

South Dakota Board of Social Work Examiners

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OFFICIAL BOARD MINUTES FOR November 11, 2015 Teleconference

Members Present: Todd Herrboldt, President; Ginger Johnson, Vice-President; Karen Chesley, Member; Jennifer Gray, Member; Cindy Steele, Lay Member; Michael Forgy, Member

Members Absent: David Nielsen, Lay Member, Secretary/Treasurer

Others Present: Carol Tellinghuisen, Executive Secretary; Jill Lesselyoung, Executive Assistant; Brooke Tellinghuisen Geddes, Executive Assistant; Carrie Srstka, Assistant Attorney General; Gloria Pearson, Secretary, Department of Human Services; Carole Boos, Senior Staff Attorney, Department of Human Services; Justin Pierson, Senior Policy Analyst; Kelsey Smith, Deputy Policy Advisor; Pamela Osnes, Ph.D., BCBA-D; James Carr, Ph.D., BCBA; Vicki Isler, Ed.D., BCBA-D; Christine Knapp, NASW; Terry Werner, NASW; Lacey Knutson; Lisa Stanley

President Herrboldt called the meeting to order at 12:10 CT.

Gloria Pearson, Secretary, SD Department of Human Services: Gloria thanked the Board for supporting the proposal of licensing the Applied Behavioral Analyst under the Social Work Board and for having James Carr present to explain how the proposed Board would work.

Discussion of Applied Behavior Analyst Licensing/BACB Representative, James Carr, Ph.D., BCBA-D: Boos provided a brief recap of the last workgroup meeting proposed revisions to the statutes that had been presented to the Psychology Board. She advised they are now looking into a subcommittee to place under another Board and the Social Work Board was suggested. When the proposed Board has more licensees, hopefully their dues can cover their own Board expenses.

Herrboldt asked the Board members for any questions. Johnson questioned why the Psychology Board choose not to participate. Boos deferred to Tellinghuisen to advise. Tellinghuisen advised there were some concerns on complaints, scope of practice, lack of expertise, continuing education, financial and other concerns. The subcommittee model was devised to hopefully overcome general concerns.

Herrboldt questioned how many applicants there are for the licensure proposal. Osnes advised there are currently 19 applicants to consider. Johnson and Herrboldt questioned the costs that may be incurred for the Board. Pearson advised the Department of Human Services attorney is willing to work on the statutes, the goal is to have the rules attached as part of the legislation and the intention is to not have as a burden to the Board. Herrboldt expressed his concerns that it would be the bigger burden to Tellinghuisen and her office and questioned if the proposed licensure is for Master's level and above only.

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Jim Carr of BCBA offered information on the National Certification Credentials. They are a group founded in 1998 that oversee private certification. He advised 24 states now license Applied Behavior Analysts and 8 other states have proposed legislation. Their agency handles multiple functions related to licensure; eligibility standards, coursework/transcript review, authorization for examination, continuing education, code of ethics and their own legal team to interact with state boards regarding disciplinary actions.

Tellinghuisen advised it is her understanding the BCBA would do the “heavy lifting” to certify licensees who would be required to obtain certification to be eligible for state licensure. She asked if it would be written in statute that loss of certification would then result in automatic loss of licensure.

Carr explained the details of the disciplinary action process through BCBA and the resources available to the Board. Boos advised it can be written in statute if a licensee would lose their certification, they would also lose their eligibility for licensure. Tellinghuisen advised this would alleviate some major concerns regarding complaints if it were legally possible to have license revocation tied directly to loss of certification.

Knapp questioned how an applicant would obtain the necessary education in SD. Carr advised there is not currently a degree program in SD; however training options are possible in SD with higher level degrees in other fields and meeting the separate coursework and requirements for licensure. In other states, behavior technicians who are supervised by a higher level licensee are exempt from licensure. These technicians fill the extensive and time consuming need for therapy as a child may need 30 hours of therapy per week. Current demographics indicate approximately one half of the assistants will move up to the higher level.

Pearson advised they are currently talking Master’s and Doctoral level only. Pearson thanked the Board for their consideration of this important issue for the State.

Stanley advised she is a parent and thanked the Board also.

The licensing proposal will be added to the next agenda for the Board meeting on November 24, 2015.

Herrboldt advised the goal is to better serve the public and adjourned the meeting at 12:54 CT.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol Tellinghuisen". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Carol Tellinghuisen
Executive Secretary