



March 25, 2011

**Washington State Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and
Social Workers Advisory Committee
Tele-Conference Meeting Minutes**

LOCATION:

Washington State Department of Health
243 Israel Road SE
Town Center 3, Room 512
Tumwater, WA 98504-7852
Telephone 360.236.4912

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Philip Brown, LICSW, LMFT, Ph.D., Vice-Chair
Christine Bear, LMHC
Joseph Price, LMFT, LMHC, Ph.D.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Carl Greenberg, LMFT, Chair

STAFF PRESENT:

Bob Nicoloff, Executive Director
Betty Moe, Program Manager
Billie Jo Dale, Program Manager

AAG PRESENT:

Jason Howell, Assistant Attorney General

OTHERS PRESENT:

Laura Groshong, WSSCSW
Kirk Roberts
Jan Legaurd (I'm not sure about the last name)
Sandra Johnson, MSW, LICSW

On March 25, 2011 the Washington State Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee (committee) met via teleconference. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the meeting agenda was e-mailed to members of the Licensed Counselors Listserv.

OPEN SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER – Philip Brown, LICSW, LMFT, Ph.D., Vice-Chair 9:02 a.m.

- 1.1** The committee members and meeting attendees gave introductions at the start of the meeting.
- 1.2** The agenda was approved as written.
- 1.3** The November 5, 2010 meeting minutes were approved as written.

2. MANAGER REPORTS – Robert Nicoloff, Executive Director & Betty Moe, Program Manager

- 2.1** Ms. Moe provided an update on the current licensing statistics. The number of pending Social Work applications is high as applicants have 3 years to take and pass the exam once their application is approved.

The licensing statistics as of March 18th are as follows:

Program	Current number of credential holders
LMFT	1,210
LMHC	5,027
LASW	97
LICSW	3,316
LMFTA	295
LMHCA	1,243
LSWAIC	789
LSWAA	175
Certified Counselors	712
Certified Advisers	11
Agency Affiliated Counselors	6,095

- 2.2** Ms. Moe presented the following budget report for the month of February 2011:

Program	Current Balance
LMFT	125,579
LMHC	-185,326
LASW & LICSW	180,435
LMFTA	-22,323
LMHCA	-57,621
LSWAIC & LSWAA	-9,585

Since the associate credentials are new professions a negative balance is typical at this point due to the cost of starting up the profession. The negative balance is expected to decrease as revenue increases.

2.3 Mr. Nicoloff gave an update on the new counseling credentials. We are coming to the end of the road in the transition from registered counselors to the eight new counseling credentials. The legislation required that we report to the legislature and the governor by December 15, 2011 the number of registered counselors that became certified counselors or certified advisers, the number, status, type, and outcome of disciplinary actions involving certified counselors and certified advisers, rules developed and the cost to administer the program. The report is in the development stages and will be shared with the committee once it is final.

2.4 Ms. Moe provided an update on committee member appointments and committee recruitment. An appointment package was sent forward to re-appoint Christine Bear, LMHC and to appoint a new licensed mental health counselor to replace Patty Matsumoto. Ms. Matsumoto was not interested in being re-appointed.

The committee is currently recruiting for a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, Licensed Advanced Social Worker and 3 public members.

Joseph Price, LMFT, LMHC, PH.D. and Philip Brown, LICSW, LMFT, Ph.D. have been asked to attend the next meeting in April 2011 if new members have not been appointed at that time.

2.5 Ms. Moe had no additional program reports at this time.

2.6 Mr. Nicoloff provided a legislative update on the following bills:
 HB 1371 – Addressing Boards and Commissions. This bill proposes elimination of several advisory committees which included the licensed counselor advisory committee. At this point the licensed counselor advisory committee has been removed from the bill.

SB5020 - Protecting consumers by assuring persons using the title of social worker have graduated with a degree in social work from an educational program accredited by the council on social work education. This bill has been supported by NASW. There are some exemptions to certain areas of practice.

SB5187 - Concerning the accountability of mental health professionals employed by an evaluation and treatment facility for communicating with a parent or guardian about the option of parent-initiated mental health treatment.

HB1176 - Providing licensed midwives online access to health care resources through the University of Washington health sciences library. Currently, licensed mental health counselors and licensed social workers have access to HEAL-WA. This bill would add licensed marriage and family therapists.

3. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE DRAFTING OF AN INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT – Betty Moe, Program Manager.

At a previous meeting, Lisa Erickson had indicated she would be willing to assist in drafting an interpretive statement. Carl Greenberg will be contacting Ms. Erickson and hopefully they will be able to provide an update to the committee at the next meeting.

4. ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL REPORT – Jason Howell, AAG

Mr. Howell had nothing to report.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT – Philip Brown, LICSW, LMFT, Ph.D., Vice-Chair

Kirk Roberts thanked the committee for holding meetings by teleconference which makes it more convenient to attend.

6. CONSENT AGENDA - Philip Brown, LICSW, LMFT, Ph.D., Vice-Chair

The items listed under the consent agenda were approved by a single motion of the committee.

7. TERM USED FOR MASTERS LEVEL PROFESSIONS – Betty Moe, Program Manager

Ms. Moe presented some key points to the committee about writing a public service announcement (PSA). The committee would need to determine who is the audience and what outlet they will use radio, print, or television. A TV announcement can cost up to \$100,000. The committee would like to know what is done in other states. Ms. Groshong stated that in New York they have been running PSA's regarding social workers and case workers for about 6 months due to charges that have been brought against a case worker.

The committee will research other states and discuss at the next meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS – Betty Moe, Program Manager

- 8.1 Ms. Moe presented an e-mail to the committee regarding social workers accepting a verbal order from a physician. The committee would like to have more information about the context of the situation before responding.
- 8.2 Ms. Moe presented the question of whether teaching a practicum meets the qualification of the 15 hours of training in supervision to qualify a person to be an approved supervisor. The committee feels that the teaching of a practicum does not meet the requirements in WAC 246-809-134,234, and 334 as it is not equivalent to the supervision of supervision requirement.
- 8.3 Ms. Moe presented Karen A. Jensen, Assistant Secretary's response to the Ms. Bogni's letter regarding the bill which would have eliminated the licensed counselor committee. Since the committee has been removed from the bill it is not a concern at this point. The committee would like to thank Ms. Bogni for her support.
- 8.4 Ms. Moe shared the e-mail that was sent to the listserv regarding the continuing education requirement for initial licensure. The application forms have been updated to include this requirement and staff that deal with the professions have been contacted.
- 8.5 Ms. Moe presented the American Counselor Association document which shows the number of providers in each state.
- 8.6 The committee discussed changing the June 2011 meeting to an in person meeting in Tumwater. The committee decided to hold the June 2011 meeting by teleconference.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Philip Brown, LICSW, LMFT, Ph.D., Vice-Chair

Review draft interpretive statement
Continue to look at PSA regarding new professions
Look at supervision of associates and professional liability
Discuss the one year exemption option

10. OTHER ITEMS – Philip Brown, LICSW, LMFT, Ph.D., Vice-Chair

Ms. Moe informed the committee that she has received calls and e-mails from those upset that they missed the one year exemption option that was available from July 1, 2009 through July 1, 2010. The committee decided to discuss this issue at the next meeting.

Mr. Nicoloff wanted to thank Philip Brown and Joseph Price for their excellent service and contributions to the committee and hopes that they will continue to stay involved and provide feedback on issues.

11. ITEMS TO MONITOR – Carl Greenberg, LMFT, Chair

Two-year renewal cycle
Parenting Evaluation Standards
CACREP standards and schools in Washington with CACREP accreditation.

19. ADJOURNMENT

10:09 am

Submitted by:

Betty J. Moe, Program Manager
Washington State Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists
and Social Worker Advisory Committee

Approved by:

Carl Greenberg, LMFT, Chair
Washington State Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists
and Social Worker Advisory Committee