



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

**March 12, 2021**

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

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Board members present:	Rachaud Smith, Psy.D., Chair Florence Katz Burstein, Public Member, Vice-Chair Patience McGinnis, Psy.D. 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:	Shari Roberts, Public Member Psychologist (vacant position)
Staff members present:	James Chaney, Executive Director Nancy Delgado, Program Support Joyce Roper, Assistant Attorney General Stacey Saunders, Program Director Karen Gohlsen, Program Support Bill Kellington, Supervising Staff Attorney Jeff Orwig, Financial Analyst Melody Casiano, Policy Analyst Ashley Broussard, Behavioral Health Coordinator
Guest presenters:	None

On March 12, 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 9:15 a.m.
- 1.2. Approval of the Agenda: Policy Analyst Melody Casiano asked for a change to the title of item 5 to CR 103 Adopting Rules. *Motion to approve the revised agenda, seconded, vote 7-0.*
- 1.3. Approval of January 29, 2021 Meeting Minutes: *Motion to approve the minutes, seconded, vote 7-0.*

### 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) informed the board that there would be no comments from WSPA at this board meeting.
- 2.2. Tracy Marsh and Alina Perez from Walden University followed up on a written request they had submitted to the board back in November 2020. Chair Rachaud Smith acknowledged receipt of the letter.

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

- 3.1. The board entered into executive session at 9:25 a.m. for ten minutes to review and revise the ranking of board member candidates. *Motion to break into executive session to discuss board candidates, seconded, vote 7-0. Motion to recommend candidates as ranked by the interview panel, seconded, vote 7-0.* Executive session adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

### 4. American Psychological Association (APA) Accreditation – Florence Katz Burstein, Vice Chair and Michelle Giresi, Ph.D.

- 4.1. Letter to the APA - Vice Chair Florence Katz Burstein presented a draft letter to the APA in response to their representative at the January board meeting not providing the requested presentation on the updated accreditation standards or having answers to board member questions. The board is asking the APA to present at a future board meeting with a different representative who can answer their questions and concerns

regarding the interpretation and application of the updated accreditation standards.  
*Motion to approve sending the letter to APA, seconded, vote 7-0.*

- 4.2. Doctoral degree administrative rule – The board discussed options for the doctoral degree administrative rule, which is based on prior APA accreditation standards, given the current phrasing for APA standards cannot easily be put into rule. Chair Rachaud Smith, Psy.D. added that some states, such as Oregon, have transitioned to APA-only whereas Washington still accepts non-APA. Program Director Stacey Saunders informed the board that 32 states require graduation from an APA-accredited doctoral program to qualify for licensure and went over a handout detailing options for administrative rule phrasing and timelines for when a new doctoral degree administrative rule would take effect. The board also discussed the option to require the EPPP2 due to the challenges with revising the doctoral degree administrative rule for equivalency with the current APA accreditation standards. The board requested a presentation on EPPP2 for the newer board members and as a refresher to existing members.

Public Comment: There was a question on how changing the doctoral degree rule would impact the current list of states deemed substantially equivalent. The board stated that list would be reviewed should the board decide to change the current doctoral degree rule. There was a question about non-APA doctoral programs in other states that have been deemed by that state’s board as an approved institution. In Washington state, there is no “approved institution” list. Every application is reviewed for compliance with the doctoral degree administrative rule, which states every graduate from an APA accredited institution meets the doctoral degree requirement.

*Motion to defer a decision on the doctoral degree administrative rule, seconded, vote 7-0.*

## **5. CR-103 Approval for ESHB 1551 and 2441 – Melody Casiano, Policy Analyst**

Policy Analyst Melody Casiano updated the board on the status of rule changes due to the implementation of ESHB 1551 (repeal of AIDS training as a requirement for licensure) and ESHB 2411 (advanced suicide training). The minimum standards for the second required suicide prevention training are still in progress, the CR 101 was filed on January 27, 2021 and the CR 102 is being written. The CR-102 for the repeal of AIDS training requirement was filed on January 29, 2021, and the rules hearing was held on March 11, 2021 with no public comment. *Motion to approve and adopt the rules as presented in the CR 102 for ESHB 1551 and proceed with the CR 103 process to finalize the rules, seconded, vote 7-0.*

## **6. Legislative Update – James Chaney, Executive Director**

Executive Director James Chaney 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 \(PSYPACT\)](#)

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

## **Administrative Impact to Board**

[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 1354: Suicide review teams](#)

### **7. ASPPB Mid-Year Meeting – James Chaney, Executive Director**

Executive Director James Chaney briefed the board on the upcoming ASPPB Mid-Year Meeting. The meeting will be virtual and open to any board member or DOH staff who would like to attend. The registration fee is \$50, which will be offset by the \$1,000 credit ASPPB offers. The following people expressed interest and will attend the meeting: Leslie Cohn, Ph.D. (board member), Dug Lee, Ph.D., ABPP (board member), Executive Director James Chaney (DOH), and Nancy Delgado (DOH).

### **8. AAG Update – Joyce Roper, Assistant Attorney General**

AAG Joyce Roper briefed the board on a tip sheet for the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA), which is still in progress, and fielded questions.

### **9. Management Reports – DOH Staff**

- 9.1. Credentialing Statistics – The credentialing statistics were not available for this meeting.
- 9.2. Operating Budget Report - The board was briefed on the status of the fund balance for the psychology profession. A fee increase may need to be considered in 2023. Question from the public asked if the board will reevaluate fee increases, and whether the board will also evaluate where expenses can be cut or reduced. James explained it would not be done now but the board will be able to reevaluate everything within their power once they have all the data. Follow up question was why wait until the budget became an issue instead of doing a cost analysis now. It is up to the budget office and their policy is to look at each profession yearly, and they do not do cost analyses for those professions which are still well above the desired balance.
- 9.3. Program Update – Office of Customer Service is working on processing Temporary Practice Permit applications per the board’s revised requirements agreed upon at the January meeting.
- 9.4. Policy Analyst Update – Policy Analyst Melody Casiano stated the interpretive statement on virtual supervision for supervised experience was filed on February 4, 2021. The effective date is retroactive to February 29, 2020.

### **10. Subcommittee Work & Reports – Rachaud Smith, Psy.D., Chair**

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

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

There were no requests for lists and labels.

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

There were no requests for continuing waivers or extensions.

**12. Future Agenda Items – Rachaud Smith, Psy.D., Chair**

- 12.1. APA accreditation standards
- 12.2. Operating agreement between the board and DOH
- 12.3. Election of board officers
- 12.4. Prescriptive authority
- 12.5. PSYPACT
- 12.6. Training of new board members/refresher for current members

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

- 13.1. Training of new board members. Some members felt board-specific training would be helpful to new members, and all members may benefit from refreshers to the initial orientation DOH provides to all board, commission, and committee members. Other training topics include: OPMA, issues the board faces, mentorship needs, bill and WAC process refresher, and a summary of previous history and decisions on key legislation, as in the case of PSYPACT. It was decided the communications subcommittee should meet to discuss areas where more training would benefit new and existing members and will present a plan for training at the next board meeting.
- 13.2. Chair Rachaud Smith, Psy.D. announced he would be moving out of state and leaving the board once another member is in place.

**14. Meeting Adjourned**

The meeting adjourned at 12:04 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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