



## **Examining Board of Psychology Meeting Minutes**

**January 7, 2022**

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

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Board members present: Florence Katz Burstein, Public Member, Chair  
Ruth Varkovitzky, Ph.D., ABPP, Vice Chair  
Patience McGinnis, Psy.D.  
Shari Roberts, Public Member  
Leslie Cohn, Ph.D.  
Phillip Hawley, Psy.D.  
Elena Lopez, Psy.D.  
Cedar O'Donnell, Ph.D.

Board members absent: Michelle Giresi, Ph.D.

Staff members present: James Chaney, Executive Director  
Stacey Saunders, Program Director  
Karen Gohlsen, Program Support  
Nancy Delgado, Program Support  
Lilia Lopez, Assistant Attorney General  
Bill Kellington, Supervising Staff Attorney  
Melody Casiano, Policy Analyst  
Ashley Bell, Behavioral Health Consultant  
Jeff Orwig, Financial Manager  
Hyon Yi, Credentialing Deputy Section Manager

Guests: None

On January 7, 2022, the Examining Board of Psychology met online via Microsoft Teams. Notice of the meeting was published on the Examining Board of Psychology [profession website](#) and was sent out through the GovDelivery listserv.

## Open Session:

### 1. Opening of Public Meeting – Florence Katz Burstein, Public Member, Chair

- 1.1. Call to Order: The chair called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. followed by introductions of board members, DOH staff, and the AAG.
- 1.2. Approval of the Agenda: *Motion to approve the agenda, seconded, vote 8-0.*
- 1.3. Approval of September 17, 2021 Meeting Minutes: *Motion to approve the minutes, seconded, vote 8-0.*

### 2. Public Comment – Florence Katz Burstein, Public Member, Chair

- 2.1. Florence Katz Burstein read aloud the public comment statement:  
“Thank you for taking the time to be with us today. We are eager to hear from you. We typically provide notice to our constituents and other interested parties before taking action on any topic, so we seldom take action on topics unexpectedly raised by the public or others if not on the agenda. While individual board members may ask questions or make comments about your presentation, please be aware that individual board members do not represent the board as a whole and that the subject of your comment may not be acted upon today or in the near future. We will include your comments in our meeting minutes for possible review if the matter you raise is brought up for formal discussion and/or a vote at a subsequent board meeting.”
- 2.2. Samantha Slaughter, Psy.D. of the Washington State Psychological Association (WSPA) reported that the association will be tracking two bills in the upcoming legislative session - [prescription authority for psychologists](#) and the [Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact or PSYPACT](#).

### 3. Board Training - Bill Kellington, Supervising Staff Attorney & Lilia Lopez, AAG

- 3.1. Supervising Staff Attorney Bill Kellington presented on the responsibilities of board members and what their roles should be in terms of disciplinary cases.
- 3.2. AAG Lilia Lopez presented to the board on ethical practices as a board member, the Open Public Meetings Act, and public disclosure requirements.

### 4. Board Leadership & Membership - Florence Katz Burstein, Chair

- 4.1. Chair Florence Katz Burstein was nominated to serve as chair for another year. There were no other nominations. *Motion to elect Florence Katz Burstein as chair for another year, seconded, vote 8-0.*
- 4.2. Vice Chair Ruth Varkovitzky was nominated to as vice chair for another year. There were no other nominations. *Motion to elect Ruth Varkovitzky as vice chair for another year, seconded, vote 8-0.*
- 4.3. Public member appointment status - There are four candidates to be interviewed in January 2022 to determine who the board will recommend to replace outgoing public

member Shari Roberts. After interviews, the board will hold a special meeting to vote on the candidates, and DOH will forward the board's recommendation to the Governor's office.

## **5. Application Subcommittee—Leslie Cohn, Ph.D.**

- 5.1. The subcommittee recommended the board issue a policy statement to allow the counting of continuing education hours during the period from when the license is first issued and when their first three full-year continuing education cycle starts. *Motion to approve the recommendation from the subcommittee, seconded, vote 8-0.*
- 5.2. The subcommittee shared that the list of states that are deemed substantially equivalent has been updated due to inequivalent residency requirement for online/hybrid doctoral programs in other states.

## **6. ESSB 5229 Update - Ashley Bell, Behavioral Health Programs Consultant**

- 6.1. Behavioral Health Programs Consultant Ashley Bell briefed the board on the implementation of [ESSB 5229](#), which requires all professions to include an equity training as part of continuing education requirements. Next steps will include a series of stakeholder listening sessions throughout the month of February 2022 to be followed by rules workshops to create the draft language. In addition, a model training list will need to be developed by January 1, 2023. By January 1, 2024, health care professions that are subject to continuing education requirements must adopt rules requiring licensees to complete health equity continuing education training at least once every four years.

## **7. 2022 Legislative Session Update—James Chaney, Executive Director**

- 7.1. Executive Director James Chaney reported that there are two bills ([HB 1286](#) and [HB 1863](#)) of interest to the psychology profession that will be introduced this legislative session, which starts next week (January 10, 2022). He encouraged the board to participate in the legislative process and reminded members that they may lobby legislators but must do so as public citizens and not as representatives of the board.
- 7.2. Board members (Cedar O'Donnell, Phillip Hawley, Patience McGinnis, and Florence Katz Burstein) volunteered to participate on a weekly half-hour call with DOH to review and discuss legislation that is introduced in the 2022 legislative session.

## **8. Board-Provided Ethics CE - Florence Katz Burstein, Public Member, Chair**

- 8.1. Program Director Stacey Saunders shared with the board feedback she received from participants, including some want the board to continue offering the training online so it accessible to psychologists all over the state and others want it to be offered in-person. The training is currently offered once every two years, and all seats are filled within hours of registration opening due to high demand. The board will consider offering the training more often at a future meeting.

## **9. Telehealth - Bill Kellington, Supervising Attorney**

- 9.1. Supervising Attorney Bill Kellington briefed the board on current telehealth guidelines and regulations.

## **10. Assistant Attorney General (AAG) Update - AAG Lilia Lopez**

- 10.1. AAG Lilia Lopez reported that her office is still in the process of assigning a new assistant attorney general to the board after the retirement of the previous AAG. She will continue to attend board meetings until that time.

## **11. Management Reports – DOH Staff**

- 11.1. Budget Report - Financial Manager Jeff Orwig presented the latest budget numbers to the board. The current fund balance as of November 2021 is \$1,005,128.
- 11.2. Credentialing Report – Credentialing Deputy Section Manager Hyon Yi briefed the board on the current credentialing statistics. There are currently 3,327 active psychology licenses (389 pending applications) and 637 temporary permits (61 pending applications).
- 11.3. Program Update – The Applications Subcommittee will be meeting every two weeks to discuss and come up with recommended changes to the current licensure requirements which will be presented to the board at a future meeting.
- 11.4. Policy Analyst Update – Policy Analyst Melody Casiano had two items to report. The policy statement on partial credit was filed on December 12, 2022 with the Office of the Code Reviser. In addition, the CR-101 that addresses licensure by endorsement, EPPP2, and partial credit for supervised experience hours should be filed sometime in January 2022.

## **12. Subcommittee Work & Reports – Florence Katz Burstein, Public Member, Chair**

- 12.1. Vice Chair Ruth Varkovitzky reported that the Diversity and Inclusion (DI) workgroup is planning on reviewing what the Washington State Nursing Care Quality Assurance Committee is doing on the topic.

## **13. Requests for Lists & Labels - Florence Katz Burstein, Public Member, Chair**

- 13.1. There were no requests for lists and labels.

## **14. Requests for Continuing Education Waivers & Extensions - Florence Katz Burstein, Public Member, Chair**

There was one request for a permanent continuing education waiver. *Motion to approve the waiver, seconded, vote 7-0* (Patience McGinnis had to leave the meeting early).

## **15. Future Agenda Items – Florence Katz Burstein, Public Member, Chair**

- Public member recruitment recommendations (special meeting)
- ASPPB Midyear Meeting April 2022 (March 2022 meeting)
- Administrative rules workshop/public comment on proposed licensure requirement WAC changes (March 2022 meeting)

- 2022 legislation of interest/PSYPACT (March 2022 meeting)
- Board training (March 2022)
- Land acknowledgement
- Application Subcommittee recommendations on licensure requirements
- WAC revisions regarding telehealth
- Ethics training CE
- Presentation on guidelines for communicating with clients via text messaging
- Operating Agreement
- Full administrative rule chapter review
- Industrial/organizational psychology

**16. Follow-Up on Remaining Topics from Previous Meetings - Florence Katz Burstein, Public Member, Chair**

16.1. No topics were discussed.

**17. Meeting Adjourned**

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

**Submitted by:**  
 Stacey Saunders, Program Director  
 Examining Board of Psychology

**Approved by:**  
 Florence Katz Burstein, Chair  
 Examining Board of Psychology

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