

**Board Meeting Minutes
July 28, 2017**

The Alabama Board of Examiners in Marriage and Family Therapy met on Friday, July 28, 2017, at the Board office in Montgomery to conduct Board business. Members present were as follows: Mr. Jeremy Blair, Board Chair; Ms. Belinda Mitchell, member and Dr. Scott Ketring, member. Board member absent was Mr. Bobby Malone. Also present were: Mr. Keith E. Warren (Executive Director), Mr. Todd Hughes (Assistant Attorney General), Ms. Hope Childers (Administrator), and Ms. Renee' Reames (Executive Secretary to Mr. Warren and recording secretary).

The regularly scheduled meeting was advertised on the Board's website, www.mft.alabama.gov, and the Secretary of State's website, www.sos.alabama.gov, in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Blair at approximately 10:00 a.m. with a quorum of the members present.

Mr. Blair presented the minutes from the last Board meeting held on January 27, 2017 for the Board's approval. A motion was made by Dr. Ketring to approve the minutes from January meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Mitchell and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Blair commented on the Telehealth Certificate Institute conference call/webinar about reducing barriers in regulations for licensing teletherapy.

Mr. Blair also commented on FTC review of regulatory Boards and Boards' certification and licensure practices, with focus on necessity for licensing of professions. Mr. Warren commented on Alabama's efforts for licensing Board oversight following the Supreme Court decision in the matter of the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners v. the Federal Trade Commission, affecting the Boards comprised of members that are active market participants in the occupations that they regulate.

Mr. Blair reported that he planned to attend the National Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards meeting in October.

Mr. Warren presented to the Board the financial activities as of June 30, 2017, to include a line item financial summary. He also reported on the total number of licensees (#350 total). Mr. Warren included in his report information about the number of complaints received during FY 2016, as well as FY 2017 (copy of report available for review in Official Book of Minutes).

Ms. Childers presented the Administrator's Report listing activities performed by the staff, since the last Board meeting, along with a list of new licenses issued. She reported that licensing renewal notices would be mailed out October 1, 2017. (A copy of these reports available for review in Official Book of Minutes).

Mr. Warren reported that he was continuing to work with the Governor's office concerning Board appointments and would keep the Board members advised.

Dr. Ketring presented a draft of proposed Rules and Regulations for the Board's review and approval. Following a comprehensive review of the proposed changes and Board discussion, Dr. Ketring offered to edit the changes discussed by the Board and submit the final draft to Mr. Warren to publish in the Alabama Administrative Monthly for public comment. Ms. Mitchell made the motion to approve the changes to the proposed rules as presented, with changes discussed by the Board. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ketring and unanimously approved by the Board. (A copy of the proposed Rule changes available for review in Official Book of Minutes).

Mr. Warren presented the annual renewal of the Administrative Service Contract with Warren and Company. He indicated that there were no changes to the contract. Dr. Ketring made a motion to approve the renewal of the Administrative Services Contract, with no changes, for one year. The motion was seconded by Ms. Mitchell and unanimously approved by the Board.

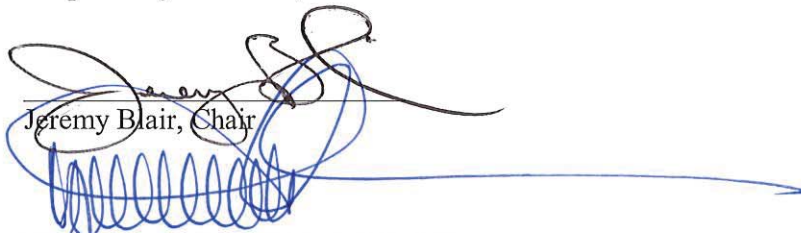
Mr. Hughes presented the Legal Counsel Report. He indicated that settlement discussions were underway concerning the active case received in FY 2016, and should the matter not be settled, an Administrative Hearing would be scheduled.

Ms. Paulene presented applications for the Board's approval. Dr. Ketring made a motion to approve the applications as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Mitchell and unanimously approved by the Board (a list of applicants approved by the Board available for review in Official Book of Minutes).

Mr. Blair announced that the next meeting of the Board was scheduled October 27, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

There was no further business of the Board and Mr. Blair adjourned the meeting at 11:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeremy Blair, Chair

Keith E. Warren, Executive Director

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