



Mississippi Autism Board
P.O. Box 136
Jackson, Mississippi 39205
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Speaking Meeting
Mississippi Autism Board Meeting
March 19, 2021
Webex Virtual Meeting
(COVID-19 Precaution)

MINUTES

A special meeting of the Mississippi Autism Board (“Board”) was called to order on Friday, March 19, 2021 at 12:15 p.m. by board member, Dr. Emily Johnson. The meeting took place via Zoom in response to the MS Department of Health social distancing guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

Others Present: Alexis Morris, Esq. (Board Attorney) and Stacie Sharp (Board Administrator)

Approval of Minutes:

Johnson made a motion to approve minutes as submitted from January 15, 2021. Williamson seconded the motion. All members were in favor and the minutes from 01.15.2021 were approved.

Board Administrator Report:

Stacie Sharp, Board administrator, did not provide a report.

First Matter of Business: Board Financial Report

Johnson spoke about the financial report from DFA, which was shared to the board members prior to the meeting. There has been some money spent this month due to mail outs. The first eight months of the fiscal year, MAB has brought in about \$1,500 per month. MAB brought in about \$18,000 in the last year. This will be a consideration when making budgetary requests in the 2022 legislative session. During 2021, Johnson requested update on website quotes so we could have a working website created for MAB. A database would still need to be created at a later date. The added funding next year would allow for the database to be created, which would decrease administrative challenges. A question was asked about using Facebook,

but the board attorney, Alexis Morris, said we could not use social media to conduct business. The Board has no functioning website, which is needed for searching licensure information by practitioners and insurance companies.

Second Matter of Business: Rules and Regulations Revisions

Morris reported that the Occupational Licensing Review Commission (OLRC) met today but MAB was not on the agenda.

Third Matter of Business: Website

Sharp shared the quote received from ProsonITech. Johnson suggested tabling the discussion until the May meetings when all board members are present.

Fourth Matter of Business: Form Updates

All forms have been updated with all necessary additions and edits per Duncan. Military spouse status has been added. Johnson suggested considering whether to separate the forms for BCBA and BCaBA. Duncan will create separate forms and will combine supervision form with CEU application.

Fifth Matter of Business: Occupational Licensing Bill (HB 1263)

To maintain our oral requirements, the Board should maintain jurisprudence only. The vignettes on the exam must relate to Mississippi statutes, rules, and regulations. Johnson suggested crafting the vignette questions to reflect this change. Morris will review and will tell us when we need to submit for review of changes made by the board. HB 1263 takes effect on July 1, 2021.

Sixth Matter of Business: RBT Registration Considerations

Duncan brought forward discussion about RBT registration and to whom each one should be registered. Williamson suggested the registration would be associated with the BCBA who provides the most supervision to the RBT. Sharp reminded the policy of twelve or fewer per BCBA. There is a possibility for an RBT to be registered under more than one supervisor. Williamson asked to table the discussion so she could research the matter and gather some current practices.

Seventh Matter of Business: Executive Session

Williamson made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Reasons for going into executive session:

- To review test results that are exempt from public access
- To review application of BaCBA

A motion to enter into Executive Session was made by Williamson. Thurman seconded the motion and all were in favor. The Board entered executive session at 12:59 p.m. Johnson announced the beginning of Executive Session.

A motion was made to move out of Executive Session at 1:06 p.m. The motion was seconded with no discussion and passed with all in favor. Johnson made a motion to return to open session. Williamson seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed. Guests were invited back into open session.

Seventh Matter of Business: Oral Exams/Licensing Report

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). All board members were in favor.

Licensed Behavior Analysts

- Kelle Turner 200025
- Anna Claire Waldrop 200026
- Amy Pierce 200027
- Lana Clayton 200028

Assistant Licensed Behavior Analysts

- Chelsea Miller 201006A

The aforementioned licenses will be effective 03-19-2021 and expire 03-19-2024.

Eighth Matter of Business: Updating Records and Newsletter

Sharp shared the importance of communicating with the licensed behavior analysts. She sent the forms to practitioners by mail but received numerous returned mail outs. She requested a reminder be added to the newsletter regarding recently sent mail and the importance for the practitioners to keep the board informed of any and all changes such as address changes and work status.

The next MS Autism Board meeting will take place in May 2021. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 1:12 p.m.