



**EXAMINING BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY  
TELECONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES**

**January 24, 2014**

**LOCATION:**

Department of Health  
Town Center Two, Room 158  
111 Israel Road S.E.  
Tumwater, WA 98501

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Timothy Cahn, Ph. D., Chair  
David Stewart, Ph.D., Vice Chair  
Dick Gidner, Public Member  
Janet Look, Ed.D.  
Rachaud Smith, Psy.D.  
Thomas Wall, Ph.D.

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Decky Fiedler, Ph.D  
Shari Roberts, Public Member

**STAFF PRESENT:** Mona M. Johnson, MA, CPP, CDP, Executive Director  
Betty J. Moe, Program Manager  
Mariama Gondo, MPH, Program Manager  
Marlee O'Neill, Supervising Staff Attorney  
Scott Bird, Staff Attorney

**AAG PRESENT:** Jack Bucknell, Assistant Attorney General

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Lucy Homans, Ed.D., Washington State Psychological Association  
Jane K. Harmon Jacobs, Ph.D., Antioch University  
Puja Kakkar, Antioch University

*On Jan. 24, 2014, the Examining Board of Psychology (Board) met at the Department of Health, Town Center Two, Room 158, 111 Israel Road Southeast, Tumwater, WA. Notice of the meeting was published on the psychology profession [website](#). Notice was sent to the psychology Listserv.*

**OPEN SESSION – 9:05 a.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER – Timothy Cahn, Ph.D., Chair**

Dr. Cahn called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**1.1 Approval of agenda**

The agenda was approved with these changes:

- Addition of Item 2.7 regarding board representation at the ASPPB 29<sup>th</sup> midyear meeting.

**1.2 Introductions**

Board members, staff members and audience members introduced themselves. Dr. Cahn welcomed Mona Johnson, the new executive director assigned to the board.

**1.3 Approval of the November 15, 2013 meeting minutes**

Board members reviewed and approved the Nov. 15, 2013 meeting minutes as presented.

**2. MANAGEMENT REPORTS/ACTIVITIES - Mona M. Johnson, MA, CPP, CDP, Executive Director and Betty Moe, Program Manager**

**2.1** Recruitment update – The program has sent out recruitment notices through the psychology listserv, waiting to receive applications.

**2.2** Presentation of Interim Operating Report – Ms. Moe presented the current budget report, which showed that the board is overspent in personal services but underspent in travel. The program has a current balance of \$1,216,613.

**2.3** Ms. Moe presented a geographical breakdown of state-licensed psychologists. Based on the demographics, the board determined to hold the May 15 ethics presentation in Tumwater. The Sept. 18 presentation will be in Seattle.

**2.4** Ms. Moe said she was hopeful that the CR-101 to begin rule making on allowable courses taken outside the doctoral degree granting program and the endorsement process would be filed in time to have a rules hearing at the next meeting. The workload during the legislative session increases, which can lead to an increase in the time it takes to process rules.

**2.5** The rules requiring continuing education in suicide assessment, treatment and management were filed with the Office of the Code Reviser on Dec. 16, 2013 as WSR-14-01-071. Board members reviewed one written comment that was received after the filing of the rules. In summary, the psychologists indicated that the legislative mandate only makes it clear to them the revisers do not know professional psychology in Washington State. Grouping psychologists with those who have substantially less training is actually an insult to the profession of psychology, the comment said.

The writer indicated being troubled and unclear about the Board's position, but said the Board should have vehemently opposed this bill.

Board members indicated that the adoption of the rules was a requirement of the statute.

**2.6** Legislative update- Board members discussed the following bills:

[HB 2139](#)- Requires the Medical Quality Assurance Commission to establish a quality improvement program to address certain deficits or concern in the practice of its licensees and to improve the care of practitioners in a nonpunitive, confidential environment that will result in safer and higher quality care.

Ms. Moe said this is the type of corrective action the board has been asking for. Ms. Moe said a Department of Health workgroup is looking at the possibility of agency-sponsored legislation for 2015 that would allow the board also to use quality improvement tools. The board members agreed that they would be interested in knowing more information as the workgroup continues its work.

[SB 6140](#)- This bill was Department of Health-sponsored legislation. It would authorize, under certain circumstances, a person credentialed as a certified chemical dependency profession or certified chemical dependency professional trainee to treat patient in setting other than program approved under chapter 70.96A RCW (treatment for alcoholism, intoxication, and drug addiction).

**3. CONSENT AGENDA - Timothy Cahn, Ph.D., Chair**

The items listed under the consent agenda (informational items) are considered routine matters and were approved without separate discussion.

**4. ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL (AAG) REPORT – Mark Calkins, AAG and Jack Bucknell, AAG**

Mr. Bucknell discussed board members use of email communication with Department of Health staff members. All of the emails that board members send and receive as part of board business are potentially public records and may be subject to disclosure.

In a recent superior court case, a judge ruled that government employees and public officials who conduct business on private computers cannot reasonably expect those records to be classified as private; business conducted in the employees' or public officials' official capacities is not the personal property of that employee and is not subject to protections afforded to private property.

The judge ordered city employees to hand over their personal hard drives to be searched. Because the case is not at the appellate level it does not have precedential value; however,

it could point to where the appellate courts may go in the future. This issue is extremely important to the board because most members use personal or business computers for board business.

Mr. Bucknell advised members that every email sent regarding board business be copied to a staff member so the email is captured within the department's infrastructure and presumably retained. This mitigates issues surrounding proper email retention and it makes the board members' emails searchable in the event of a public records request.

Dr. Wall made a formal motion asking Jack to look into this issue with the Department of Health asking for technology, such as Citrix, to try to address this issue. The motion was seconded by Dr. Stewart and approved by all.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT - Timothy Cahn, Ph.D., Chair**

Dr. Homans said Washington State Psychological Association supported SB 6140 the hearing the previous Monday. Insurers, particularly Premera, refuse to authorize treatment for adolescents in some larger group practices, unless the provider has the CDP. Then providers can't use their CDP because the facility isn't approved.

**6. Sub-Committee Business and Updates - Timothy Cahn, Ph.D., Chair**

**6.1 Review and requests to re-take examination.** - Because this meeting was via phone, Ms. Moe presented all requests to the full board. Board members reviewed and approved six requests for examination retakes. All approval was based on the board's policy for examination retakes.

**6.2 Presentation and determination on the equivalency of Ontario.** Dr. Stewart presented the requirements for Ontario. He indicated that he does not believe the internship or the educational program requirements are equivalent. He motioned that Ontario be determined non-equivalent based upon those two elements. The motion was seconded by Dr. Wall and approved by all.

**6.3 Review and approval continuing education requests.** The board reviewed and granted a six-month extension of the continuing education requirements. The extension was necessary because of a medical illness in the family. The board reviewed and approved a request for an indefinite waiver of the continuing education requirements for Dr. Nancy Sasser.

**6.4 Review and determination on exam location request.** The board reviewed and denied a request to have an exam administered in a separate location. The applicant lives in North Carolina and expressed the hardship of having to travel to Washington to take the exam.

- 6.5 Newsletter review and approval.** Board members reviewed and approved the newsletter. One article was removed from the edition. The board plans to work on the article to have it ready for the next publication.
- 6.6** Dr. Look shared information from the APA regarding respecialization programs. Dr. Harmon Jacobs asked about the process that will occur when these applications start going to the board for review. Ms. Moe said they would go to a board member for review, but current rules would not allow a respecialization program.
- Dr. Jacobs said Antioch is working with students on respecialization. Dr. Look also said she had checked with the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB). ASPPB does not have a formal policy regarding respecialization. It is revising its model regulations and the revision may include some language when it is completed.
- 6.7** Dr. Rachaud Smith, Psy.D. and Dick Gidner talked about being part of the meet-me calls held every Tuesday during session. The meet-me calls are used to give updates about bills that affect the work of the department with board, commission, and committee members.

Dr. Smith said there was a lot of discussion on [HB 2315](#) – this bill requires certain medical professionals to complete training in suicide assessment, treatment and management that is approved, in rule, by the relevant disciplining authority. Dr. Smith indicated that some of the professions added to the bill this year don't want to be included.

## **7. OREGON BOARD CONTACT – Timothy Cahn, Ph.D., Chair**

Board members reviewed and discussed correspondence from Dr. Munoz, vice chair of the Oregon Board, regarding tele-psychology. Dr. Munoz contacted Dr. Cahn in order to introduce himself and to discuss the fact that many psychologists in the Portland area are dually licensed, and said it is important to know what colleagues up north are doing. He said the Oregon board will tackle the issue of tele-psychology and he had questions about what the Washington board is doing.

The Board agreed that Drs. Cahn and Smith would contact Dr. Munoz on behalf of the board.

## **8. CORRESPONDENCE - Timothy Cahn, Ph.D., Chair**

- 8.1** Board members reviewed correspondence from Dr. James Shaw, who worked as a police psychologist. Dr. Shaw said the psychological evaluation of a police officer has become increasingly complicated with continuing laws, court decisions, recognized standards and policy requirements. Board members expressed an interest in talking with Dr. Shaw regarding his experience. Board members asked Betty Moe to ask Dr. Shaw to the March meeting for a lunch time discussion.

- 8.2** Board members discussed the acceptance of respecialization programs. Constance Sharp, Ph.D. said some of the psychologists she supervises have earned doctorates in psychology that did not include practicum or internships. Often, they were planning to teach or perform other non-clinical services, but they have joined a clinical team and find that they enjoy clinical work.

They may pursue LMHC licenses but would prefer to become licensed psychologists. If the school that awarded their doctorate is willing to re-enroll them and to provide the necessary courses (usually just the practicum and internship) they did not take before graduating, she wondered, would these courses meet the Washington State requirements, or will these psychologists need to content themselves with master level licenses because their doctorates have already been conferred?

The board did not provide a response to these questions, but referred Dr. Sharp to the rules for licensure.

- 8.3** Board members reviewed a survey request from New York State Psychological Association. The survey questioned the existing Tarasoff-type law. Board members commented on the fact that this was an association and not another state licensing board. Mr. Bucknell suggested responding to New York by sharing the current statute (RCW 71.05.120).

Board members agreed with Mr. Bucknell's suggestions and asked Ms. Moe to respond on behalf of the board.

**9. REQUEST FOR LIST AND LABELS- Betty Moe, Program Manager**

Board members reviewed a request for list and labels from Savannah Linnell, Verisys Corp. The corporation indicated it is a professional association, and its services and products are employed to verify, validate, credential and monitor people, professionals and businesses that provide medical goods and services.

The board discussed this request and how the corporation met the definition of professional association. Based on the information provided, the board could not determine if the organization should be approved.

The board asked Ms. Moe to contact Verisys. To be approved, it must provide additional documentation that confirms its status as a professional association. Ms. Moe will ask it to provide documentation no later than March 10, 2014. This discussion will continue as part of the March meeting.

**10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Timothy Cahn, Ph.D., Chair**

- Review of bylaws
- Presentation from Dr. Shaw on police evaluations
- Discussion on respecialization programs- Dr. Look will present information that she volunteered to research related to re-specialization programs
- Rationale for the board approval of military exams in other locations
- Disciplinary cases and orders
- Mock Disciplinary Case – Dr. Look
- Presentation from Washington Health Professional Services (WHPS)
- Review of how other jurisdictions administer the JP exam
- Recruitment updates
- Legislative update
- Sub-Committee work
- Follow-up on board member email – confidentiality issues –Jack Bucknell
- Update on PLUS System
- Rule-writing workshop (allowable coursework and endorsement)

Acceptance of APA/APPIC approved programs

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**2 p.m.**

Submitted by:

Approved by:

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Betty J. Moe, Program Manager  
Examining Board of Psychology

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Timothy Cahn, Ph.D., Chair  
Examining Board of Psychology

**Future meeting dates:**

March 21 – Tumwater

May 16 –TBD

July 25 –Tumwater

Sept. 19 – Seattle Pacific University

Nov. 14 - Tumwater