



**Certified Counselors & Hypnotherapist Advisory Committee**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**October 11, 2024**

Hybrid Meeting via Microsoft Teams and in-person WA DOH 111 Israel Road SE, Town Center  
2, Room 153, Tumwater, WA 98501

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**Committee members present:** Drue Larson, Certified Counselor, Chair  
Betty Jensen, Certified Counselor  
Anthony Gitch, Hypnotherapist  
Sarah Prince, Public Member  
Nichole Basile, Public Member  
Lisa Haglund, Public Member  
Vacant, Hypnotherapist

**Committee members absent:**

**Staff members present:** Eve Austin, Executive Director  
Carmen Leso, Program Manager  
Katie Impecoven, Program Support  
Alie Dobson, Program Support  
Joan Simmons, Program Support  
Melody Casiano, Policy Analyst

**Assistant Attorney General:** Luke Eaton, Assistant Attorney General

**Guest presenters:** None

On October 11, 2024, the Washington State Certified Counselors and Hypnotherapist Advisory Committee met in person at Washington State Department of Health and online via Microsoft Teams. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of the meeting was published on the Certified Adviser, Certified Counselor, and Hypnotherapist professions' websites and was sent out via the GovDelivery listserv for each profession.

**1. Call to Order – Drue Larson, Certified Counselor, Chair** – The meeting began at 9:00 a.m.

1.1. Introductions

Board members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

1.2. Approval of the October 11, 2024 agenda. Motion to approve agenda, seconded, vote 6-0.

1.3. Approval of July 19, 2024, meeting minutes. Motion to approve minutes as amended, seconded, vote 6-0.

**2. Public Comment – Drue Larson, Certified Counselor, Chair**

2.1. Tim Livingston. WAPROCA shared that he received concerns from committee applicants about not receiving email responses.

**3. Management Reports**

3.1. Budget Report – Carmen Leso, Program Manager

Ms. Leso presented the program budgets for certified counselors/advisers and hypnotherapists as of June 2024.

| Program                       | Current Fund Balance |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Certified Counselors/Advisers | (\$1,310,000)        |
| Hypnotherapists               | \$47,120             |

3.2. Credentialing Report – Carmen Leso, Program Manager

Ms. Leso presented the latest licensure statistics for certified counselors/advisers and hypnotherapists.

| Program              | Active | Pending |
|----------------------|--------|---------|
| Certified Counselors | 280    | 75      |
| Certified Advisers   | 1      | 3       |
| Hypnotherapists      | 679    | 17      |

3.3. Program Report – Carmen Leso, Program Manager

3.3.1. Ms. Leso shared that Alie Dobson has been hired to fill the vacant AA3 position.

3.3.2. Ms. Leso shared that the first search to fill the vacant hypnotherapist committee chair position was unsuccessful and that we would be making another attempt.

**4. Committee Member Elections– Drue Larson, Chair**

4.1. The committee held an election for the positions of Chair.

4.2. Drue Larson nominated Anthony Gitch to the position of Chair. Motion to appoint Anthony to the position of Chair approved vote 6 to 0.



4.3. Drue Larson nominated Lisa Haglund to the position of Vice Chair. Anthony Gitch seconds the motion. Motion to appoint Lisa to the position of Vice Chair approved vote 6 to 0.

**5. Ad Hoc Subcommittee Formation – Carmen Leso, Program Manager**

- 5.1. Ms. Leso held a discussion with the committee to identify member interest in an ad hoc subcommittee for strategic planning and credential sustainability.
- 5.2. Betty Jensen introduced a motion in the chat to form an ad hoc subcommittee, The motion was seconded by Lisa Haglund. Motion was approved vote 6 to 0.
- 5.3. Drue Larson volunteered to join this subcommittee. Lisa Haglund volunteered to join this subcommittee. Sarah Price volunteered to join this subcommittee. Betty Jenson volunteered to join this subcommittee. Sarah Beebe volunteered to join this subcommittee but is not a member of the Committee.

**6. Future Business – Drue Larson, Chair**

- 6.1. Ms. Larson informed the newly formed subcommittee that she would be contacting them to inform them of their next steps.

**7. Meeting Adjourned – Drue Larson, Chair**

- 7.1. The meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

**Submitted by:**  
Carmen Leso, Program Manager  
Certified Counselors & Hypnotherapists  
Advisory Committee

**Approved by:**  
Drue Larson, Chair  
Certified Counselors & Hypnotherapists  
Advisory Committee

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