

MINUTES

**UTAH
SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER COUNSELOR
LICENSING BOARD MEETING**

January 21, 2015

**Room 475, 4th Floor – 9:00 A.M.
Heber M. Wells Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

CONVENED: 9:08 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 1:43 P.M.

Bureau Manager:
Board Secretary:

Richard J. Oborn
Lee Avery

Board Members Present:

Santiago Cortez, Chairperson
Michael Dulle
Lori Buhler
Leslie Woodfall
Valerie Fritz
David Felt

Board Members Resigned:

Pete Prazza
Stephen R. Sheppard, Ph.D.

DOPL Staff Present:

Susan Higgs, Compliance Specialist
Kaylee Garrett, Licensing Specialist

Guests:

None

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Swear in new Board member

Mr. Michael Dulle was sworn in as the new Board member. Mr. Dulle introduced himself to the Board.

Minutes:

The Board reviewed the July 16, 2014 Board meeting minutes. Mr. Felt made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Buhler and carried unanimously.

COMPLIANCE REPORT:

Susan Higgs, Compliance Specialist

#1. Ms. Charmele Nish is in compliance with her stipulation. She submitted her supervisor evaluations

for August, September, October November and December for both employers. She submitted therapy reports for August, September, October, November and December. There is a new supervisor at Molina Health Care and Ms. Nish submitted her proposed supervisors CV. Mr. Oborn conditionally approved the supervisor.

#2. Ms. Robin O'Dell is in compliance with her stipulation. She submitted quarterly supervisor reports for October and January. She submitted meeting attendance on Affinity thru December. She has two negative UAs since last meeting with the Board. She has one missed check-in.

#3. Ms. Brittany Roberts is in compliance with her stipulation. She submitted supervisor reports from August through November. She was in an internship. She attends support meetings and has them documented through December 2014. She is currently not working in the field.

#4. Ms. Lindsay Titus is a new probationer. She submitted six months of supervisor reports, certification of notification for two supervisors, one CV and a probation plan for the Board to review. She attends two support meetings a month.

#5. Ms. Tiffanie Kelsch is in compliance with her stipulation. She submitted a probation plan at the July meeting for the Board's formal approval. She submitted a supervisor report from July through December. She is not working in the field. She needs to submit her CEs by May 19, 2015.

#6. Mr. Todd Ash is in compliance with his stipulation. He submitted his evaluation which was due on July 16, 2014. He is not working in the field.

APPOINTMENTS:

Ms. Charmele Nish, probation interview

Ms. Nish met with Board for her probation interview. Mr. Felt conducted the interview. Ms. Nish stated that things are going well. She is enjoying her job. Her coworkers are very supportive. The facility she worked at for her second job closed its doors and she is no longer working two jobs. This caused some minor financial issues. It has also freed up her time and she is considering going back to school. Ms. Nish

stated her proposed supervisor has been very supportive of her and has a good clinical background. They have been working on creating a behavioral health team. She meets weekly with her supervisor, more when needed. They review her case loads and difficult cases. She continues to follow up with how things are going with Ms. Nish's probation with the Board. Ms. Fritz made a motion to approve her proposed supervisor. The motion was seconded by Ms. Woodfall and carried unanimously. The Board noted that Ms. Nish has been in compliance with her probation for almost two years and encouraged her to continue in the direction she is moving. Mr. Felt made a motion to move Ms. Nish's supervisor and therapy reports to quarterly. The motion was seconded by Ms. Buhler and carried unanimously. Ms. Nish was advised that her reports are now due by April 1, 2015. The Board asked to see Ms. Nish on April 22, 2015. **Ms. Nish is in compliance with her probation.**

Ms. Robin O'Dell, probation interview

Ms. O'Dell met with the Board for her probation interview. Ms. Buhler conducted the interview. Ms. Odell stated things are going very well, both personally and professionally. She works at Recovery Ways and is going to school for her LCSW. The Board noted that Ms. O'Dell's probation is scheduled to end May 17, 2015. Ms. O'Dell stated she just submitted her SUDC application. Ms. O'Dell asked if her bachelors degree would count for the CE hours once her SUDC license is issued or if she needed to attend additional continuing education classes. The Board noted that her degree relates to the mental health profession and her school is accredited. This will count towards her CE requirement. She will need to obtain some hours in ethics. She needs to keep course descriptions for review and will receive three credits per semester. The Board asked to see Ms. O'Dell on April 22, 2015. **Ms. O'Dell is in compliance with her probation.**

Ms. Brittany Roberts, probation interview

Ms. Roberts met with the Board for her probation interview. Ms. Fritz conducted the interview. Ms. Roberts stated things are going well. She is not working in the field at this time. She works at Elevated Billing. This job does not require licensure; however, her education in mental health has been very helpful in performing her job duties. She reviews clinical therapist notes and calls insurance companies

for authorization for treatment. Ms. Roberts stated she needs four more months of internship. In June, she will co-facilitate IOP groups with Gary Jones. She has been in therapy for three years and continues to see her therapist when needed. She continues attending support group meetings and is submitting attendance forms. The Board noted that she missed one check-in. This concerns the Board because it is an indication of relapse. Ms. Roberts stated she forgot to call and will do better. She continues attending University of Phoenix. She is in their bachelor's of human services program. The Board advised Ms. Roberts that her degree will count towards her CE requirement. She will need to obtain some hours in ethics. Ms. Roberts advised the Board that once she graduates with her bachelors, she will go into the masters CMHC program. The Board asked to see Ms. Roberts October 14, 2015. **Ms. Roberts is in compliance with her stipulation.**

Ms. Lindsay Titus, probation interview

Ms. Titus met with the Board for her probation interview. Ms. Woodfall conducted the interview. The Board noted this is Ms. Titus' first interview with the Board and reviewed with her the role the Board will take during her probation. Ms. Titus advised the Board that she is an addict in recovery. She has criminal charges since 2009. All felonies had been expunged when she completed drug court in 2012. She was in recovery April 2010 and relapsed in November 2012. Her relapse was three or four weeks. She has been sober since December 4, 2012. She is seeing her therapist every other week, attends support meetings once or twice a week, and has a sponsor. Ms. Titus stated she has no excuse for not calling in, she just forgot. Since Ms. Higgs talked to her about it, she has not missed once. She has four alarms set to remind her. Ms. Titus stated that Mr. David Callister is the new Clinical Director at Renaissance. She has completed about half of her internship hours for her SUDC license and has completed some CE hours. Once she completes the CE hours, she will write her essay. Mr. Felt made a motion to require Ms. Titus obtain six additional CE hours with an emphasis in ethics, and look at her history of ignoring requirements and how it applies to her as a counselor and include this in her essay. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fritz and carried unanimously. The Board noted these need to be completed within one year of today. The

Board reviewed her probation plan. Mr. Felt made a motion to approve the plan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dulle and carried unanimously. Mr. Felt made a motion to accept her supervisor. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fritz and carried unanimously. The Board asked to see Ms. Titus April 22, 2015.
Ms. Titus is in compliance with her stipulation.

Mr. Spencer Jensen, applicant for CSUDC-I

Discussion:

Mr. Oborn shared Mr. Jensen's CSUDC- Intern application with the Board. Mr. Jensen has extensive criminal history. He is still on court probation for six more months.

The Board has two options:

1. Deny Mr. Jensen's request for license based on his criminal history and the fact that he is still on court probation, OR
2. Approved a restricted license and the Board would recommend probation terms.

Mr. Jensen met with the Board for the review of his CSUDC-Intern application. Mr. Cortez conducted the interview. Mr. Cortez noted that the purpose of the Board is to support the professional, ensure the professional is working in an ethical manner, and to protect the public. The Board reviewed the documents Mr. Jensen submitted and is concerned with his criminal history. Mr. Jensen stated he is a house manager for a rehabilitation facility. This is an unlicensed position. Mr. Jensen reviewed his history with the Board. He had gone through treatment at Renaissance Ranch. In May 2012 he abused prescriptions and was terminated from his employment. The DEA was involved. When he lost his employment, he went on a drinking binge for a few months. He was arrested for an open container and warrants. He went into therapy and attended support groups. The Board realizes the hard work Mr. Jensen has done in his recovery. Mr. Felt made a motion to recommend the Division issue a probation license with the following restrictions:

1. He obtains a psychological evaluation with a substance abuse component.
2. He continues with therapy.
3. He meets with the Board.
4. He is on probation for at least four years.
5. His supervisor is pre-approved by the Board.

6. He has to do random UAs.
7. The CE and essay requirements can be required by the Board and Division if requested.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Fritz and carried unanimously. Mr. Oborn will prepare the stipulation and encouraged Mr. Jensen to review it with his attorney. Mr. Oborn will also provide him with names of individuals who have provided psychological evaluations that the Board and Division accepted. He may use these or submit a proposal, including the CV, for the Board to consider.

Ms. Tiffanie Kelsch, probation interview

Ms. Kelsch met with the Board for her probation interview. Mr. Dulle conducted the interview. Ms. Kelsch stated that things have been going well. She continues with therapy at the trauma center. She was going every week, now every other week. She last met with her therapist on January 19th, 2015. Ms. Kelsch stated she has not completed the psychological evaluation yet due to finances. She has not worked much. The agency she was working for required her to do a lot of traveling and they did not pay very much. She was losing more financially and needed to leave that job. Ms. Kelsch stated her support comes from her family, friends and church. She has also reached out to Ken Roach with the UMHCA. She meets with him every couple of weeks. He has become a mentor to her. The Board encouraged her to attend groups for support as well. The Board asked Ms. Kelsch to submit her written plan by April 8, 2015. The Board asked Ms. Kelsch to not practice until after her psychological evaluation and after she meets with the Board. The Board advised Ms. Kelsch that if she cannot get the psychological evaluation done soon, she may want to surrender her license, go back to school and then reapply for her license. The Board asked to see Ms. Kelsch April 22, 2015. **Ms. Kelsch is in compliance with her probation.**

Mr. Todd Ash, probation interview

Mr. Ash met with the Board for his probation interview. Mr. Felt conducted the interview. Mr. Ash stated he has not seen the evaluation. The Board did not want to make a decision until after Mr. Ash had an opportunity to review it and gave him a copy. Mr. Felt made a motion to close the Board meeting at 1:06 P.M. to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an

individual. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fritz and carried unanimously. A recording was not made. There were no written notes taken. The Board meeting opened at 1:33 P.M. Mr. Felt motioned that Mr. Ash does not work in this field at this time. He needs to attend therapy for at least six months before he begins to practice again. He needs to submit a name of a therapist for Board and Division approval. The therapist must be fully licensed. Associate or intern license levels are not acceptable. He needs to submit reports showing he is making headway on his issues. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dulle and carried unanimously. This needs to be submitted by February 15, 2015. The Board advised Mr. Ash that if he cannot get the therapy he may want to surrender his license. He could get the therapy at a later date and then reapply for his license. The Board asked to see Mr. Ash on April 22, 2015. **Mr. Ash is in compliance with his stipulation at this time.**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Rule amendments

Out of order on the agenda:

Mr. Oborn reviewed R156-60d, Substance Use Disorder Act Rule with the Board. This rule hearing was held January 7, 2015 and is scheduled to become effective January 21, 2015. Mr. Oborn noted that this change will increase the maximum number of CE hours that licensees can complete via distance learning and count toward the CE requirement.

2. Upcoming legislative session

Mr. Oborn reviewed a proposal to the 2015 legislation to require continuing education hours that are specific to suicide prevention training. These hours would be required every renewal cycle and the Division would need to audit licensees.

Next Board Meeting:

April 22, 2015

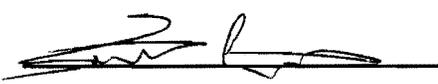
2015 Board meetings have been tentatively scheduled

April 22, July 8, October 14

ADJOURN:

The meeting adjourned: 1:43 P.M.

Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.



(ss) _____

Date Approved

3.5.15
Date Approved

Chairperson, Utah Substance Use Disorder Counselor
Licensing Board

(ss) 
Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational &
Professional Licensing