



Examining Board of Psychology Meeting Minutes

January 29, 2021

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Board members present:	Rachaud Smith, Psy.D., Chair Florence Katz Burstein, Public Member, Vice-Chair Patience McGinnis, Psy.D. Shari Roberts, Public Member Leslie Cohn, Ph.D. (present until 12:00 p.m.) Ruth Varkovitzky, Ph.D., ABPP Dug Lee, Ph.D., ABPP Michelle Giresi, Ph.D.
Board members absent:	Lezlie Pickett, Ph.D.
Staff members present:	James Chaney, Executive Director Stacey Saunders, Program Director Karen Gohlsen, Program Support Luke Eaton, Assistant Attorney General Bill Kellington, Supervising Staff Attorney Melody Casiano, Policy Analyst
Guest presenters:	Jacqueline Wall, American Psychology Association Janet Orwig, Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards

On January 29, 2021, 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 – Rachaud Smith, Psy.D., Chair

- 1.1. Call to Order: The chair called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.
- 1.2. Approval of the Agenda: *Motion to approve the revised agenda, seconded, vote 8-0.*
- 1.3. Approval of November 13, 2020 Meeting Minutes: *Motion to approve the minutes, seconded, vote 8-0.*

2. Public Comment – Rachaud Smith, Psy.D., Chair

Chair Rachaud Smith, Psy.D. read the following statement before taking public comment: “Thank you for taking the time to present to us today. We are eager to hear from you. We typically provide notice to our constituents and other interested parties before acting on any topic, so we seldom act 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. 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.”

- 2.1. Dr. Samantha Slaughter of the Washington State Psychological Association (WSPA) requested an update on the practicum hours matter raised at the board meeting on November 22, 2020, informed the board that WSPA is officially supporting [HB 1286 \(PSYPACT\)](#) and [SB 5229 \(health equity continuing education\)](#), and requested the department consider including WSPA materials in the information packet sent out to new licensees.

3. Board Membership/Leadership – Rachaud Smith, Psy.D., Chair

- 3.1. The board discussed whether to vote on chair and vice chair for 2021 as two positions are up for reappointment. *Motion to postpone the election of board leadership until the Governor fills the positions, vote 8-0.*
- 3.2. The board entered into executive session at 11:35 a.m. to review and confirm the ranking of board member candidates for the two open positions. *Motion to break into executive session to discuss board candidates, seconded, vote 8-0. Motion to recommend candidates as ranked by the interview panel, seconded, vote 8-0.* Executive session adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

4. Scheduling Ethics Training – Stacey Saunders, Program Director

- 4.1. Ethics training for continuing education (CE) credit will be offered to psychologists virtually in 2021 as in-person training most likely will not be possible. The board discussed options and possible dates, and decided two ethics CE sessions will be held on October 11, 2021 and October 19, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

5. American Psychological Association (APA) Accreditation Standards – Jacqueline Wall, Ph.D., APA, Guest Presenter

Jacqueline Wall, Ph.D. answered questions from the board on the recent changes to [APA accreditation standards](#). Dr. Wall stated the changes occurred before she came to work for the APA and while she's not certain, she believes the latest changes were to address concerns with a lack of flexibility for students to take classes of interest due to the hours requirements for multiple academic domains. The board expressed their view the new standards were highly subjective, difficult to put into administrative rule, and made it very challenging to evaluate applicants from non-APA doctoral programs for equivalency with the current APA accreditation standards. Dr. Wall stated she would touch base with her APA colleagues and would like to continue the conversation to see how the APA can be supportive.

PSYPACT Presentation – Janet Orwig, Association State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB), Guest Presenter

Janet Orwig briefed the board on the history of the PSYPACT compact, which was established in 2011 as a mechanism for psychologists to practice in states they are not currently licensed, and answered questions. Fifteen states have enacted the compact and 12 states, including Washington, are currently considering legislation.

Currently, to provide either telehealth or temporary, in-person psychological services in another state through PSYPACT, psychologists must have a doctoral degree from an APA- or CPA-accredited doctoral program and no disciplinary history.

The board discussed whether or not to support the PSYPACT legislation. *Motion to affirm the board's support for the passage of PSYPACT legislation, seconded, vote 8-0.*

6. Application Committee – Stacey Saunders, Program Director

- 6.1. The board discussed concerns pertaining to previous changes to [WAC 246-924-049](#) (practicum) in response to a request by WSPA and doctoral programs. The application subcommittee previously discussed the concern, options available to address the concern, and proposed allowing the maximum number of hours that meet all requirements in the administrative rule to count towards supervised experience required for licensure.

Dr. Slaughter, WSPA, asked the board to have consistent language on both the website and application instructions. Staff will work with the credentialing office to update the application instructions. Since applications are now available online in addition to hard copy, application updates occur on a set schedule. The timeframe to update the online application is unknown. As a short-term solution, the [FAQ](#) on the website will be updated to address practicum hours.

Dr. Slaughter also requested steps be taken to ensure graduates from APA and non-APA doctoral programs are held to the same standard. Program Director Stacey Saunders explained the board reviews applications from graduates of non-APA doctoral programs while most applications from graduates of APA programs are processed by the credentialing unit under delegated authority from the board. Once the practicum hours were brought to her attention, steps were immediately taken to resolve the matter.

Motion to approve the following statement: For applicants whose supervised experience hours listed on the application do not meet all requirements in WAC, the maximum number of supervised experience hours that do meet all WAC requirements count towards licensure requirements, seconded, vote 8-0.

- 6.2. The board discussed the APA presentation (see agenda item #5). They agreed that the presentation was not helpful and left many questions unanswered or without clarity. The application committee will meet soon to continue discussing options for revising the doctoral degree WAC. A suggestion was made to write a letter to the APA to express the board's dissatisfaction in the inadequate explanation. A response will be drafted by Florence Katz Burstein and Michelle Giresi, Ph.D. and brought forward at the next board meeting for approval.

7. CR 102 Approval for ESHB 1551 and 2411 – Melody Casiano, Policy Analyst

Policy Analyst Melody Casiano briefed the board on two items: 1) the status of the rules package for ESHB 1551 and ESHB 2411; and 2) the status of developing advanced suicide prevention training standards as mandated in ESHB 2411. Regarding the first item, the board was asked to vote on authorizing the draft rules language and CR-102 form to be filed with the Office of the Code Reviser. *Motion to authorize filing of the CR-102 with the Office of the Code Reviser, seconded, vote 8-0.* Next steps will be a public hearing on the rules changes on March 11, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. and discussion at the next board meeting on March 12, 2021.

Regarding the second item, the board was given a refresher on ESHB 2411 (advanced suicide training standards) and some background of the methodology used to develop training standards that will apply to multiple professions, including psychology. The standards need to be implemented by July 1, 2021.

8. Temporary Practice Permit & COVID-19 Impact – Stacey Saunders, Program Director

Program Director Stacey Saunders briefed the board on the COVID-19 pandemic impact on temporary practice permits. Temporary practice permits are available to psychologists licensed in other states if they meet requirements, including holding a current psychologist license issued by a state deemed substantially equivalent. California is not substantially equivalent and there are many requests from California psychologists, often due to a current client they treated in-person relocating to Washington State. Due to the pandemic these patients are unable to find a local provider-taking new clients due to increased local demand for psychological services. The board discussed options to address access to care. *Motion to approve an emergency rule to allow the temporary practice permit to be issued to any psychologist with a doctoral-level license in good standing in any other state, and to allow re-filing of the emergency rule until six months after the lifting of the governor's emergency proclamation, seconded, vote 8-0.*

9. Legislative Update – James Chaney, Executive Director

Program Director Stacey Saunders briefed the board on current legislation that has a direct or indirect impact on the profession.

Direct Impact to the Board

[HB 1286: Psychology interjurisdictional compact \(PSYPACT\)](#)

[SB 5229: Health equity continuing education for health care professionals](#)

[HB 1086: Creating state office of behavioral health consumer advocacy](#)

Administrative Impact to Board

[HB 1180: Public testimony at public meetings, including virtual](#)

[HB 1329: Public meeting accessibility and participation](#)

[HB 1056: Concerning open public meeting notice requirements and declared emergencies](#)

Potential Impact to Psychologists

[HB 1196: Audio-only telemedicine](#)

[SB 5073: Improving involuntary commitment laws](#)

[HB 1314: Veteran diversion from involuntary commitment](#)

[SB 5071: Transition teams to assist specified persons under civil commitment](#)

[SB 5163: Placement and Treatment of Conditionally Released Sexually Violent Predators](#)

[HB 1354: Suicide review teams](#)

10. AAG Update – Luke Eaton, Assistant Attorney General

AAG Joyce Roper was unable to attend the meeting and AAG Luke Eaton attended in her place. There were no updates for the board.

11. Management Reports – DOH Staff

- 11.1. Credentialing Statistics – The credentialing statistics were not available for this meeting.
- 11.2. Operating Budget Report - The board was briefed on the status of the fund balance for the psychology profession. There were no questions.
- 11.3. Program Update – No additional updates for the board.
- 11.4. Policy Analyst Update – Policy Analyst Melody Casiano informed the board that the two interpretive statements in response to a request from WSPA (to allow virtual supervision for internships and pre-internships and to practice telepsychology during the COVID-19 pandemic) were filed on December 21, 2020 and retroactively effective from February 29, 2020 until 180 days after the emergency proclamation for COVID has been lifted.

12. Subcommittee Work & Reports – Rachaud Smith, Psy.D., Chair

- 12.1. The application subcommittee will meet in February to continue discussing the current APA-accreditation standards and doctoral degree WAC.

13. Requests for Lists & Labels - Rachaud Smith, Psy.D., Chair

There were two separate requests from the University of Washington, an educational organization. The first request was for a survey pertaining to suicide by firearm, *motion to approve the request, seconded, vote 8-0*. The second request was for a survey pertaining to extreme risk protection orders, *motion to approve the request, seconded, vote 8-0*.

14. Requests for Continuing Education Waivers & Extensions - Rachaud Smith, Psy.D., Chair

14.1. A psychologist with a retired active license requested a waiver of the continuing education requirement for renewing their license. *Motion to approve the CE waiver, seconded, vote 8-0*.

15. Future Agenda Items – Rachaud Smith, Psy.D., Chair

- 15.1. APA accreditation standards
- 15.2. Operating agreement between the board and DOH
- 15.3. Election of board officers
- 15.4. Legislative update on 2021 session
- 15.5. Discussion of applicants for board appointments
- 15.6. Rules hearing discussion for ESHB 1551 and ESHB 2411/vote to authorize filing of CR-103

16. Follow-Up on Remaining Topics from Previous Meetings - Rachaud Smith, Psy.D., Chair

16.1. There are no items requiring follow up.

17. Meeting Adjourned

The meeting adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

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

Approved by:
Rachaud Smith, Chair
Examining Board of Psychology

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