

# TEXAS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL



## MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Gloria Z. Canseco, M.A., Chair

Dr.h.c. Sarah Abraham

John K. Bielamowicz

Timothy M. Brown, M.S.W.

Steve Christopherson, M.S.

Susan Fletcher, Ph.D.

George Francis, IV

Benny W. Morris

Jennifer Smothermon, M.A.

Darrel D. Spinks  
Executive Director

## Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council

October 12, 2020

The Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council met via Zoom video conference in conjunction with the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners on October 12, 2020. The following Council members were in attendance: Gloria Canseco, M.A., Chair; Dr. h.c. Sarah Abraham; John Bielamowicz; Timothy Brown, M.S.W.; Susan Fletcher, Ph.D. Herman Adler, M.A.; George Francis, IV, M.B.A.; Ben Morris, M.Ed.; and Jennifer Smothermon, M.A. Also, in attendance was Darrel Spinks, Executive Director and Patrick Hyde, General Counsel. Steve Christopherson, M.S. was absent from the meeting.

The following Board members of the TSBSWE were also in attendance: Tim Brown, M.S.W., Chair; Brian Brumley, Vice-Chair; Megan Graham; Ben Morris; Martha Mosier; Audrey Ramsbacher. Also, in attendance was Alice Bradford, Executive for the board, and Brian Clark, Staff Attorney. Beverly Loss and Mark Talbot were absent from the meeting.

### Monday, October 12, 2020

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Ms. Canseco.
2. The Council moved to Item 2, Roll Call and Certification of Quorum. A quorum was seated with Mr. Christopherson absent from the meeting.
3. Ms. Canseco thanked Tim Brown, Chair of the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners for taking a week of his vacation to assist staff with the backlog of work.
4. The Council moved to Item 3, Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners rules:
  - a. Consideration of adoption of rules from the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners that were published in the July 17, 2020 *Texas Register* with changes that were recommended by the OOG's Budget and Policy Division.

333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-900, Austin, Texas 78701  
(Phone) 512-305-7700, (Fax) 512-305-7701

*The Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, disability or sexual orientation.*

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DR. FLETCHER AND SECONDED BY DR. ABRAHAM TO APPROVE THE CHANGES TO THE RULES. THE VOTE CARRIED WITH MR. CHRISTOPHERSON ABSENT FROM THE VOTE.

- b. Withdraw and Repropose Board rule §781.420, Licensing of Persons with Criminal Convictions.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DR. ABRAHAM AND SECONDED BY MS. SMOTHERMON TO APPROVE THE CHANGES TO THE RULE. THE VOTE WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

- c. The Council considered proposed rule changes to the following rules to repeal the requirement that supervision plans be submitted and approved by the agency:
  - i. §781.102, Definitions.
  - ii. §781.302, The Practice of Social Work.
  - iii. §781.401, Qualifications for Licensure.
  - iv. §781.402, Clinical Supervision for LCSW and Non-Clinical Supervision for Independent Practice Recognition.
  - v. §781.403, Independent Practice Recognition (Non-Clinical).
  - vi. §781.404, Recognition as a Council-approved Supervisor and the Supervision Process.
  - vii. §781.406, Required Documentation of Qualifications for Licensure.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MS. SMOTHERMON AND SECONDED BY MR. BIELAMOWICZ TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED RULE CHANGES. THE VOTE WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 5. The Council moved to Item 4, Public Comment.
  - a. Will Francis – spoke against changes to Board §781.301, Code of Conduct and §781.305, Sexual Misconduct.
  - b. Sandra Martin – spoke regarding the Christian Counselors of Texas.
  - c. Christina Rodriguez – spoke regarding inactive status questions.
  - d. Robin Gould – spoke regarding status of her application.
  - e. Janet Finch – speaking regarding supervision plans.

- f. Gina Guerra – spoke regarding status of her application.
  - g. Olga Escobedo – spoke regarding documents received in the office.
  - h. Norma Reed – spoke regarding the licensing backlog and supported changes to the supervision plan. She also stated that she was against changes to Board §781.301.
  - i. Teresa Adcock – spoke regarding question of exam eligibility.
  - j. Tracy Abzug – spoke against changes to §781.301, and in favor of the supervision plans changes.
  - k. Alyssa Karsagi- spoke regarding child custody evaluation.
  - l. Brandi Felderhoff – spoke against changes to §781.301 and supervision plans.
  - m. Evelyn Fabian – spoke regarding backlog of application.
  - n. Hannah Arlette – spoke regarding child custody evaluations.
  - o. Tara Coronado – spoke regarding an email she sent for the Council meeting on October 27, 2020.
  - p. Sarah Edwards – spoke regarding rule change for §781.301 and §781.305.
  - q. Kenda Dalrymple – spoke regarding §781.301, and the need to get the statute changed.
  - r. Brenda James – spoke regarding supervision plans.
6. Ms. Canseco addressed future Council agenda items:
- a. An agenda topic concerning whether to initiate rulemaking to adopt non-discrimination requirements for licensees would be added to the Council’s October 27<sup>th</sup> agenda; and
  - b. An agenda topic concerning possible administrative solutions for the licensing backlog (e.g., extension of application expiration dates, fee waivers) would be added to the Council’s October 27<sup>th</sup> agenda.
7. The Council and Board meeting were adjourned at 3:10 p.m. by Ms. Canseco.