



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

**March 3, 2023**

Hybrid Meeting via Microsoft Teams and in-person at Capital Event Center (ESD 113), 6005 Tyee Drive SE, Tumwater, WA 98512, Mason Room

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**Board members present:**

Cedar O'Donnell, Ph.D., Chair  
Ruth Varkovitzky, Ph.D., ABPP, Vice Chair  
Florence Katz Burstein, Public Member  
Leslie Cohn, Ph.D.  
Phillip Hawley, Psy.D.  
Elena Lopez, Psy.D.  
Erin Olson, Ph.D.  
Jessica Carlile, Ph.D.  
Vanessa Goosen, Psy.D.  
Jan Bleakney, Public Member  
Evan Freedman, Ph.D., ABPP

**Board members absent:**

None

**Staff members present:**

Shawna Fox, Director, Office of Health Professions  
Harold Wright, Jr., Executive Director  
Nancy Delgado, Program Manager  
Zachary Patnode, Program Manager  
Davis Hylkema, Program Support  
Joan Simmons, Program Support  
Lilia Lopez, Assistant Attorney General  
Bill Kellington, Supervising Staff Attorney  
Melody Casiano, Policy Analyst  
Tommy Simpson, Program Manager  
Blake Maresh, Director, Office of Customer Service  
Tiffany Drake, Credentialing Supervisor  
Crissa Hanson, Deputy Credentialing Manager

**Guests:**

None

On March 3, 2023, the Examining Board of Psychology held a hybrid meeting in-person at Capital Event Center (ESD 113) and online via Microsoft Teams and. Notice of the meeting was published on the Examining Board of Psychology [profession website](#) and was sent out through the GovDelivery listserv.

## **1. Opening of Public Meeting – Cedar O'Donnell, Ph.D., Chair**

- 1.1. Call to Order: The chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. followed by introductions of board members, department staff, the Assistant Attorney General, and guests.
- 1.2. Approval of the Agenda: *Motion to approve the agenda, seconded, vote 11-0.*
- 1.3. Approval of January 20, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes: *Motion to approve the minutes, seconded, vote 11-0.*

## **2. Public Comment – Ruth Varkovitzky, Ph.D., ABPP, Vice Chair**

- 2.1. Vice Chair Dr. Ruth Varkovitzky 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. Dr. Sanchez from Washington State Psychological Association (WSPA) reported the prescription provider bill the association was monitoring is not moving forward in the current legislative session so they will try again for next year.
- 2.3. Laura Rhymes from the National Register of Health Service Psychologists asked the board to reconsider the proposed amendment to remove the National Register HSP credential as an endorsement mechanism for psychology licensure applicants.
- 2.4. A member from the public shared the hardship of her journey in getting licensed and asked the board for transparency in the application process.
- 2.5. A member from the public shared her concern and frustration of her experience in the application process.

## **3. Management Reports - Nancy Delgado, Program Manager**

- 3.1. Budget – The board reviewed the budget numbers for January 31, 2023. The current fund balance was \$659,238. Ms. Delgado explained the expenses by categories.
- 3.2. Credentialing Report – The board reviewed the current credentialing statistics as of June 2022. There were 3,460 active psychology licenses (382 pending applications) and 232 active temporary permits (87 pending applications). The presentation also included statistics on applications received by year.

The board asked for a standard slide to present regularly at board meetings showing application processing time by type of application.

### **3.3. Program Updates**

Ms. Delgado announced that Zach Patnode will be the new program manager for the board as she will step down from program manager after Mr. Patnode has been trained to fully transition into the role.

She also reported in regard to licensing requirements, the supervision hours draft will be sent to Ms. Lopez for legal review prior to being posted on the website and for public comment. The third item she reported on is the second draft regarding the doctoral degree program is in progress. She noted ASPPB is completing a guidebook which will hopefully be available by the ASPPB Midyear meeting. She concluded that the board could move forward with scheduling rules workshops.

Ms. Delgado introduced the Federation of Association of Regulatory Boards (FARB) and shared information on an upcoming conference July 20 – 21, 2023 in Alexandria, Virginia. *Motion to rejoin the Federation of Association of Regulatory Board, seconded, Vote 11-0.*

Lastly, Ms. Delgado reported on the progress and status of overall numbers for non-routine applications and noted there has been improvement with the addition of new board and pro tem members in getting more applications and feedback to applicants.

Mr. Wright shared the process improvements efforts the department has made and has ensured the concerns are being heard.

- 3.4. Policy Analyst Update – Ms. Casiano provided an update on the expanded CR-101 regarding amendments in WACs 246-924-010, 246-924-043, 246-924-046, 246-924-047, 246-924-049, 246-924-053, 246-924-056, 246-924-059, 246-924-070, 246-924-100, 246-924-493, and 246-924-495, and possibly creating and repealing sections in chapter 246-924 WAC, which was filed with the Code Revisor.

#### **4. Lists & Labels Requests - Cedar O'Donnell, Ph.D., Chair**

- 4.1. None were received.

#### **5. Continuing Education – Nancy Delgado, Program Manager**

- 5.1. The board reviewed final versions of continuing education (CE) FAQ, extension, and waiver templates. *Motion to accept the proposed language in the FAQ, seconded, vote 11-0. Motion to approve the extension form with signature and date added to the form, seconded, vote 11-0. Motion to approve the waiver form, seconded, vote 11-0.*
- 5.2. The board reviewed draft language for health equity CE standards and discussed other needed changes/clarifications. WACs 246-924-230, 246-924-240, 246-924-250, 246-924-255, 246-924-300, 246-924-330. An updated draft language will be presented at the next board meeting.

The board discussed the possibility of granting CE to board members and/or members of the public. DOH staff will ask other boards in different jurisdictions whether or not they offer CE for their board meetings.

#### **6. Continuing Education Extensions/Waivers - Cedar O'Donnell, Ph.D., Chair**

- 6.1. There was a request from a retired psychologist to be granted an indefinite waiver. *Motion to approve, seconded, vote 11-0.*
- 6.2. *Motion to move the evaluation/decision making on extension/waiver request from the full board meetings to the disciplinary panel. Motion approved, seconded, voted 11-0.*

## **7. ASPPB Mid-Year Meeting – Nancy Delgado, Program Manager**

7.1. The board reviewed nominations and voted on who will attend the ASPPB Mid-year meeting in Denver, Colorado April 27 – 30, 2023 as well as the FARB conference in Alexandria, Virginia July 20 – 21, 2023.

### **7.2. ASBPP**

i) Drs. Olson and O’Connell and DOH staff will attend the meeting midyear meeting.  
*Motion to approve, seconded, vote 11-0.*

### **7.3. FARB Conference, July 20 – 21, 2023 in Alexandria, Virginia**

The board reviewed nominations and voted on who will attend the meeting FARB conference in Alexandria, Virginia July 20 – 21, 2023.

i) Drs. Lopez and Cohn and DOH staff will attend the FARB conference in July.  
*Motion to have two board members and one DOH staff to attend the FARB.*

## **8. Board Retreat – Nancy Delgado, Program Manager**

8.1. The board discussed and decided when to have the board retreat and what trainings or projects to complete.

i) A doodle pool will be created to determine the best date for one day retreat for some time between July 2023 – October 2023.

ii) Location: TBD.

iii) Topics to consider:

(1) Mock examples of disciplinary cases Review to see if there are consistencies between the two panels regarding interpretation violations and responding to violations.

(2) Legal refreshers, not going through statutes or regulations, rather principles and issues they see across other boards and commissions.

(3) Consistencies in panels regarding complaint review.

(4) Applications review refresher.

## **9. Legislative Update – Nancy Delgado, Program Manager**

9.1. Ms. Delgado/Melody Casiano briefed the board on HB 1041 (Authorizing the prescriptive authority of psychologists), did not move forward. HB 1724 (Increasing the trained behavioral health workforce), 5189 SB/1348 HB (BH Support Specialist), 5555 SB (Certified peer specialist).

Dr. Sanchez provided comments regarding concern towards HB 1068 and mentioned another bill that allows third party observers in a room during a neuropsychological evaluation.

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

10.1. Subcommittee membership – Ms. Delgado shared the updated subcommittee membership as of March 2023 and added amendments as discussed.

i) Dr. Varkovitzky disjoined the applications subcommittee.

ii) Ms. Katz Burnstein joined the Rules subcommittee.

iii) Ms. Lopez reminded the group that the retreat still needs to be open to the public.

10.2. Communications Subcommittee – Nothing to report.

10.3. Diversity Workgroup – Nothing to report.

10.4. Applications Subcommittee – Nothing to report.

10.5. Rules Subcommittee – Nothing to report.

**11. Future Agenda Items – Cedar O'Donnell, Ph.D., Chair**

- Guidelines for communicating via digital platforms: confidentiality and recordkeeping
- Full administrative rule chapter review
- EBOP-DOH operating agreement
- Board-sponsored ethics training
- CE
- How to hold a subcommittee meeting

**12. Meeting Adjourned**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:14 p.m.

**Submitted by:**

Nancy Delgado, Program Manager  
Examining Board of Psychology

Signature on file

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SIGNATURE

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DATE

**Approved by:**

Cedar O'Donnell, Ph.D., Chair  
Examining Board of Psychology

Signature on file

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