asked for a motion to approve the November Board Meeting minutes. D Mayeux motioned to approve the November Board Meeting minutes. N Pierce seconded. All approved; no abstentions.

Committee on Disciplinary Affairs – L Choate, K Steele, N Pierce, J Raines

L Choate confirmed that no further discussion of Disciplinary Case 16/17-30 was needed. She then presented the Disciplinary Affairs Committee Report:

No unofficial Complaints Received since November 18, 2016.

Official Complaints Received since November 18, 2016:

- 16/17-22- Misrepresentation of credentials*
- 16/17-23- Professional negligence
- 16/17-24- Practicing without active supervision*
- 16/17-25- Professional misconduct
- 16/17-26- Professional misconduct/Abandonment of Supervision
- 16/17-27- Practicing without a license*
- 16/17-28- Practicing without a license*
- 16/17-29- Practicing without a license*
- 16/17-31- Practicing without a license
- 16/17-32- Professional misconduct
- 16/17-33- Practicing without a license*

Cases to Open:

- 16/17-22- Misrepresentation of credentials*
- 16/17-24- Practicing without active supervision*
- 16/17-25- Professional misconduct
- 16/17-26- Professional misconduct/Abandonment of Supervision
- 16/17-27- Practicing without a license*
- 16/17-28- Practicing without a license*
- 16/17-29- Practicing without a license*
- 16/17-32- Professional misconduct
- 16/17-33- Practicing without a license*

Cases to Close:

- 15/16-50- Confidentiality Breach
- 15/16-54- Unprofessional Conduct
- 16/17-10- Unprofessional Conduct

*Board-Initiated

L Choate reported a total of 56 active disciplinary cases.

L Choate motioned to accept the Disciplinary Affairs report. All approved; no abstentions.

Committee on Legislative Affairs –L Choate, G Perkins, J Mims, M Olsan, K Rice

K Rice reported on behalf of M Feduccia for LCA. No representative was present from LAMFT. K Rice reported on a recent survey to all licensees and collaboration with LAMFT regarding future legislation. M Olsan reported on her work with LCA and LAMFT RE the survey and providing information about possible 2017 legislation. M Olsan provided an update on the final report issued by the SCR 65 Taskforce. R Cathey reminded all of LCA's Gratitude project. J Mims discussed the need for the public to be better informed about who LPCs are and what services they offer. E Airhia agreed.

Committee on Licensure/Supervision/Appraisal –E Cowger, P Millhollon, J Mims, C Guillotte

J Mims reported 204 applicants were reviewed for provisional licensure/licensure/supervision for PLPC/LPC/LPC-S December 2016 and January 2017. The data includes those practice settings and expedited applications approved each month by Board Staff.

Application Type	December	January	Total
LPC Application for Licensure	25	18	43
<i>40 APPROVED; 3 DENIED</i>			
LPC Out-of-State Applications for Licensure	0	6	6
<i>3 APPROVED; 3 DENIED</i>			
PLPC: Sections 1, 2, 3	9	32	41
<i>31 APPROVED; 10 DENIED</i>			
PLPC: Section 1	1	6	7
<i>1 APPROVED; 0 DENIED</i>			
PLPC: Section 1 and 2	0	1	1
<i>0-APPROVED; 0-DENIED</i>			
PLPC: Section 2	0	0	0
<i>0-APPROVED; 0-DENIED</i>			
PLPC: Section 2 and 3	0	0	0
<i>0-APPROVED; 0-DENIED</i>			
PLPC: Section 3	0	0	0
<i>0-APPROVED; 0-DENIED</i>			
PLPC: Change/Add Supervisor	5	9	14
<i>14-APPROVED; 0-DENIED</i>			
LPC Supervisor Application	3	10	13
<i>9-APPROVED 4-DENIED 0-Need more info</i>			
Appraisal Privilege	0	1	1
<i>1-APPROVED 0-DENIED 0-Need more info</i>			
LPC Areas of Expertise Review	0	0	0
<i>0-APPROVED 0-DENIED 0-Need more info</i>			
Application for Expedited Processing	20	21	41
PLPC: Change/Add Practice Setting	20	17	37
Total	83	121	204

C Guillotte reported 13 applicants were reviewed for provisional licensure/licensure/supervision for PLMFT/LMFT/LMFT-SC/LMFT-S December 2016 and January 2017.

Application Type	December	January	Total
LMFT Application for Licensure	1	0	1

<i>1-APPROVED; 0-DENIED</i>			
LMFT Out of State Applications for Licensure	1	1	2
<i>1-APPROVED; 0-DENIED</i>			
PLMFT Section 1,2,3	1	2	3
<i>2-APPROVED; 1-DENIED</i>			
PLMFT Section 1 Only	1	0	1
<i>1-APPROVED; 0-DENIED</i>			
PLMFT Section 2 and 3 Only	0	0	0
<i>0-APPROVED; 0-DENIED</i>			
PLMFT Change/Add Practice Setting	0	1	1
<i>1-APPROVED; 0-DENIED</i>			
PLMFT Change/Add Supervisor	0	1	1
<i>1-Approved; 0-DENIED</i>			
LMFT SC Application: Section 1	0	0	0
<i>0-APPROVED; 0-DENIED</i>			
LMFT SC Application: Section 2	0	0	0
<i>0-APPROVED; 0-DENIED</i>			
LMFT SC Application: Section 1 and Section 2	0	0	0
<i>0-APPROVED; 0-DENIED</i>			
LMFT Supervisor	0	0	0
<i>0-APPROVED; 0-DENIED</i>			
Application for Expedited Processing	1	4	5
Total	5	8	13

J Mims motioned to accept the Licensure Committee and Supervision report. All approved; no abstentions.

Marriage and Family Therapy Advisory Committee (MFTAC) Report –K Steele, R Cathey, C Guillotte

K Steele reported better attrition rates for LMFTs renewing in 2016 than in 2015. She also provided an update regarding the LMFT Supervisor Handbook and R Cathey’s work on the LMFT Supervisor presentation. K Steele also reminded the Board Members about the upcoming presentations by MFTAC at the 2017 LAMFT conference. K Steele motioned to accept the MFTAC report. All approved; no abstentions.

Committee on Correspondence – M Olsan, L Choate

No official correspondence received since the November Board Meeting.

Public Comments: No comments.

Recess: Laura requested a motion for a ten (10) minute recess. E Airhia motioned for a ten (10) minute recess. R Cathey seconded. All approved; no abstentions. Laura requested a motion to reconvene the Board Meeting. N Pierce motioned and G Perkins seconded. All approved; no abstentions.

Committee Professional Assistance Program (PAP) –R Cathey, E Airhia

R Cathey presented the PAP Committee report in P Millhollon’s absence. He reported on a successful, remediation meeting with a current PAP participant. R Cathey also thanked E Airhia for his insight and help with the committee. R Cathey motioned to accept the PAP report. All approved; no abstentions.

Committee on Rules –E Cowger, J Mims, L Choate, K Steele, M Olsan

J Mims discussed the possibility of a Rules Committee retreat in February. She asked each member to notify M Olsan of their availability. G Perkins provided feedback on the timing and length of Rules Committee retreats. M Olsan to update the Rules Committee "wish list" document and resubmit to the committee.

Committee on Personnel – L Choate, G Perkins, M Olsan

M Olsan presented the personnel report. She also explained the need for a future trip out of the country in June. J Mims asked how the Board Members could help Board Staff during M Olsan's absence. C Guillotte motioned to approve M Olsan's absence in June. J Mims seconded. All approved; no abstentions. M Olsan thanked the Board for their support.

Financial Report(s) – M Olsan

M Olsan presented the October, November, and December 2016 financial reports. She explained supporting documentation for each report was available to P Millhollon for review. J Mims motioned to approve the October, November, and December 2016 financial reports. G Perkins seconded. All approved; no abstentions. The Board Members also discussed future funding for Board Member travel.

Ad Hoc Committee on Budgeting –L Choate, E Cowger, M Olsan

M Olsan presented an update on the Board's current budget and status.

Recess: The Board chose not suspend the meeting for an additional recess.

Executive Director Report – M Olsan

Due to time constraints, this report was tabled until the March 2017 Board Meeting.

LAMFT Liaison Report – M Olsan

M Olsan presented the LAMFT liaison report. M Olsan reported working with H Brownell regarding legislative concerns. She also reported positive feedback about P Millhollon's attendance at the recent LAMFT Executive Board Meeting.

LCA Liaison Report – M Olsan

M Olsan presented the LCA liaison report. She reported working with M Feduccia regarding legislative concerns and with D Austin regarding future applicant and licensee inquiries.

Old Business – L Choate

The Board discussed substance abuse assessments and how such assessments are currently regulated. L Choate asked each Board Member to research this issue and provide specific feedback at the March Board Meeting.

L Choate reminded the Board Members to complete their annual ethics training. M Olsan explained the need for Tier 2.1 Financial Disclosure statements to also be completed and stated that she would provide blank statements at the March Board Meeting.

New Business – L Choate

L Choate reminded the Board Members to attend the MFTAC/Board Update at the LAMFT conference. She also announced the next Board Meeting on March 24th, 2017 at 12:30PM.

Closing

L Choate asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. G Perkins motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:20PM. E Airhia seconded. All approved; no abstentions.

Respectfully Submitted By,
Mary Alice Olsan, Executive Director