

Minutes

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER COUNSELOR LICENSING BOARD MEETING

April 11, 2018, - 9:00 A. M.
Room 474, Fourth Floor
Heber M. Wells Building
160 E. 300 S. Salt Lake City, Utah

CONVENED: 9:06 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 10:47 A.M.

Bureau Managers:
Board Secretary:

Jennifer Zaelit
Lee Avery

Board Members Present:

Santiago Cortez, Chairperson
Valerie Fritz, Vice-Chairperson
Michael Dulle
Joseph Szurgyi
Candice Christiansen

Board Members Excused:

Catherine Cartisano

DOPL Staff Present:

Mark Smith, Compliance Specialist
Tracy Naff, Compliance Manager

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

1. Swear in new Board Member, Jason Webb

Mr. Webb was sworn in as the new Board Member. Introductions were made.

2. Review and approve minutes

The Board reviewed minutes dated January 10, 2018.

Mr. Dulle made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Christiansen seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Nominate Chairperson, tabled from January meeting

Mr. Dulle nominated Mr. Cortez for Chairperson. Ms. Christiansen seconded the nomination. The nomination carried unanimously.

4. Nominate Vice Chairperson, tabled from January meeting

Ms. Fritz nominated Mr. Dulle for the Vice Chairperson. Ms. Christensen seconded the nomination. The nomination carried unanimously.

5. Compliance report

Mr. Smith reviewed the compliance report with the Board.

Mr. Ash failed to submit his reports indicating he is not working the filed since June 2017. He has failed to keep in contact with the compliance specialist. An essay was due on 11/11/2017, this has not been submitted.

Ms. Wilde is a transfer from the Diversion program. She is meeting with this Board for the first time. She submitted documents as required in her stipulation. She holds SUDC and ACMHC licenses.

Mr. Webb advised the Board that he was her supervisor. Mr. Dulle and Mr. Cortez indicated they know Ms. Wilde too.

APPOINTMENTS:

9:20 A.M. – Amy Wilde, new probation interview

Ms. Wilde met with the Board. The Board reviewed Ms. Wilde's stipulation, her Mental Health Assessment, and her essay. Mr. Szurgyi conducted the interview. Ms. Wilde indicated she is working at Reflections Recovery Center, as the Clinical Director and is seeing thirteen (13) clients a week. Her Supervisor is Marilee Jensen, CMHC. Ms. Wilde reviewed her employment and substance abuse history with the Board. She noted that January 25, 2018, she had a drink. The Board noted that she has a long history of relapsing every few months and expressed concern that not only is she the Clinical Director of an agency, she is also seeing clients and she had a recent relapse. The Board questioned her ability to manage others if she cannot manage herself.

Mr. Smith noted that currently Ms. Wilde needs to meet with both the CMCH and the SUDC Boards. She met with the CMHC Board on March 14, 2018. She needs to do random UA's, attend support groups and provide supervision reports to the Division. Ms. Wilde indicated that her interview with the CMHC Board went okay, the Board did not raise any concerns.

The Board advised Ms. Wilde that they were extremely concerned she violated her agreement with the Diversion Program, i.e. Utah Recovery Assistance Program. The Board advised Ms. Wilde that currently they do not get a sense of stability from her and encouraged her to give herself more time to get stabilized. The Board noted that while she is in the midst of a relapse she should not be working as a Clinical Director or counseling others. The Board advised Ms. Wilde that her essay is minimizing her situation and encouraged her to review her essay again. The Board did not vote to accept or deny Ms. Wilde's essay.

Mr. Cortez advised Ms. Wilde that the Board's responsibility is its obligation to protect the public, then support probationer.

The Board expressed concern that the CMHC Board did not raise concerns regarding Ms. Wilde's relapses and her current employment as a Director of a mental health program and seeing clients.

Mr. Webb motioned to keep Ms. Wilde's probation monitoring separate from the CMHC Board for about 6 months and see how she is doing at that time, because the SUDC Board focus is different than the CMHC. Mr. Dulle seconded the motion. The Board wants to see Ms. Wilde and her supervisor at the next Board meeting.

Discussion after the interview:

This Board feels that Ms. Wilde needs to lose both licenses if there is another relapse. Currently she presents as a client, not management. The Board noted that Ms. Wilde may be okay to provide case management services and process insurance but expressed strong concern that she should not be a Clinical Director or SUDC counselor at this time.

Discussion:

The Board expressed concern regarding a licensed professional failing the “Diversion Program” and then being placed on probation with the Board. The Board is concerned that the Board is not meeting statutory requirement to protect the public by putting her as a director of an agency, working with mental health and substance abuse clients.

9:35 A.M. – Chad Wilburn, request additional ASUDCI license

Mr. Wilburn withdrew his request to meet with the Board at this time.

Ms. Zaelit inquired about the intern license, noting that this license is issued for six (6) months for the licensee to take and pass the next available exam, and was considered a one-time license.

The Board agrees this was the intent of the license and the Board would not support changing this.

9:50 A.M. – Todd Ash, probation update

Mr. Ash failed to keep his appointment with the Board.

The Board noted that Mr. Ash failed to submit his reports as required in his stipulation with the Board, he has not kept in touch with the Division, and he failed to keep his appointment with the Board. The Board feels he is not taking care of business related to getting his professional license back in good standing. The Board feels he is in violation of his agreement with the Board.

Ms. Christiansen made a motion to recommend the Division move forward with notice of agency action. Mr. Dulle seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Supervision and CE discussion follow-up

Ms. Zaelit advised the Board that she is trying to write a supervision contract for CSUDC and ACSUDC and is struggling with the language and how the supervision is structured. She is requesting the Boards help. Mr. Cortez reviewed how supervision is handled within his agency. He noted that the SUDC cannot work on their own. They need to be under the supervision of a mental health therapist. Mr. Cortez stated he will send Ms. Zaelit sample supervision contracts that his agency uses.

2. Qualifications for licensure – 58-60-506 (2)(c)(ii) and (5)(c)(ii), Mr. Cortez

Mr. Cortez noted that the current statute requires an individual to retake the substance abuse program, if they failed to obtain full licensure within two (2) years for SUDC’s

and four (4) years for ASUDC's from the date they completed the education. He wanted feedback from the Board and Division before sponsoring a bill in the 2019 legislation to change this. The Division usually takes a neutral stand in these kinds of issues. The Board agrees with Mr. Cortez that this requirement needs to be changed.

3. DOPL Investigation stats from 2016/2017

The Board reviewed the DOPL Investigation statistics for 2016/2017.

4. Board Member training – Open Public meetings

Ms. Zaelit reviewed the Open Public meeting training with the Board and encouraged members to contact her with any questions.

Next Board Meeting: July 18, 2018

2018 Board meetings tentatively scheduled.
July 18, October 10

ADJOURN:

The meeting adjourned: 10:49 A.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.

10/10/18
Date Approved

(ss) Jostell
Chairperson, Utah Substance Use Disorder
Counselor Licensing Board

10/10/2018
Date Approved

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