

MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR ALCOHOL, DRUG AND GAMBLING COUNSELORS

MEETING DATE: JANUARY 20, 2012 – Via teleconference

MEETING TIME: 9:00 AM

MEETING LOCATION: **Legislative Building  
Room 2134  
401 South Carson Street  
Carson City, Nevada**

**Grant Sawyer Building  
Room 4412  
555 E. Washington Street  
Las Vegas, Nevada**

Members present: Larry Ashley, Dianne Springborn, Steven Burt, Darlene Dufault, and Jacquelyn Wotherspoon.

Staff present: Agata Gawronski, Executive Director, Connie Corley, Executive Assistant, and Keith Marcher Dep. Attorney General

Members of the public present: Tonia Marcune, Colin Hodgen

**Item 1: Welcome, Call to Order, Approval of the Minutes**

Dianne Springborn called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM;

**Item 2: Public comments**

Dianne asked for public comments and there were no public comments.

**Item3: Approved Minutes**

The minutes were approved by Steve Burt and Darlene Default; the motion carried.

**Item 4: Quarterly Reports for Colin Hodgen and Adriane Chism.**

Colin Hodgen was present in Carson City and reported that he feels things are going very well, he gets the support from the Board; Dianne Springborn asked Colin “how long until the probation is over “and he responded “I think in July”.

Adriane Chism was not present in Carson City; however the Board received the report from her supervisor Michelle Happe stating that Adrienne made improvement since the last report.

**Item 5: Amy Polsenberg**

Amy Polsenberg was not present in Carson City; The Executive Director reported that she was no longer an Intern certified by this Board. It was established that she was not practicing as a counselor at this time, and that this Board could not do anything about it. Amy Polsenberg failed to report her 2011 DUI arrest while applying for her internship. No action was taken.

**Item 6: Tonia Marcune- request to supervise up to 10 interns.**

Tonia Marcune was present in Las Vegas; Dianne Springborn stated that the Board granted her supervision of more than 5 interns in July 2011 for six months, and she will ask for more time at today's meeting; Dianne asked you have 5 interns? And Tonia said: yes, I had success with those who came to my business "our agency is called "Mobile mental health support services", we collaborate with the consultants in North Carolina and they are bringing the program to Las Vegas. I brought materials to the meeting to show the training I developed for the interns that are coming into the field; it is very extensive; I do one to two training sessions per week with the interns we have recruited, I have an intern whom is former Clark County coroner, I have an intern whom is combat paramedic. My interns are pursuing masters degrees, most of them have bachelors; the fact that I recruited those interns is good for them, because they can get some hands on experience with clients. The services we offer are free of charge to the clients that we recruited from the Sober living homes"; Dianne Springborn "what are your logistics, where are their housed, are they in a mobile van that goes all over the city?" Tonia Marcune said: we are working out of the main administrative office; it is located at 2820 St John's Blvd., in an individual treatment rooms. We do not have mobile addiction treatment team; it is stationary and the clients participating are being brought to the center. Dianne Springborn: how much time you spend with each of your interns per week? Tonia Marcune :4 hours consult per week; we make sure that treatment plans are build in, all the files are up to date. Dianne: The previous extension was temporary I will open it to the team for discussion.

Steve Burt: "are you reporting sitting on treatment sessions, or recording it?" "Tonia: I do it in vivo- I sit on the treatment sessions. Jackie Wotherspoon: "what is your plan to either bring another supervisor or to reduce the amount of people you are supervising?" Tonia Marcune: the program is in its infancy, we don't have enough funds right now. We need clientele referred to make money to pay for another LADC; we are waiting for the SAPTA certification right now, and hoping to work in specialty courts, and bringing smoking cessations program to the clinic; I do not carry my own case load. Dianne Springborn: what is the case load for each intern? Tonia Marcune: 1-2 each, what time frame are you talking about and for how many interns? Tonia Marcune: altogether 7, not more than that. Dianne Springborn: we cannot continue to make exemptions to the statues. Tonia asked 6 months to cut back to 5 interns, Steve Burt: We have to vote on specific request and I don't see a specific request Jackie Wotherspoon: are you changing the request from 10 to 7? Tonia "I think is appropriate: Steve Burt made motion to deny the request for more than 5 interns, and Tonia Marcune said she doesn't understand why cannot we work together, "I have wonderful program I wasn't aware it will be terminated, I thought it was progress report", and asked for consideration; she stated that she will have to terminate people now; Dianne Springborn : your request has been denied by the Board.

### **Item 7/ 8: Audit report/ Budget report/Fees**

Agata Gawronski: “any questions? I was going to make an adjustment loss money, mostly automation issues”, Steve Burt:in audit page 5 ; in the past we approved” rainy day fund to be used“ and it was used for automation; we want to change the cash flow for the fingerprints; travel expenses are concerning as well and we would like to cut those expenses; we haven’t raised the fees in 5 years for fingerprints. We have statutory max fees, Steve Grieson did not want them to cost too much; it must be on the agenda next time. Keith Marcher advised to put the fee issue on the next agenda.

Steve: we need the Board to approve the agenda, Dianne motion to accept audit, motion carried. It was suggested to Agata Gawronski to contact other boards to ask whom they use for the audit; Agata Gawronski said that they all use the same one. Keith said you write fee proposal, you can do it without action, what direction to take with what state allows.

Steve Burt stated that he can review the current budget, and bring it back to next meeting, to discuss possible changes/adjustments with the Board.

Darlene Default made motion to accept the audit, Jackie Wotherspoon second the motion. The motion carried.

### **Item 9: National Addiction Studies Accreditation Commission – Larry Ashley**

Larry Ashley: Brief history, SAMHSA has been concerned about the training and education of the addiction therapist and their education, so we contracted with NADAC, and we convenient in 2009 in Washington DC, and came up with the academic standards from the Associates to PHD’s, and I was on the graduate committee that did the doctors and the masters levels, the outgrowth of that was last year in the Addiction Seminar in San Diego, CA ; first ever accrediting commission for academic addiction program , which came on board in August official. The bottom line is, there is no education for MFT’s, Social workers in addiction and they practice addiction counseling without proper training or education; that doesn’t mean there is no “good folks” doing it, but they did not have any training. You cannot be an MSW, unless you are trained to be MSW. So the accreditation commission was created in August and they will go to all the governing bodies in the future including us and will make sure that people are properly trained and educated to practice as addiction professionals; we started the process at UNLV.

LarryAshley said:” I am just letting you know, it maybe 10 or 20 years but it will happened.” Allot of us get the experience on the job, so with proper accreditation and education, we will not have to get thru on the job training only, so that is where it comes from.

Dianne Springborn said” Thank you Larry, any other comment, any public comment? No public comments.

**Item 10: Oral Board selection Process- Agata Gawronski/Larry Ashley**

Agata Gawronski, was made aware by Larry Ashley about the person that was an examiner on the recent oral boards in Las Vegas, DA said “you do not have the formal complaint, you can’t do anything about it, and you need to produce it next time” Darlene Dufault : what is the process of selecting the oral board.?, Steve Burt –convenience was always used; Darlene Dufault said we need some mechanism; Keith – Agata cannot collectively go back and forth, you must have subcommittee. You need written policy and presented to the Board.

**Item 11: Executive Director Report.**

Agata Gawronski asked the Board if they want anything in particular to be reported on the regular basis, and stated that everything is going ok; the Board office has been moved to 400 W. King Street in Carson City.

**Item 12: Public Comments**

There were no public comments. Dianne said to put the supervision issues on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

**Item 13: Adjournment**

Dianne Springborn made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Larry Ashley seconded the motion. Adrian Chism’s report was tabled. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:30am.