

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

MEETING DATE: Friday, February 2, 2018- Via teleconference

MEETING TIME: 09:30 a.m.

MEETING LOCATION: **Nevada Co-Op Extension
8050 Paradise Road, Room E
Las Vegas, Nevada 89123**

**Innovation Center
Summit Conference Room
450 Sinclair St.
Reno, Nevada 89501**

MEMBER PRESENT: Darlene Dufault - President, Merlyn Sexton –Vice president, Paula Chung-member, Dani Danley-member, Maryann Potter; LeAnn Malone-member; Barbara Hunt – secretary/treasurer **via phone**.

STAFF PRESENT: Agata Gawronski, Executive Director, Colleen Platt, Board’s Attorney.

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC: No public.

Item 1: Welcome, Call to Order.

Darlene Dufault called the meeting to order at 9.30 a.m.

Item 2: Public Comments.

No public comments.

Item 3: Approval of minutes from Board Meetings on November 3, November 9 and December 29th, 2017 (for possible action).

Barbara Hunt made motion to approve minutes, MaryAnn Potter second it, motion carried.

Item 4: Robert Lauritzen- request to take oral boards after three failed attempts (for possible action).

Mr. Lauritzen was present in Reno; Darlene Dufault asked why he was failing his oral exams; Mr. Lauritzen stated that part of the problem was lack of supervision throughout the majority of his internship and that he was receiving supervision only 1 hour per month, he mainly ran groups and barely did assessments and treatment planning; Mr. Lauritzen went on to say that he had recently obtained a job and was able to hire supervisor few weeks prior to this meeting, so he now has time to learn the skills and that he did not want to give up on his dream of becoming certified counselor. Agata Gawronski suggested that maybe Mr. Lauritzen should seek special accommodations for the exam such as extra preparation time, but she would need doctor’s note for it. This issue was previously addressed by Ms. Gawronski with Mr.

Lauritzen; he stated that as a VA patient he has difficult time trying to get in with doctor to obtain such paper. Ms Dufault suggested that maybe Robert should prolong his internship and continue under supervision. Mr. Lauritzen stated that he had been an intern for 10 years and cannot go back to internship status. Mr. Lauritzen asked about the possibility of obtaining Provisional certificate but Agata Gawronski stated she wasn't comfortable granting it, to which President Dufault agreed. Merlyn Sexton suggested that maybe Mr. Lauritzen should look into Certification for Peer Recovery Specialist as a possibility to continue in the field. Mr. Lauritzen stated that he had considered taking this route as well. Merlyn Sexton made motion to deny request to re take the oral boards, Paula Chung second it. Motion carried.

Item 5: Lindsey Holland, LADC –request to terminate probation (for possible action)

Lindsey Holland was present in Reno, Darlene Dufault asked Ms. Holland what she learned from the experience, and she answered “I learned my lesson, paid my fine and met all my requirements”. LeeAnn Malone made motion to terminate Ms. Holland's probation, Dani Danley second it. Motion carried.

Item 6: Oscar Sida, LCADC, CPGC –review of curriculum for Substance Abuse Addiction Medicine Counselor Training Post Baccalaureate Program at Great Basin College and possible approval of program for the purpose of NAC 641C.205 (for possible action).

Oscar Sida was present in Las Vegas via teleconference, he stated that he worked on couple of changes in his program with Paula Chung, and that the program will be offered in Fall of 2018; he emphasized the 65 hours in Gambling being offered by his program; Board members complimented the syllabus provided by Mr.Sida; Paula Chung made motion to approve the curriculum for the Substance Abuse Addiction Medicine Counselor Training Post Baccalaureate Program at Great Basin College; Barbara Hunt second it, motion carried.

Item 7: Administrative hearing: Gabrielle Suarez, CADC-I, Case Number 2018-01-01(for possible action).

Colleen Platt stated that as of two days prior to the meeting she and Ms. Suarez's attorney have reached settlement agreement and she was going to present it to the board orally for approval or denial. The settlement included one year suspension and 18 hours of continued education in ethics, professional boundaries and client relationship (approved by Agata Gawronski); at the end of the year suspension Ms. Suarez will be required to complete alcohol and drug evaluation at her expense and submit it to the Board for approval, she will present to the Board to determine whether the conditions of the suspension could be lifted. No fines or fees were imposed at this time. LeeAnn Malone made motion to accept settlement agreement as presented. MaryAnn Potter second it, motion passed with two abstentions (Darlene Dufault and Barbara Hunt recused themselves due to conflict of interest), one nay from Paula Chung.

Item 8: Discussion and possible adoption of mission statement for the Board (for possible action).

After short discussion and presentation of two proposals; Barbara Hunt's proposal passed as presented: **“Our mission is to protect the public by promoting integrity and professional standards of certified and licensed individuals. We do this with regard to both ethical characteristics and interpersonal competencies.”** Dani Danley made motion to adopt the mission statement for the Board, Paula Chung seconds it. Motion carried.

Item 9: Executive Director's Report

a) Budget overview for the first half of fiscal year 2017-2018

Agata Gawronski presented current budget and stated that the reason the Board was in red was because majority of the projected renewals are due in the third and fourth quarter of this fiscal year. Members discussed the budget briefly.

b) Legislative update

Agata Gawronski informed the members that this Board was selected to testify before Sunset Subcommittee currently scheduled for Monday, May 21 2018.

Item 10: Board training –Agata Gawronski, Executive Director/Colleen Platt, Legal Counsel

Agata Gawronski and Colleen Platt conducted training to the Board members regarding the following:

NRS 241-Public Meeting Law; NRS and NAC 281A- Ethics in Government ; Role of Legislative Counsel Bureau; Role of IC&RC; Role of this Board and its members and Staff; brief overview of NRS 641C/NAC 641C; review of policies and procedures; fiscal agenda and legal exposure of board members.

Item 11: Public comments.

No public comments

Item 12: Adjournment.

Darlene Dufault adjourned the meeting at 1.30 pm