



Mississippi Autism Board
P.O. Box 136
Jackson, Mississippi 39205
(601) 359 – 6792

Regular Meeting
Mississippi Autism Board Meeting
January 21, 2022
Woolfolk Building

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Mississippi Autism Board (“Board”) was called to order on Friday, January 21, 2022, at 1:05 p.m. by board member, Dr. Emily Johnson. The meeting took place at the Woolfolk Building, 501 North West Street, Conference Center 117S, Jackson, MS.

Board Members Present: Emily Johnson, Ph.D. (Chair), Neelima Duncan, Ph.D., Kasee Stratton-Gadke, Ph.D., Krystal Thurman, Ed.D. (Secretary), and Sheila Williamson, Ph.D.,

Others Present: Stacie Sharp (Board Administrator), Alexis Morris (MS Attorney General’s Office), and Tasneem Conely

Meeting called at 1:05 p.m. All Board Members present and quorum was met.

Approval of Minutes:

Duncan made a motion to approve minutes of the November 19, 2021 meeting as submitted January 21, 2021. Duncan seconded the motion. All members were in favor and the minutes from the last special called board meeting on November 19, 2021, were approved.

Board Administrator Report

Sharp, Board administrator, discussed updated Behavior Technician Registration forms. She noted the importance of ensuring LBAs understand RBT registration procedures. It should be noted that fees should accompany forms.

First Matter of Business: Executive Session

Williamson made a motion to go into Executive Session at 1:12 p.m. All were in favor. Williamson made a motion a motion to enter executive session for the review of oral exam results and to review investigation. Thurman seconded. The Board entered Executive Session at 1:15 p.m. Johnson announced the beginning of Executive Session.

- To review test results that are exempt from public access

At 1:29 pm, Thurman made a motion to move out of Executive Session. The motion was seconded with no discussion and passed with all in favor. Guests were invited back into open session at 1:30 p.m. Johnson announced the decisions made in the Executive Session.

Second Matter of Business: Report of Oral Exam Committee

Based on recommendation of the oral examination committee, Johnson presented the following for licensure approval as a licensed behavior analyst or licensed assistant behavior analyst in the state of Mississippi (name followed by license number).

The following individuals were recommended for licensure.

Licensed Behavior Analysts

- Kristyn Grabowski 220001
- Catherine Eaves 220002
- Rebecca Wright 220003
- Michael Mong 220004
- Melissa Broome 220005
- Pending Receipt of Additional Information 220006
- Mireya Turner 220007
- Amanda Kirk 220008
- Chrona Conley 220009
- Kimberly Sallis 220010
- Lori Taylor 220011

All board members were in favor. The aforementioned licenses will be effective 01-21-2022 and expire 01-21-2025.

Third Matter of Business: Executive Session

Williamson made a motion to go into closed meeting at 1:31 pm. All in favor. Guests left the room. Williams made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss Investigation #20212 at 1:32 pm. All were in favor. Johnson announced the beginning Executive Session.

- Due to lack of quorum on this matter, the complaint will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Williamson made the motion to leave Executive Session at 1:42 pm. Krystal seconded. The motion passed with all in favor. Guests were invited back into open session at 1:43 pm.

Fourth Matter of Business: Continuing Education Committee Report

The return to CEU guidelines with the easing of COVID restrictions has caused confusion. During the COVID pandemic, restrictions pertaining to the obtainment of CEUs were

eased. Requests for asynchronous options continue. Johnson sent out a reminder about the yearly CEU cycle and current status. Extenuating circumstances are being considered.

The best method for submitting CEs was discussed. Sharp said information should be mailed, and copies should be maintained by applicant.

Fifth Matter of Business: Review of RBT Registrations

Mississippi has over 600 individuals who hold or have held RBT registration per BACB. There are 284 are registered as being supervised in Mississippi per Mississippi Autism Board. MAB rules and regulations 9.2.c require the Board “to maintain a register listing the name of every behavior technician registered in this state, his/her last known place of business and last known place of residence, and the date and number of his/her registration. Such a list shall be made publicly available the Board.” Johnson made a motion to remove “last known place of residence” from 9.2.c and submit the amendment request. Williamson seconded. All members were in favor. The registration forms will be edited to ask for “last known place of residence” unless amended.

Williamson will seek an updated list from BACB. The list will be used to cross-reference with MAB list.

New Business: Review of Received Website Based Membership Database Creation Proposal

As of today’s meeting, there are 135 LBAs and 10 BCaBAs, and nearly 270 RBTs registered in Mississippi. The amount of administrative hours has increased. MAB has been approved for funding that would sustain a website. Sharp revisited Prosonitech website proposal for MAB. The program is utilized by a number of other state licensing boards. The program will allow streamlined record keeping, transparency, and accountability to the public. Williamson made a motion to accept the proposal from Pronsonitech for all three phases of the website development. Duncan seconded and the motion passed.

Public Comments

Public comments were requested. Morris announced that, as the requested revisions to the Rules and Regulations submitted to the OLRC are affected by SB 2087 that will require all agency meetings will be required to livestream. SB 2083 will allow legislative members to remain in Executive Session of all boards. SB HB 447 will revise EUROLA to remove testing component and revise reciprocity agreement. HB 439 will revise end of year reporting requirements. If any of these pass, the suggested rule changes previously submitted by MAB will need to be amended.

The next MS Autism Board meeting will take place in person in Jackson, MS, on March 25, 2022. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 2:48 p.m.