

## **MINUTES FOR THE BOARDS OF EXAMINERS FOR ALCOHOL, DRUG AND GAMBLING COUNSELORS**

**MEETING DATE:** Friday, June 20, 2014- Via telephone conference

**MEETING TIME:** 9:00 a.m.

**MEETING LOCATION:** Board of Examiners for Alcohol, Drug, and Gambling Counselors  
400 W King Street, Suite 111  
Carson City, NV 89701

**MEMBER PRESENT:** Dianne Springborn, Jackie Wotherspoon, Darlene Dufault (Via Telephone), Merlyn Sexton, Maryann Potter, Barbara Hunt and Steve Burt.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Agata Gawronski Executive Director, Carol Masterson, Executive Assistant, Keith Marcher, Deputy Attorney General

**MEMBERS OF PUBLIC:** Calib Cage, Charles Stookey, Gary Oliver, Theresa Oliver, Roberta Moranda, Oscar Sida, Denise Quirk, Collin Hodgen.

### **Item 1: Welcome, Call to Order.**

Dianne Springborn called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

### **Item 2: Public comments (limit 5 minutes)**

Dianne Springborn asked the public for the comments. No comments

### **Item 3: Approval of the minutes for April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Board meeting.**

Steve Burt made a motion to accept the minutes, Maryann Potter second, the motion unanimously carried.

### **Item 4: Veterans Licensure Reciprocity and Data efforts – presentation by Caleb Cage, Director of Military and Veterans Policy.**

Mr. Cage gave a presentation on the initiative called, The Year of the Veteran created to support the veterans that will be transitioning back into the community over the next three years. The Green Zone initiative is designed to allow licensure reciprocity effort. The governor's office is creating generic legislation allowing licensing bodies, though-out the state to do what they can to recognize veterans experience. The piece of legislation that will affect all boards is the data gathering piece. Requiring all licensing bodies to include questions on their licensing application to address veteran affiliation.

Agata Gawronski, stated if Mr. Cage would email the information to our board that we could include the questions on future application. That we are currently implementing a new data base, and would be able to include the information.

Mr. Cage stated that he would send the Department of Defense measures for professional therapists and data questions to the board.

**Item 5: Charles Stookey, LADC – asking to supervise additional interns (for possible action)**

Dianne Springborn asked Mr. Stookey, where he worked. He stated that he worked in Alpine County, as well as all four Vitality Center locations and performs weekly conference calls. He supervises two interns in So. Lake Tahoe, two in Reno at Ability Counseling, and 1 at Advanced DUI School.

The new intern would be in Carson City.

Dianne Springborn asked how he was able to prepare interns to pass the test as interns are spread though out the state. Mr. Stookey, stated”prayer”. She asked if he had a set curriculum. He stated no. His focus has been on client welfare. Once they become proficient he moves on to testing. He stated that he has found that they are woefully unprepared in this area. Dianne stated that they woefully are unprepared for testing as well.

Barbara Hunt asked if he was asking for a brief period of time to supervise additional interns or loner period of time. Mr. Stookey stated it would be short term.

Maryann Potter motioned that the board allow Mr. Stookey to supervise one additional intern for a period of six months. Barbara Hunt seconded. The motion was carried with four in favor and two opposed.

**Item 6: Emily Garnett, LADC on probation-quarterly report (for possible action)**

Emily Garnet was not present. Agata Gawronski stated that Ms. Garnett had submitted her report, and paid all fines. Steve Burt motioned that we accept her quarterly report, Barbara Hunt seconded, motion was carried unanimously.

**Item 7: Ricky McGee, LADC on probation – quarterly report (for possible action)**

Mr. McGee was not in attendance. Agata Gawronski stated that Mr. McGee has not complied with the probation requirements. Mr. Mcgee may request to have his license put on inactive status, but must comply with all required fees and paperwork. The probation fiscal requirements could be paid while inactive, all other probation requirements would need to be met if reactivated.

**Item 8: Gary Oliver – asking the Board to review his transcripts for approval (for possible action)**

Diane Springborn stated that she reviewed them and could only count four classes that would be remotely acceptable to the field. She felt the degree did not apply. She stated he could do a minor in addiction to supplement the degree.

Mr. Oliver stated that he would like to see the board accept his degree so that he could go forward and get a minor in addiction.

Steve Burt stated that he could enroll in addiction courses and apply for internship while taking the necessary classes. He would have to do internship hours and do addiction classes.

It is an effective strategy to believe that with your current liberal studies degree a minor in addiction studies and 4000 hours of internship that you would be able to sit for the exam.

**Item 9: Kathy Morissette-asking for permission to supervise additional interns (for possible action)**

Ms. Morissette was not present the item was tabled

**Item 10: Colin Hodgen –stipulation of facts agreement (for possible action)**

Dianne Springborn recused herself from this item. Steve Burt, Secretary took charge of meeting.

Keith Marcher stated that the board needs make a motion to accept the stipulation of the evidence and move forward with the penalty phase. Mr. Marcher stated since the president recused herself that we need to have another officer sign the agreement. It was agreed that Steve Burt would provide signatures.

Barbara Hunt made a motion to accept the facts agreement, seconded by Maryanne Potter. The motion was carried with one abstention.

Mr. Burt asked to hear from Mr. Hodgen. Mr. Hodgen stated that he had received a third DUI charge in Jan 2013, He began a diversion program in 2013 and continues to participate.

Merlyn Sexton asked if the diversion had a title for the program. Steve Burt stated that it is referred to as Felony DUI program.

Steve Burt stated that there were four licenses to address, LADC certificate, LADC Supervisor certificate, Gambling certificate and Gambling Supervisor certificate.

Maryann stated that she would like to hear more from Mr. Hodgen. Mr. Hodgen stated that

“it was a 36 hour relapse, I immediately sought counseling from Denise Quirk, until my entrance into the Advanced DUI program, began daily AA meetings”. He has currently completed the first phase of the SB277 program including three counseling sessions weekly and AA meetings. Completed 6 months of house arrest, have paid to the court \$1800.00 in supervision fees, which will continue for three years. Fine of \$750.00 and reports to the court services twice weekly, and

PPT Saturday and Sunday and report to the Judge every other Tuesday.” I will continue to do so for the duration of this program”.

Mr. Hodgen stated that he had been sober for 2 ½ years since 2<sup>nd</sup> DUI.

Jackie Wotherspoon stated that she had concerns with it being the 3<sup>rd</sup> DUI.

Barbara Hunt stated that we as a board need to follow our rules, guidelines and laws that we are bound by. Realizing each situation is different. She stated that with a 3<sup>rd</sup> DUI we need to follow through with a revocation or suspension.

Mr. Marcher explained the difference between license suspension and revocation fundamentals. It was up to the board to establish discipline.

Mr. Burt asked if Mr. Hodgen was comfortable having Denise Quirk speak. Mr. Hodgen states that he was ok.

Ms. Quirk stated she was the CEO and Clinical Director for the Reno Problem Gambling Center. She stated that she had known Mr. Hodgen for years and that he serves as a consultant for RGC.

She stated she would like to see the board not take his license but stipulate he have a breathalyzer in his car. Mr. Marcher said it would not be feasibly enforceable.

Jackie Wotherspoon stated that it was the responsibility of the board to make sure the people that we are overseeing are in a good place to help others.

Steve Burt stated that there had been a president set as Mr. Hodgen had been on probation two time prior to this incident. He believed that he needed to go through his storm accept consequences and be on the other side before they can effectively help others. Our clients are being held responsible for their behavior as well.

Darlene Dufault stated she had some concerns about protecting our clients and Mr. Hogen doing long term intensive treatment program with supervision.

Steve Burt asked for input from the Las Vegas site. Merlyn Sexton stated that Mr. Hogen had inspired him in the past, unfortunately this is serious situation.

Steve Burt stated that he was in favor of revocation.

Jackie Wotherspoon suggested suspension with automatic probation once his court obligations are complete. Mr. Marcher stated that the longest typical probation time frame is five years.

Barbara Hunt stated that we have set standards and rules that need to be followed, but in light of all the work “I am swayed to look at suspension”. She would like Mr. Hodge to return for the next ten years to make a report to the board on what is going on.

Jackie Wotherspoon made a motion, Mr. Hodgen’s licensures be suspended until completion of court ordered requirements and then be reviewed by the board for possible probationary penalties following the suspension. Maryann Potter seconded as stated, the motion was carried with one

abstention. Mr. Marcher stated it would be effective once the order was written. Steve Burt deferred meeting chair back to Dianne Springborn.

**Item 11: Michelle Happe-settlement agreement (for possible action)**

Keith Marcher stated that the board received a complaint on Ms. Happe. She was then notified of the investigation. Based on the notification she informed the board that she wanted to retire her license. Mr. Marcher explained to Ms. Happe that you cannot let your license lapse, or expire to avoid discipline. But you are able to do a voluntary surrender of your license. Based on the letter written by Ms. Happe, Mr. Marcher is asking the board to accept the voluntary surrender of Ms. Happe's license.

Steve Burt made a motion to accept the voluntary surrender of Ms. Happe's license. Barbara Hunt second, the motion was carried.

**Item 12: Executive director report (budget update, daily operations update) – (for possible action)**

Agata Gawronski stated that the budget was looking very good, internship count is up and has enabled her to offer Carol Masterson eight additional hours per week. The fiscal year is almost complete and she was looking forward to legislature next year. She is working towards updating policy and procedures in the coming year.

Oral boards were held Friday June 13 in Reno and will be in Las Vegas next week and again in August.

Steve Burt made a motion to accept the Executive Directors Report, Barbara Hunt second, the motion was carried.

**Item 13: Public Comment**

Emily Garnett stated that she was delayed in finding the building. Dianne Springborn told Emily that the board had approved her report. Emily was grateful.

Oscar Sida, with UNLV working with training courses in addiction as a minor. What they are looking to do in the next year is collapsing three courses, and streamlining a course in addictions minor. Stated he wanted to introduce himself and hopefully work with our board in future in developing the course.

Steve Burt said he would like to see Mr. Sida on a future agenda for a presentation.

**Item 14: Adjournment (for possible action)**

Steve Burt motioned to adjourn the meeting, Jackie Wotherspoon second, the motion was carried.

