

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

MEETING DATE: Wednesday October 7, 2015  
MEETING TIME: 8:00 a.m.  
MEETING LOCATION: **TMCC Redfield Campus  
18600 Wedge Parkway Bldg. B, room 102  
Reno, Nevada 89511**

**College of Southern Nevada  
Cheyenne Campus  
3200 E. Cheyenne Ave. Room 2638  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89030**

**MEMBER PRESENT:** Dianne Springborn, Darlene Dufault, Merlyn Sexton, Barbara Hunt, Steve Burt, and Maryann Potter.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Agata Gawronski Executive Director, Carol Masterson, Executive Assistant, Saul Singer, Investigator, and Brett Kandt, Deputy Attorney General

**MEMBERS OF PUBLIC:** Theresa Lemus, Lane Wilhelm, Barry Lovgren, April Wilson, and Angel Lash.

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

Dianne Springborn called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

**Item 2: Public comments**

Lane Wilhelm asked the Board for the clarification on the new /revised regulations, specifically changes regarding clinical supervision. Mr. Wilhem stated that he was also attending the meeting to support April Wilson's application.

**Item 3: Approval of the Minutes for June 14' 2013 meeting.**

Steve Burt made a motion to approve the minutes with the following changes: The meeting was called to order by Dianne Springborn not Darlene Dufault.

Another correction was on "Item 4" Change the unanimous vote to Darlene Dufault abstained and Merlyn Sexton Voted No.

Diane Springborn made motion to approve the minutes, Barbara Hunt seconded; the motion was carried unanimously

**Item 4: Anita Williams, LCADC Supervisor – request to supervise additional interns (for possible action)**

Anita Williams was not present at the meeting. Steve Burt made a motion to deny the request to take an additional intern. Maryann Potter seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

**Item 5: Request for Advisory opinion and/or declaratory order by licensee David Hopper, LADC related to the scope of practice issues involving his license (for possible action)**

David Hopper was not present. Executive Director Gawronski stated that Mr.Hopper's attorney had telephoned the office and asked to table the item.

**Item 6: Applications for Board's review; April Wilson (for possible action) –**

Ms. Wilson was present at Reno location. Executive Director Gawronski stated that according to NAC 641C.215 the board has a right to reject any application if the applicant has a crime other than a traffic law violation within two years of the application. April Wilson had an arrest more recent than two years. April Wilson stated that she was arrested in February of 2012 and completed the program in April 13, 2014; she asked the board to approve her application for internship.

Deputy Attorney General -Brett Kandt stated that the NAC 641C.215 subsection 4D specifies that the board may reject the applicant if the applicant was convicted. Ms. Wilson was not convicted; the court suspended the proceedings' until Ms. Wilson completed her diversion program, entered on February 13, 2013. Steve Burt stated that there is language in the NAC in Subsection E provides that an applicant may be rejected if they have not completed probation two years immediately preceding the application. Charges were dismissed upon completion of diversion program community and court supervision on April 3, 2014.

Ms. Wilson spoke, and explained that she was currently working for the drug court program as a recovery coach and that she created her own program for active and sustainable recovery.

She is also full time student at UNR's social work program.

Brett Kandt made clarification that Ms Wilson was not convicted and her application cannot be rejected based on that.

Darlene Dufault made a motion that the application be delayed until April 3, 2016. Steve Burt seconded; Members for: Darlene Dufault, Merlyn Sexton, Steve Burt, and Dianne Springborn. Members against: Barbara Hunt, Maryann Potter, The motion carried.

**Eugene Padilla (for possible action)** – Eugene was not present; Executive Director Gawronski stated that Mr. Padilla answered NO to the question” Have you have ever been arrested, convicted or indicated of any offence? “When the background check returned Mr. Padilla had an extensive criminal history.

Steve Burt made a motion to reject the internship application based on the fact that Mr. Padilla had falsified the application. Marryann Potter seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously

**Angel Lash (for possible action)** – Ms. Lash stated her application was denied to test for LADC, she had acquired 1500 hours and felt she met the criteria. She currently has 2600 hours of internship to date. She is asking the board to be allowed to test for licensure, and if not at what date would she be allowed to test. Executive Director Gawronski asked the board to review Ms. Lash's transcripts and identify 12 units in

substance abuse specific course work. Maryann Potter stated that she had not completed the course work required by our regulations to be allowed to test.

Steve Burt made a motion to deny the application for testing until Ms. Lash has met the requirements of 4000 internship hours or taken an additional 3 unit course to meet not to include the course she is currently teaching. Darlene Dufault seconded; Barbara Hunt recused herself, the motion carried.

**David Fritsche (for possible action)** – Executive Director Gawronski stated that Mr. Fritsche had contacted the office and decided not to pursue this action.

**Tami Jo McKnight (for possible action)** – Ms. McKnight was not present. Director Gawronski stated that Ms. McKnight's application appeared to be fraudulent. The question on the application asked: Have you have ever been arrested, convicted or indicated of any offence? Ms. McKnight cited only a harassment charge in 2008. When the background check returned it showed a DUI arrest on May 22, 2015. The application was received on June 11, 2015. Executive Director Gawronski asked if the board wanted to pursue any action for a misrepresented application. Brett Kandt stated that there was evidence of a subsequent arrest that was not disclosed on her application.

Executive Director Gawronski stated that NAC 641C.215 states that an application may be rejected if a person has falsified any information provided in the application.

Barbara Hunt made a motion that Ms. McKnight's application be rejected on the bases that she did not disclose her arrest information. Steve Burt seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

**Item 7: The new technologies in counseling and clinical supervision; intake duties and scope of practice review based on recent investigations – Saul Singer (for possible action)**

Mr. Singer gave an overview of a two day workshop; Training of Trainers – Ethical dilemma in the digital age. Mr. Singer stated there are concerns that regulation have not kept up with technology such as email, text, social media like Skype, Facebook, etc. None of these technologies are secure nor meet the HIPAA standards.

Matter #2 NAC 641C.405 A complaint was filed alleging that a facility had a non-licensed person conducting in-depth intakes. Screening tools were being used that the individual was not qualified to use. The IT group for that particular agency had set the system to allow for unlicensed persons to conduct the GAIN. Steve Burt suggested, a team be developed and deployed to assist and educate agencies.

Darlene Dufault stated that she felt we had an obligation to provide consultation. Maryann Potter suggested that a letter be written to the agency depicting what is happening with the technical program and offer assistance to bring it into compliance. Saul Singer was assigned to write a letter to the agency informing them of the findings of the board and offer assistance in training. Brett Kandt stated that he did not think this item was an action item and should be tabled until the next meeting when more specificity could be provided. Mr. Kandt, stated that the Director could write a letter based on the results of the investigation. Mr. Singer asked that this item be placed on the next meetings agenda.

**Item 8: Problem gambling oral examination review – Merlyn Sexton (for possible action)**

Merlyn asked that this item be tabled until the next meeting. Steve Burt motioned that the item be tabled until the next board meeting, Darlene Dufault seconded; the motion was carried unanimously.

**Item 9: Executive Directors Report (FY 2015/2016 proposed budget; current count report on all the licensees, proposed changes in testing/possible switch from NAADAC to IC&RC) no action**

Executive Director Gawronski gave an overview of changes in fiscal distribution;

BOEAD&G Counselors has changed banks from Wells Fargo to First Independent Bank. All the monies in savings will be placed in CD.

Everything was turned in to the auditor, and is expected to be completed by December 1, 2015 and submitted to the budget division.

The Board of Examiners is switching from NAADAC to IC&RC, what began as an idea, has now become critical. We were informed that PTCNY will no longer be offering the tests. Executive Director Gawronski stated that there are issues with the MAC and PTCNY as they added the co-occurring component to the test last year and applicants keep failing and this component is irrelevant to the field. IC&RC is very straight forward and relevant to the field. It also offers case studies should we want to add that component in lieu of oral exams. Executive Director Gawronski is meeting with IC&RC next week to discuss contracts.

**Item 10: Annual Performance evaluation of the Executive Director by Dianne Springborn (for possible action)**

President Springborn provided the board with an overview; Executive Director Gawronski was employed by the board on September 23, 2011 this review period goes from 12, 2014 to September 11, 2015

Her overall performance evaluation of Superior: President Springborn stated that Agata has done a superior job in her difficult position it has a huge variety and scope of practice that can be extremely overwhelming.

Justification: Agata continues to do a stellar job for the Board of Examiners for Alcohol, Drug & Gambling Counselors. She represents the board in a professional manner and has done some wonderful public relations work with a variety of agencies. She is cognizant of the budget and the resource available to the board and is excellent at adapting the budget and resources' to get the most for our money. She has been involved with CASAT in implementing the supervisors training both the two day mandated workshop and the following one day workshop to ensure all interns are getting quality supervision. Agata is dependable and reliable. I am also proposing to the board that she receive a 4% raise.

Steve Burt made a motion to accept the performance evaluation as submitted by President Springborn and all its recommendations. Darlene Dufault seconded; the motion was carried unanimously

**Item 11: Election of Officers (for possible action)** President Springborn read a letter of resignation from Jacquelyn Wotherspoon effective August 28, 2015. Ms. Wotherspoon has moved leaving a CADAC position on the board.

President Springborn stepped down and motioned to nominate Darlene Dufault for president. Merlyn Sexton seconded the motion. Darlene Dufault accepted the nomination. The motion was carried unanimously

Darlene Dufault motioned to nominate Steve Burt as Vice President; Maryann Potter seconded; Steve Burt accepted the nomination; the motion carried unanimously.

Maryann Potter motioned to nominate Barbara Hunt as Treasurer, Steve Burt seconded; the motion was carried unanimously.

Executive Director Gawronski stated that Dianne Springborn would be staying with the board as a Gambling representative until that position can be replaced. She also stated that the board needs to have a CADAC member.

Dianne Springborn handed the meeting over to newly elected President Darlene Dufault for public comment.

### **Item 12: Public Comment**

Lane Wilhelm asked for clarification of section 8 of the regulations. Brett Kandt stated that if we wanted to discuss this at length it should be placed on the agenda. Theresa Lemus asked that the board give supervisors a voice at the table when establishing direction on the new regulation. Steve Burt suggested that this item be placed on the agenda for a later date.

### **Adjournment (for possible action)**

Board President Darlene Dufault asked for a motion that the meeting be adjourned.

Steve Burt made a motion to adjourn, Maryann Potter seconded, and the motion was carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.