



Examining Board of Psychology Meeting Minutes

May 21, 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. Ruth Varkovitzky, Ph.D., ABPP Shari Roberts, Public Member Dug Lee, Ph.D., ABPP Michelle Giresi, Ph.D.
Board members absent:	Leslie Cohn, Ph.D.
Staff members present:	James Chaney, Executive Director Stacey Saunders, Program Director Karen Gohlsen, Program Support Nancy Delgado, Program Support Joyce Roper, Assistant Attorney General Bill Kellington, Supervising Staff Attorney Melody Casiano, Policy Analyst Ashley Broussard, Behavioral Health Coordinator
Guest presenters:	None

On May 21, 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 9:06 a.m.
- 1.2. Approval of the Agenda: *Motion to approve the agenda, seconded, vote 7-0.*
- 1.3. Approval of March 12, 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. Samantha Slaughter, Psy.D of the Washington State Psychological Association (WSPA) stated she had information to provide regarding APA accreditation, which the board asked she provide during discussion of agenda item 4. She also asked the board to update the FAQ section on the website regarding the practicum hours. Dr. Slaughter also stated WSPA, on behalf of members and doctoral programs, requests dropping the pre-internship from the supervised experience options because the pre-internship requirements in rule does not exist in many other states and therefore can impact admission to postdoc programs for professionals from other states as they may not meet licensure requirements in Washington state. She informed the board that WSPA is still pursuing prescription privileges and the WSPA Prescription Privilege Committee would like to schedule a presentation for the board at a later meeting. In addition, she asked for the status of including WSPA association information in new licensee packets like other states do.

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

- 3.1. Election of Officers.
 - i) The board asked for nominations for Chair. Florence Katz Burstein was nominated; no other nominations. *Motion to approve Florence Katz Burstein as chair, effective July 1, seconded, vote 7-0.*
 - ii) The board asked for nominations for Vice Chair. Ruth Varkovitzky, Ph.D., ABPP, was nominated; no other nominations. *Motion to approve Ruth Varkovitzky, Ph.D., ABPP as vice chair, effective July 1, seconded, vote 7-0.*

- 3.2. Signature Authority: Florence Katz Burstein will sign off on the new signature authority documentation for the upcoming biennium. This document gives DOH authority to sign off on rulemaking, disciplinary, and credentialing documentation.
- 3.3. Board Appointments: Executive Director James Chaney expects an update soon from the governor's office regarding three new board appointments and one reappointment (public member Florence Katz Burstein).
- 3.4. Board Recruitment: Board recruitment will be underway in May/June to fill one of the public positions (Shari Roberts term ends in January 2022). The board is aiming to have candidate interviews underway by August 2021 and completed by September 2021. Patience McGinnis, Psy.D. volunteered to be on the interview panel.
- 3.5. Board Training: Florence Katz Burstein presented to the board a training outline for new members and a refresher for current members. *Motion to approve the training outline, seconded, vote 7-0.*

4. American Psychological Association (APA) Accreditation – Rachaud Smith, Psy.D.

- 4.1. The board asked the applications subcommittee to look into concerns raised during today's public comment agenda item regarding practicum and pre-internship and report back to the board at the July meeting.
- 4.2. The board discussed Psychological Clinical Science Accreditation System (PCSAS) accreditation, which is not currently recognized in WAC, and how some research institutions are dropping APA accreditation and only having PCSAS accreditation.
- 4.3. The board discussed how to align the doctoral degree WAC, which is based on prior APA accreditation standards, with the current APA accreditation standards as the WAC has language not in the current standards, including academic domains with specific hours requirements. The application subcommittee has discussed multiple ideas and ways to address, such as adopting the EPPP2, requiring graduation from an APA-accredited doctoral program for licensure. Currently, all brick and mortar programs in Washington state are APA accredited. When looking at non-routine applicants since 2014, 31 were from non-traditional programs, 10 of whom were approved to take the EPPP, and only 3 were able to pass the EPPP.
- 4.4. Samantha Slaughter, Psy.D. (WSPA) read aloud a letter from the University of Washington that argued against requiring graduation from an APA-accredited program for licensure. The board requested the letter be provided, and Dr. Slaughter stated it would be emailed to the board. Dr. Slaughter also stated that from her discussions with other states, most viewed the new APA accreditation standards favorably. She stated while the phrasing of the accreditation standards had changed, the courses accredited doctoral programs require have not. Dr. Slaughter offered to reach out to several Washington state psychologists who were involved with revising the APA accreditation standards and ask them to present to the board. The board accepted the offer for a guest presentation and prefers scheduling the presentation for the September meeting.

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

- 5.1. 1551 & 2411: 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 CR-103 was filed with the Office of Code Reviser on April 12, 2021 and was effective May 13, 2021. Regarding ESHB 2411, the minimum standards for the second required suicide prevention training are still in progress. Until these trainings are available, the licensee is not required to fulfill this training requirement. The rule specifies that the requirement does not apply if the licensee can demonstrate that the training is not reasonably available.
- 5.2. Emergency rule on temporary practice permits: It was discovered in the final review of the emergency rule that the board cannot move forward with making the temporary practice permit available to everyone by waiving the substantial equivalency standards in WAC because there is an RCW that requires substantial equivalency for anyone getting a temporary practice permit. *Motion to authorize chair and vice chair to approve any options the AAG and Department suggest as a solution to the issue the emergency rule was trying to solve, seconded, vote 7-0.*

6. Legislative Update – James Chaney, Executive Director

- 6.1. Executive Director James Chaney briefed the board on current legislation that has a direct or indirect impact on the profession:
[SB 5229: Health equity continuing education for health care professionals](#)
[HB 1086: Creating state office of behavioral health consumer advocacy](#)
[HB 1180: Public testimony at public meetings, including virtual meetings](#)
[HB 1329: Public meeting accessibility and participation](#)
- 6.2. Prescriptive Authority: Samantha Slaughter, Psy.D. requested a board representative to attend WSPA meetings regarding upcoming prescription authority legislation. Patience McGinnis, Psy.D. volunteered.

7. ASPPB Mid-Year Meeting – Nancy Delgado, Program Support and Dug Lee

- 7.1. Nancy Delgado gave an overview of the ASPPB Mid-Year Meeting, which focused on the challenges and opportunities the jurisdictions faced during the pandemic and plans for moving forward in a post-pandemic world. The presentations covered: changes/adaptations in training as a result of the emergency and its impact on future credentialing practices and requirements; EPPP; thorough assessment done on ASPPB to identify areas for change and how to make those changes; legal issues, mainly those that made an impact on regulation due to the pandemic; and how jurisdictions would move forward beyond the pandemic.
- 7.2. Dug Lee, Ph.D., ABPP shared that many states were discussing virtual supervision and whether the supervising psychologist could be in one state providing virtual supervision to a supervisee in a different state. Regarding APA accreditation standards changes, as 36 states required APA accreditation for licensure, not all states need to make changes due to the revised APA accreditation standards.

8. AAG Update – Joyce Roper, Assistant Attorney General

AAG Joyce Roper announced a behavioral health practitioner, not a psychologist, is suing the state and contesting the [Uniform Disciplinary Act \(UDA\)](#) for listing [conversion therapy](#) on a minor as grounds for disciplinary action.

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. Expenditures are exceeding revenue, which is reducing the fund balance.
- 9.3. Program Update

Credentialing Report: Due to the continuing backlog experienced by the credentialing unit, the credentialing report will be provided twice per year. The board was asked which meeting they would like the next credentialing report and chose the September meeting.

EPPP2: The board would like to revisit its stance on the EPPP2 exam and have requested representatives of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) to provide a presentation regarding the exam. The board prefers a presentation for the September meeting, along with the APA presentation.

Non-Routine Applications: There is a backlog for non-routine applications and with three professional member positions being vacant, there are limited professional board members to review applications. Board members were asked to make reviewing non-routine applications a priority to help address the backlog, which department staff and the application subcommittee are also addressing.

Disciplinary Assignments: The board agreed to change the method of delivery of case files from CD to thumb drive as newer models of computers and laptops do not have CD drives.

Public Comment: The board agreed to revise the format for public comment to take comments at the end of each agenda item in addition to the dedicated agenda item that already exists. The statement that is read prior to the public comment agenda item will need to be revised to reflect the change and will be taken up by the communications subcommittee to be presented at the meeting in July.

Licensure Name - An inquiry was made on an issue brought up by a psychologist undergoing gender transitioning who would like to know their options regarding using a name other than their legal name for their practice when their license is under their legal name (they plan on changing their legal name at a later date). From a legal perspective, a client has to be able to find a provider if they would like to file a complaint, therefore the provider would have to use or provide the name that they are licensed under to the client. Staff Attorney Bill Kellington recommended the licensee be referred to seek legal counsel on what steps they can take to practice under a name they have chosen but have not changed legally while complying with the department's rules.

- 9.4. 2022 Meeting Dates – The board will discuss at the July meeting.
- 9.5. Policy Analyst Update – Policy Analyst Melody Casiano presented a draft policy statement on how the board considers supervised experience hours and how they would like to give partial credit for hours that do not meet all the requirements in WAC. Many options were discussed but no consensus was reached. *Motion to table the issue, seconded, vote 7-0.*

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

- 10.1. The communications subcommittee will meet to work on the 2021 newsletter.

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

There was a request to send out continuing education brochures on pain management training. *Motion to approve, seconded, vote 7-0.*

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

There were no requests for continuing education waivers or extensions.

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

- 13.1. Newsletter draft
- 13.2. Revised public comment statement
- 13.3. Update on the WSPA prescription privilege committee
- 13.4. 2022 meeting dates (July)
- 13.5. APA accreditation standards presentation (September)
- 13.6. EPPP2 presentation (September)

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

No topics were discussed.

15. Meeting Adjourned

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

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

Approved by:
Rachaud Smith, Chair
Examining Board of Psychology

Signature on file
SIGNATURE

Signature on file
SIGNATURE

DATE

DATE