



**Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee and Substance Use Disorder Certification Advisory Committee
Joint Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2022**

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Substance Use Disorder Professional Advisory Committee

Members Present:

Kenneth Pimpleton, SUDP, Chair
Susan Cherry, SUDP, Vice Chair
Theresa Adkison, SUDP
Bergen Starke, LMHC, SUDP
Gayle Martinsen, STR Treatment Mgr., HCA*
David Sapienza, MD
Lisa Rudduck, LMHC, SUDP
Raymond Gregson, CPC, Public Member
**ex-officio member*

Members Absent:

None

Assistant Attorney General Staff:

Jake Miller, AAG

Mental Health Counselors, Marriage & Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee

Members Present:

Michael Fitzpatrick, LMFT, Chair
Craig Apperson, LMHC, Vice Chair
Beda Herbison, LICSW
Linda Sattem, Ph.D., Public Member
Paul David, PhD, LMHC, LMFT
Vacant, LMFT
Vacant, Public Member
Vacant Public Member

Members Absent:

Anjanette Jorstad, LASW

Assistant Attorney General Staff:

Luke Eaton, AAG

DOH Staff:

Ted Dale, SUD Program Manager
Brandon Williams, Licensed Counselors Program Manager
James Chaney, Executive Director
Karen Gohlsen, Program Support
Melody Casiano, Policy Analyst

Guest Presenters:

None

On February 11, 2022, the Substance Use Disorder Certification Advisory Committee and the Mental Health Counselors, Marriage & Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee met online via Microsoft Teams. Notice of the meeting was published on the Substance Use Disorder, Mental

Health Counselor, Marriage & Family Therapist, and Social Worker profession websites and was sent out through the GovDelivery listserv for each profession.

Open Session:

1. Opening of Public Meeting – Kenneth Pimpleton, SUDP, Chair and Michael Fitzpatrick, LMFT, Chair

- 1.1. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. Committee and agency staff members as well as public attendees introduced themselves and their area of practice.
- 1.2. Agenda - *Motion to approve the February 11, 2022 agenda as amended, seconded, vote 12-0 (Substance Use Disorder Professional Advisory Committee vote 7-0, Mental Health Counselors, Marriage & Family Counselors, and Social Workers Advisory Committee vote 5-0).*
- 1.3. Minutes - *Motion to approve the September 10, 2021 joint meeting minutes, seconded, vote 12-0 (Substance Use Disorder Professional Advisory Committee vote 7-0, Mental Health Counselors, Marriage & Family Counselors, and Social Workers Advisory Committee vote 5-0).*

2. Program Manager Reports – Ted Dale, Program Manager and Brandon Williams, Program Manager

Mr. Dale is serving as the Program Manager for the Substance Use Disorder Professional Advisory Committee and Mr. Williams is serving as the Program Manager for the Mental Health Counselors, Marriage & Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee.

- 2.1. Mental Health Counselors, Marriage & Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee Budget Report – Mr. Williams presented the current budget numbers. The following is the current fund balance for the three programs:
 - Marriage & Family Therapists - \$19,974
 - Mental Health Counselors - \$321,518
 - Social Workers - \$1,527,608
- 2.2. Mental Health Counselors, Marriage & Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee Credentialing Report

Credential	Active Status	Pending Apps
LMFT	2,076	228
LMFT assoc.	688	54
LMHC	8,705	529
LMHC assoc.	2,511	240
LASW	148	74
LASW assoc.	362	47
LICSW	5,561	828
LICSW assoc.	2,524	131

2.3. Substance Use Disorder Certification Advisory Committee Budget Report – Mr. Dale presented the current budget numbers. The fund balance for the program is -\$432,841.

2.4. Substance Use Disorder Certification Advisory Committee Credentialing Report

Credential	Active Status	Pending Apps
SUDP	2,946	270
SUDPT	1,566	82

3. ESSB 5229 Implementation – James Chaney, Executive Director

3.1. Mr. Chaney provided an overview and upcoming events regarding the implementation of [ESSB 5229](#), which requires health care professions that are subject to continuing education requirements to adopt rules by January 1, 2024 that would require licensees to complete health equity continuing education training at least once every four years.

4. Assistant Attorney General Report – Jake Miller, AAG

4.1. Mr. Eaton, who is the assistant attorney general for the Mental Health Counselors, Marriage & Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee was unable to attend. Mr. Miller, who serves as assistant attorney general for the Substance Use Disorder Certification Advisory Committee was representing both committees. Neither AAG had any updates.

5. Legislation Update and Discussion – Ted Dale and Brandon Williams, Program Manager

5.1. Proposed legislation of interest – Mr. Dale and Mr. Williams provided an overview of legislation of interest for their programs

- [HB 1802](#) - Disability membership on committees
- [HB 1865](#) - Peer Support Specialist - likely to pass
- [HB 2040](#) - Cut the number of hours needed for certification of licensed counselors..
- [HB 2053](#) - Create a behavioral health workgroup. Did not make the cut
- [SB 5491](#) - Clarifying firearm rights, effects mental health professions
- [SB 5596](#) - Disclosure restrictions for licensed counselors - moving through
- [SB 5638](#) - Expedited approval of LC associates - currently multiple versions
- [SB 5884](#) - Behavioral health specialist
- [SB 5889](#) - Mental health evaluation coverage
- [SB 5894](#) - Behavioral health in primary care - insurance bill
- [SB 5644](#) - Behavioral health co-responders

5.2. Mr. Dale and Mr. Williams updated the committee regarding the implementation of current legislation from the 2021 session.

- [SHB 1007](#) – This legislation removes the limitation on distance supervision for both the Social Worker Advanced Associated license and the Social Worker Independent Clinical Associate license. This has been implemented.
- [HB 1063](#) – This legislation allows the Secretary of Health to grant additional renewals to Licensed Counselor Associates and SUDPTs during a declared state of emergency by the governor. Expedited rule making process was started for this bill and are just waiting the 45-day waiting period to put it into effect. Requests have already been coming in and have been approved/denied depending on the reasoning if it meets the bills requirements. This has been implemented.
- [HB 1311](#) – This legislation adds an apprenticeship option to meet the educational component for certification as a SUDP and SUDPT. The rules process has been started, with an upcoming hearing to collect public comments and concerns. Implementation in progress, the draft language should be filed sometime soon with the Office of the Code Reviser.
- [HB 1504](#) – This legislation creates a change for the agency affiliated counselor profession, that allows student interns to apply for registration if they work in an agency that hires them. The rules process is currently being done. Implementation in progress, the draft language has been filed with the Office of the Code Reviser and pending a public hearing.

6. Public Comment – Ken Pimpleton, SUDP, Chair, and Mike Fitzpatrick, LMFT, Chair

- 6.1. There were two comments from the public. The first was a request to centralize information regarding policy statements related to the pandemic. The second comment was an inquiry about the status regarding distance CEUs and Mr. Williams confirmed there are currently no restrictions and will be permanently changed in the WAC in the upcoming year.

7. Joint Meeting Adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

8. Breakout Session

- 8.1. Mental Health Counselors, Marriage & Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee Discussion (Opened at 11:46 a.m.)

- i) Mr. Williams presented draft language to update [Chapter 246-809 WAC](#) to the committee for review and comment. Next steps will be to request public comment on the revisions and present the finalized version at the next committee meeting on June 10, 2022.
- ii) The committee adjourned at 12:45

8.2. Substance Use Disorder Certification Advisory Committee Discussion (Opened at 11:29 a.m.)

- i) Future items – Mr. Dale announced there will Open Public Meetings Act training at the next meeting on June 3, 2022.
- ii) Public comment - There was an inquiry regarding limitations for private practice and Mr. Dale confirmed that there are none. He added that there used to be a requirement that licensees could only use their credential in a licensed facility, but that requirement was rescinded by the legislature about five years ago.
- iii) The committee adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

Submitted by:

Ted Dale, Program Manager
Substance Use Disorder Professional Advisory Committee

Approved by:

Kenneth Pimpleton, Chair
Substance Use Disorder Professional Advisory Committee

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE

DATE

DATE

Submitted by:

Brandon Williams, Program Manager
Mental Health Counselors, Marriage & Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee

Approved by:

Mike Fitzpatrick, Chair
Mental Health Counselors, Marriage & Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE

DATE

DATE