



Washington State Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists,  
And Social Workers Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes

**February 27, 2015**

**Physical Location:**

Washington State Department of Health  
Town Center Two  
111 Israel Road S.E., Room 145  
Tumwater, WA 98501  
Telephone: 360-236-2912

**Committee members present in person:**

Jennie Lindberg, LMFT – Vice-Chair  
Fredda Jaffe, LMFT  
Audrey Dangtuw, MA, LMFT, LMHC

**Committee members who called in:**

Carlos Carreon, LICSW, ACSW, BCD  
Janys Murphy, Ph.D., LMHC, CDP

**AAG present:**

Christopher Wright, Assistant Attorney General

**Others present in person:**

Karen Langer, WMHCA  
Laura Groshong, WSSCSW

**Staff members present:**

Kim-Boi Shadduck, MBA, Program Manager  
Sonia Ferguson, Program Support  
Nancy Tyson, Executive Director  
Jeff Wise, Policy Analyst  
Joanne Miller, Credentialing Manager

**Others who called in:**

Tom Field, WMHCA  
Kirk Roberts, WAMFT

On February 27, 2015 the Washington State Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee (committee) met at the Department of Health (department), 111 Israel Road, Room 145, Tumwater, WA. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the meeting agenda was emailed to members of the licensed counselors' professional Listserv and posted to the professions' webpages.

## Open Session

### 1. Call to Order – Jennie Lindberg, LMFT – Vice-Chair

9 a.m.

- 1.1 **Introductions-** Ms. Jennie Lindberg conducted a roll call to identify committee members and participants within the room. The roll call also included an account of other participants in attendance via phone.
- 1.2 **Staff updates** – Ms. Kim-Boi Shadduck said the team is fully staffed at this time.
- 1.3 **Approval of the agenda-** The agenda was accepted and approved.
- 1.4 **Approval of the August 15, 2014 meeting minutes-** The December 12, 2014, meeting minutes were accepted and approved as presented.

### 2. Manager Reports – Kim-Boi Shadduck, MBA, Program Manager

- 2.1 **Budget report-** Ms. Shadduck presented the budget information for all three professions. The marriage and family therapists' (MFT) budget has a positive operating balance of \$83,293; mental health counselors' (MHC) budget has a positive operating balance of \$866,240; and the social workers' (SW) budget has a positive operating balance of \$770,358.
- 2.2 **Current licensing statistics-** Ms. Shadduck presented licensing statistics as of February 18, 2015. Statistics presented are as follows:

Profession	Current Number of Credential Holders
LMFT	1,415
LMHC	5,912
LASW	123
LICSW	3,774
LMFTA	455
LMHCA	1,720
LSWAA	204
LSWICA	1,273
Total among all professions	14,876

Ms. Joanne Miller from credentialing gave an update. She said from August 14, 2014 through January 15, 2015, 71 percent of MFT applications were issued within 14 days, the average was 11 days. She said this was a little lower, but it was because of graduation. MHC was at 54 percent and the average was 15 applications a day. SWs were at 81 percent within 14 days with an average of 18 days. SWI was at 80 percent within 14 days with an average of 15 days. Ms. Miller said they have added staff and trained them to improve this year.

- 2.3 **Program Manager Update-** Ms. Shadduck showed a slide so members could see a visual of the number of bills that have been assigned to Health Professions and Facilities (HPF) this year.

There was some concern when Northwest Commission on College and Universities (NWCCU) dropped the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) that MHCs were not going to be accepted. The department has started the rules process in which students will need to attend CHEA accredited or United States Department of Education schools.

Dr. Tom Field thanked the department for acting so quickly addressing the issue so applications wouldn't be in a pending status for long.

Northwest Commission on College and Universities thought CHEA was nothing more than a membership so it dropped its membership. NWCCU is still accredited by the United States Department of Education. This affected 34 schools in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Alaska that were either fully or partially affected.

Ms. Karen Langer said when CHEA was put in the rules, there were schools that weren't as stellar with accreditation. Most schools were CHEA because they were credible. She said other groups of students have complained because their practicum was just observing.

**2.4 Legislative Update** – Ms. Shadduck said she has been listening in on the “meet me” calls. She’s been listening to see if there are any bills that will affect these professions in this committee.

Ms. Shadduck said that she is watching Substitute House Bill (SHB) 1424 Suicide Prevention. If it passes it would require this committee to come up with the required list of approved suicide assessment and treatment continuing education courses.

Ms. Shadduck said she is keeping an eye on Substitute State Bill (SSB) 5870. It would prohibit adverse therapy treatment on minors, including sexual orientation.

SSB 5720 is concerning fingerprint background checks for professionals. It would give FBI and police a quicker response time and access to the Department of Health fingerprint database.

SSB 5175 telemedicine talks about doctors, pharmacists, nurses and a community of mental health professionals providing services in rural areas.

Ms. Laura Groshong said the primary concern with SSB 5175 with physicians is confidentiality, ethical and safety issues.

Ms. Shadduck said she wanted to bring HB 1779 victim interviews and training to everyone’s attention because it affects all professions even though it is an older bill.

SHB 1138 creates a task force for mental health and suicide prevention in higher education by collaborating with University of Washington.

Ms. Shadduck said these were just some bills she wanted to keep an eye on.

Ms. Nancy Tyson thanked Ms. Lindberg for being on the “meet me” calls.

### **3. Legislative Meet Me Calls –**

The information was discussed in 2.4.

Ms. Lindberg did say she would need back up for a couple of “meet me” calls as she will be gone. Ms. Fredda Jaffe is her backup person.

### **4. Rules Workshop – Kim-Boi Shadduck, MBA, Program Manager**

Review of the continuing education (CE) requirements from the previous meeting on WAC 246-809 – Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists and Social Workers.

Mr. Jeff Wise said that licensure does use pre-candidate; you can be an associate and still be licensed.

Ms. Groshong was concerned when associates could become licensed. She thinks they should have become certified because they need to be supervised. She thinks it’s a problem with insurance companies because they get confused. She said she’s talked to some companies and they are confused.

Ms. Tyson said when writing the rules to clarify things, the department needs to stay within the RCW guidelines.

Ms. Groshong said is about public protection issues. The level of supervision was the concern by her group. She said issues have gone around clinical social workers and marriage and family therapists because of their differences in requirement.

Mr. Wise said the RCW says “pre-licensure.” Insurance companies do ask for licensing agreements but each state has its own wording.

Ms. Groshong asked if the definition could include how an associate is different from someone who is licensed.

Mr. Wise said to consider – does it hurt more than help to clarify with a candidate looking for full licensure?

Ms. Jaffe said it can take people two years to get fully licensed. Having a good supervisor makes a difference.

Ms. Groshong said there used to be more agencies where people would get paid and get supervision, but that pool has shrunk.

Mr. Roberts said the department needs to be concerned with wording. Wording can have a lot of implications.

Dr. Janys Murphy said going off what Mr. Roberts said, we should be very mindful and reach out to other groups. She is concerned with “license.” What if we have associates drop “license?”

Under the RCW working under an approved supervisor seems to confusing. Rules should be clearer so it’s easier for the associate to understand.

Ms. Shadduck said this subject can be tabled for now as we need to move on to other changes.

The next discussion was if associates should keep treatment notes or not record notes.

Ms. Groshong said she thinks associates should keep treatment notes.

Ms. Langer said associates need to keep receipts on payments. If they’re recording dates and times, but not notes, a person can request no notes being saved.

Dr. Murphy made a recommendation. The recommendation is documentation of intake and dates of service need to be in the chart. Documents signed by patients would state that they wish for no notes taken and dated. From that date forward the clinician only documents meeting with the client. This rule needs to be clarified more.

Also, clarify to associates that they need to be working under an approved supervisor.

Mr. Wise said if a client requests no notes taken from the associate, then that associate would need to get a request or permission from the supervisor. He said this is a conversation that supervisors and associates need to have.

Mr. Roberts said he was going to survey supervisors on supervision qualifications. Should he include the note taking? The committee thought that was a good idea.

Mr. Wise asked how long the survey would take. Mr. Roberts said it would be done within a month.

Ms. Groshong said she would like Mr. Roberts to email her about the survey.

Ms. Shadduck said there were some word changes in the rules and went over them.

Ms. Shadduck said the committee would need to come back to mandatory reporting.

Ms. Groshong asked if it was possible for someone to gather hours without being an associate. The answer was yes, a person can do that by being agency affiliated or a certified counselor or exempted under RCW 18.225.030; otherwise, you need to be credentialed.

### **WAC 246-110**

Mr. Roberts asked why language was changed to “supervising supervision?” It’s always been recognized by the industry as supervision of supervision.

Ms. Shadduck said that could be changed back. She said there was confusion with supervision of supervision from people coming in from other states.

**WAC 246-809-121**

Mr. Roberts said the list looked different.

Ms. Shadduck said the only things that were taken out were professional law and ethics, supervised clinical electives and clinics. She said she could put them back in for now.

**WAC 809-130**

Ms. Shadduck said this is about supervised post-graduate experience for marriage and family therapists. She said Ms. Debra Defreyn and Ms. Mariama Gondo had split this section up to make it clearer.

Ms. Lindberg said as a supervisor it seems confusing to have all three groups have different requirements and/or guidelines.

**WAC 246-809-134**

Ms. Shadduck said the department is trying to make things more clear under the approved supervisor rule because she and credentialing get a lot of calls on approved supervisor questions.

Ms. Miller said there is a form that has all the hours on which supervisors need to sign off. Supervisors should make sure they fill the form out correctly from the beginning of supervision. She said that under subsection (7) needs to add back in "September 2006" because people coming from other states could have barriers with that since they have been licensed and practicing for years.

**WAC 246-809-220**

Ms. Shadduck said education requirements are helpful for credentialing to have course syllabus to look over when reviewing applications.

**WAC 246-809-234**

Ms. Shadduck said to become an approved supervisor, you need to have an active license, be in good standing for two years and be in the same state as the supervisee.

**WAC 246-809-6xx**

Ms. Shadduck said a chart had been added to help with the associates understand their continuing education requirements. The associates requirements vary depending on which profession they are under.

**WAC 246-809-730**

For retired active license continuing education requirements also needs to have six hours in professional law and ethics every two years.

**5. Consent Agenda – Jennie Lindberg, LMFT – Vice-Chair**  
The consent agenda was approved and accepted as presented.

**6. Public Comment – Jennie Lindberg, LMFT – Vice-Chair**  
None

**7. Future Agenda Items – Jennie Lindberg, LMFT - Vice-Chair**

- Training on storage of electronic data/information
- Status of bills

**8. Items to Monitor – Jennie Lindberg, LMFT – Vice-Chair**

Ms. Lindberg said she was curious about SHB 1135. What exists right now? Is there remediation now?

Ms. Shadduck said this committee does not have the authority to do this type of thing. This committee can make recommendations to the secretary of health.

**9. Adjournment**

**1:07 p.m.**

Submitted by:

– Signature on file

Kim-Boi Shadduck, MBA, Program Manager  
Washington State Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapist and Social Worker Advisory Committee

Approved by:

– Signature on file

Dr. Janys Murphy, Ph.D., LMHC, CDP, Chair  
Washington State Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapist and Social Worker Advisory Committee