

Minutes

**UTAH PSYCHOLOGIST LICENSING BOARD
MEETING**

July 18, 2019 1:00 P.M.
North Conference Room, 1st Floor
Heber M. Wells Building
160 E. 300 S. Salt Lake City, Utah

CONVENED: 1:02 P.M.

ADJOURNED: 3:50 P.M.

DOPL STAFF PRESENT:

Executive Director: Francine Giani
Public Information Officer II: Jennifer Bolton
Bureau Manager: Larry Marx
Bureau Manager: Jennifer Zaelit
Board Secretary: Jennifer Johnson
Compliance Manager: Deborah Blackburn
Compliance Specialist: Mark Smith

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

David Dodgion, Ph.D., Chair
A. Glade Ellingson, Ph.D.
Steve Auerbach, Public Member
Cade Charlton, Ph.D.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT TELEPHONICALLY:

Melissa Jones, Ph.D.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kelly, Ph.D., Vice Chair

GUESTS:

Madison Norris, NASW
Susan Chamberlain, APA
Frances Harris, UPA
Jerry Buie, NASW Pride Counseling
Sarah Christman, U of U – UNI
Steven Lucero, U of U
David Pruden, Reconciliation of Growth
Geoffrey Heath, ATCSI
Sara Schules, U of U – College of Social Work
Student

Amber Choruby Whiteley, U of U
Clifford Rosky, Equality Utah
Ronni B. Adams, Stop Abuse Campaign
Jennifer Dailey – Provost, Utah House of
Representatives
Nan Klein, Utah Psychological Assoc.
Olivia Scott, University of Utah Counseling
Center
Phillip S. Ferguson, Attorney for Dr. Yoder

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS: Audio Pt. 1

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Dr. Dodgion called the meeting to order at 1:02 P.M.

SWEAR IN NEW BOARD MEMBER

Dr. Charlton was sworn in as the new Behavior Analyst member of the Board.

REVIEW AND APPROVE June 27, 2019 MINUTES Audio Pt. 1 (00:04)

Mr. Auerbach made a motion to approve the minutes as provided.

Dr. Ellingson seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed.

COMPLIANCE REPORT Audio Pt. 1 (00:09)

Mr. Smith reviewed the compliance report as provided.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: Audio Pt. 1 & Pt. 2

REVIEW OF ETHICAL PRACTICE RULES Audio Pt. 1 (00:15)

Dr. Dodgion reviewed Governor's letter directing the Psychology Board to "provide additional guidance for the development of rules to regulate psychological interventions for minor children regarding their sexual orientation and gender identity".

Dr. Dodgion stated these are commonly referred to as conversion therapy and the American Psychological Association (APA) does not recognize such practices as being a therapeutic intervention. Dr. Dodgion stated the terms sexual orientation change efforts and gender identity change efforts are the terms the American Psychological Association uses and will be the terms the Psychology Board will use in their Rules definition.

Dr. Dodgion stated in regards to the Governor's directive the Psychology Board will limit their focus to the protection of minors at this time. Dr. Dodgion stated "the American Psychological Association rejects sexual orientation and gender identity change efforts as ineffective and harmful for all patients regardless of age and the American Psychological Association has noted sexual orientation and gender identity change efforts may be particularly harmful to minors" and "the need for regulation in this area is clear." Dr. Dodgion stated the Board may review potential regulation for adults in the future.

In response to the Governor's letter Dr. Dodgion and Dr. Ellingson did extensive research. The research included literature review, consultation with national experts, and coordination with the American Psychological Association. It is Dr. Dodgion and Dr. Ellingson's conclusion that practices intended to change sexual orientation or gender identity are not demonstrated to be effective and are associated with harm, and the risk of harm, including significant increases in depression, suicidal ideation and suicide attempts.

Dr. Dodgion stated "interventions undertaken in the name of mental treatment that harm or risk harm to others are contrary to the ethical standards or principles to the profession." Dr. Dodgion stated their determination that Psychologists participating in these practices with minors are engaging in unprofessional conduct. Dr. Dodgion stated the conclusions are consistent with practice guidelines, and position statements by the American Psychological Association, the

American Psychiatric Association, the National Association of Social Workers, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and many other health and mental health organizations.

Based on this information the Psychology Board has drafted proposed rule changes to address this issue. The Rule change is a proposed amendment to the Psychology Licensing Act Rule R156-61-102. Proposed changes include the addition of six definitions and one element of unprofessional conduct.

The Board reviewed the draft language and proposed amendments.

Audio Pt. 1 (00:25)

Mr. Auerbach made a motion to accept the draft language with the proposed amendments and submit to the Division.

Dr. Ellingson seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed.

APPOINTMENTS: Audio Pt. 3

KATIE YODER, PROBATION REVIEW

Dr. Dodgion conducted the interview with Dr. Yoder and asked Dr. Yoder what she has done to maintain compliance with her Stipulation and Order.

Dr. Yoder stated she has completed her written plan, one month of supervised practice, one month of individual treatment in therapy, a substance use disorder evaluation, and the "Thinking Errors" course.

The Board expressed concerns about Dr. Yoder's proposed supervisor since they do not live in Utah and do not hold a Utah Psychologist license. The Board also expressed concern the proposed supervisor could not be objective because of their long term professional relationship with Dr. Yoder.

Dr. Yoder stated she did not understand why she needed a supervisor and asked why the Board felt she needed to have supervision.

Mr. Marx stated the supervision requirement is one of the stipulations Dr. Yoder agreed to when she signed her Order.

Mr. Ferguson asked the Board what the emphasis should be for a supervisor and asked if Dr. Yoder's therapist could be a potential supervisor.

The Board stated they would prefer a proposed supervisor that is licensed as a Psychologist with the State of Utah and specializes in substance abuse treatment. The Board advised Dr. Yoder her therapist could not act as her supervisor since it would be considered a dual relationship. The Board asked Dr. Yoder to propose a supervisor, that she does not have current or former relationship with, by August 18, 2019.

The Board found multiple areas where Dr. Yoder was not in compliance with her order. The Board stated they are concerned with Dr. Yoder's judgement and her unwillingness to be truthful with the Board. The Board stated Dr. Yoder's noncompliance with her Stipulation and Order put her license at risk.

An appointment was made for Dr. Yoder to meet with the Board October 10, 2019.

DAMON CORGIAT, EDUCATION REVIEW Audio Pt. 3 (1:03)

Dr. Corgiat met with the Board to review his education and would like Board clarification on the re-specialization program requirements. Dr. Corgiat was hoping to be able to complete additional coursework that would substitute for completing a re-specialization program in order to meet the education requirements to obtain Utah Psychology licensure.

Dr. Ellingson stated the Board would not be able to suggest specific additional coursework as Dr. Corgiat would need to complete a re-specialization program that is recognized by the American Psychological Association (APA). Dr. Ellingson stated the Board does not have the authority to grant an exception to the rule.

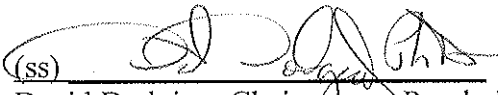
NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: AUGUST 1, 2019

**ADJOURN:
Meeting adjourned at 3:50 P.M.**


**Board Meetings Tentatively Scheduled
October 10**

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.

10/10/19
Date Approved

(ss) 
David Dodgion, Chairperson, Psychologist
Licensing Board

10 Oct 2019
Date Approved

Jennifer Zaelt (ss) 
Larry Marx, Bureau Manager, Division of
Occupational & Professional Licensing