



Certified Counselors & Hypnotherapist Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2025

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

Committee members present: Anthony Gitch, Hypnotherapist, Chair
Lisa Haglund, Public Member, Vice Chair
Betty Jensen, Certified Counselor
Drue Larson, Certified Counselor
Sarah Prince, Public Member
Nichole Basile, 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
Melody Casiano, Policy Analyst
Hyon Yi, Deputy Credentialing Manager

Assistant Attorney General: Luke Eaton, Assistant Attorney General

Guest presenters: None

On January 17th, 2025, 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 – Anthony Gitch, Hypnotherapist, Chair – The meeting began at 9:00 a.m.

1.1. Introductions

Committee members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

1.2. Approval of the January 17, 2025 agenda. Motion to approve agenda, seconded, vote 6-0.

1.3. Approval of October 11, 2024, meeting minutes. Motion to approve, seconded, vote 6-0.

2. Management Reports – Carmen Leso, Program Manager

2.1. Budget Report – Carmen Leso, Program Manager

Ms. Leso presented the program budgets for certified counselors/advisers and hypnotherapists as of January 2025.

Program	Current Fund Balance
Certified Counselors/Advisers	(\$1,290,000)
Hypnotherapists	\$38,780

2.2. Credentialing Report – Hyon Yi, Deputy Credentialing Manager

Mr. Yi presented the latest licensure statistics for certified counselors/advisers and hypnotherapists.

Program	Active	Pending
Certified Counselors	289	68
Certified Advisers	1	2
Hypnotherapists	673	12

2.3. Program Report – Carmen Leso, Program Manager

Ms. Leso gave an update on the ongoing recruitment efforts to the committee.

3. Public Comments – Anthony Gitch, Chair

3.1. There was a public comment requesting the ability to provide public comments after each agenda item.

4. 2025 Legislative Updates – Carmen Leso, Program Manager

4.1 Ms. Leso shared a legislative report providing an overview of 2025 behavioral health bills of interests and their status.

5. Chapter 246-810 WAC Rule Package update – Carmen Leso, Program Manager

5.1. Ms. Leso shared a status update on the rules package for Chapter 246-810 WAC.

6. Break

7. Strategic Planning Subcommittee Report – Drue Larson, Certified Counselor

7.1. Ms. Larson gave an update on the strategic planning progress.

8. Public Comment – Anthony Gitch, Chair

9. Future Business – Anthony Gitch, Chair

9.1. The committee discussed agenda items for the next meeting.

9.1.1 Credential Advocacy

10. Meeting Adjourned

10.1. Meeting ended at 9:57. Motioned and approved 6 – 0

Submitted by:

Carmen Leso, Program Manager
Certified Counselors & Hypnotherapists
Advisory Committee

Approved by:

Anthony Gitch, Chair
Certified Counselors & Hypnotherapists
Advisory Committee

On file

SIGNATURE

On file

SIGNATURE

DATE

DATE

