

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Steven Hallbauer, Board Chair
Christopher Taylor, LPC-S Board Vice-Chair
Dr. Lia Amuna, LPC
Dr. Loretta J. Bradley, LPC-S
Brenda S. Compagnone, LPC-S
Vanessa Hall
Garrett Nerren
Roy Smith
Janie Stubblefield, LPC-S

Cristina De Luna
Board Administrator

MEETING MINUTES November 12, 2021

The Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors Meeting met via Zoom video conference on November 12, 2021. The following Board members were in attendance: Steven Hallbauer-Chair, Dr. Christopher Taylor-Vice Chair, Dr. Lia Amuna, Dr. Loretta Bradley, Brenda Compagnone, Roy Smith, and Janie Stubblefield. Also, in attendance was Cristina De Luna, Board Administrator of the LPC Board.

The following Board members had an approved absence from the November 12, 2021 meeting: Vanessa Hall and Garrett Nerren.

Friday, November 12, 2021

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m. by Chair Steven Hallbauer.

2. The Board moved into Item II, Introduction of members and staff.

3. The Board moved into Item III, Meeting Minutes.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DR. CHRISTOPHER TAYLOR AND SECONDED BY BRENDA COMPAGNONE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 12, 2021, BOARD MEETING AS SUBMITTED. THE VOTE WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. The Board moved into Item IV, Board review and possible action regarding Application Denial(s).

A. A MOTION WAS MADE IN REGARD TO JUAN CARRILLO'S APPLICATION FOR UPGRADE BY CHRISTOPHER TAYLOR TO REMOVE A BARRIER TO LICENSURE BASED ON PAST SUPERVISOR RESERVATIONS AND ALLOW STAFF TO CONTINUE WITH THE UPGRADE PROCESS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY DR. LORETTA BRADLEY. THE VOTE WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. JUAN CARRILLO AND HIS LEGAL REPRESENTATION WERE PRESENT VIA ZOOM AND DID RECEIVE APPROPRIATE NOTICE OF THE MEETING.

5. The Board moved into Item V, Discussion and possible action, regarding reports of orders from fourth quarter executed by the Board Chair.

A MOTION WAS MADE IN REGRADS TO AGREED ORDERS FOR CASE 1061-09-0007, 1061-09-0051, 1061-10-0020, AND 1061-10-0064. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE RECUSAL OF CHRISTOPHER TAYLOR.

6. The Board moved into Item VI, Discussion and possible action, regarding reports of orders from fourth quarter executed by Council's Executive Director.

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NO ACTION TAKEN.

7. The Board moved into Item VII, Discussion and possible action regarding petition related to §681.2(18) and all associated rules related to LPC Associates.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BRENDA COMPAGNONE AND SECONDED BY LORETTA BRADLEY TO DENY THE PETITION FOR RULEMAKING. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. The Board moved into Item XIII, Updated reports regarding Q4 Performance Measures, Q4 Enforcement Status Report, Annual Enforcement Actions, Annual Performance Measure Report, and Q4 Complaints Dismissal Report.

NO MOTION NEEDED.

9. The Board moved into Item IX, Discussion and possible action related to State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) Proposals for Decision (PFD) and possible orders to be recommended or ratified by the Board.

NO ACTION NEEDED

10. The Board moved into Item X, Rulemaking – Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors:

Aia. A MOTION WAS MADE BY DR. CHRISTOPHER TAYLOR AND SECONDED BY BRENDA COMPAGNONE TO ACCEPT PROPOSED LANGUAGE FOR 681.2. DR. LORETTA BRADLEY OPPOSED.

Aib. A MOTION WAS MADE BY CHRISTOPHER TAYLOE AND SECONDED BY BRENDA COMPAGNONE TO ACCEPT PROPOSED LANGUAGE FOR 681.91. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Aic. A MOTION WAS MADE BY DR. CHRISTOPHER TAYLOR AND SECONDED BY BRENDA COMPAGNONE TO ACCEPT PROPOSED LANGUAGE FOR 681.93. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Bia. NO MOTION NECESSARY TO PROPOSED RULE 681.6.

Bib. NO MOTION NECESSARY TO PROPOSED RULE 681.83.

Bic. NO MOTION NECESSARY TO PROPOSED RULE 681.205.

Biia. NO MOTION NECESSARY TO PROPOSED RULE 681.41.

Biib. NO MOTION NECESSARY TO PROPOSED RULE 681.72.

Biic. NO MOTION NECESSARY TO PROPOSED RULE 681.73.

Biid. NO MOTION NECESSARY TO PROPOSED RULE 681.82.

Biie. NO MOTION NECESSARY TO PROPOSED RULE 681.114.

Biif. NO MOTION NECESSARY TO PROPOSED RULE 681.205.

11. The board moved into Item XI, Discussion and possible action concerning Committee Reports:

12. The Board moved into Item XIII, Counseling Compact information and discussion on Texas position.

The Texas Board continues to support joining the Counseling Compact. Currently the Board awaits this item to be sponsored and proposed during the next Legislative Session.

13. The Board moved into Item XIII, Discussion and possible action concerning phone scams against counselors.

The Texas Board would like to get the word out to be cautious of phone, email, and mail scams and to be sure to protect yourselves.

14. The Board moved into Item XIII, Nomination and voting of one professional member and an alternate to serve on Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LIA AMUNA AND SECONDED BY BRENDA COMPAGNONE TO REAPPOINT CHRISTOPHER TAYLOR TO SERVE AS THE PROFESSIONAL MEMBER ON BHEC. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LIA AMUNA AND SECONDED BY BRENDA COMPAGNONE TO REAPPOINT JANIE STUBBLEFIELD TO SERVE AS THE ALTERNATE PROFESSIONAL MEMBER ON BHEC. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

15. The Board moved into Item XII, Board Chair Report and update concerning current challenges and accomplishments; interaction with stakeholders, state officials, and staff; workload of Board members; and general information regarding the routine functioning of the Board and BHEC.

Chair Steven Hallbauer BHEC has continues to do a lot of work. Council Fee Committee continues to see how they can improve fees for applicants and licensees. Chair reminded the public of the email alert notification so they can keep up with any changes or discussions going on with the board.

Executive Director, Darrel Spinks noted the BHEC Standardization Committee continues to put a lot of work into a proposal for the boards.

16. The Board moved into Item XI, Board Administrator's Report concerning program operations; customer service accomplishments and challenges; workload processing; and general information regarding the routine functioning of the licensure program and enforcement compliance.

Board Administrator providing update – Application timeframes can be found on our website; if applied prior to the date listed the applicant should look at their emails as staff will send a deficiency for any items missing. The applicant should submit documents using the Contact Us Form on the board's website. You may also access past board and Council meetings using the BHEC YouTube channel. There are 29 cases being monitored by for Enforcement Actions.

17. The Board moved into Item XII, Public comments – Public comment is limited to three (3) minutes per person, unless otherwise directed by the presiding officer. Please note that the Council may not discuss or act on any matter raised during public comment, except to decide whether to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting.

- Written Public Comment was provided to the board members prior to the meeting with over 2,000 signatures noting they did not support the proposed rules under §681.83.

- Sandra Martin with Christian Counselors of Texas appreciated being able to be a part of the Committee meetings being open to the public in the past. She also noted that supervisor loads we be eased now based on the proposed changes to rules. Supervisors are not forced to supervisor all Associates who will have a private practice.
- Dr. Katherine Bacon with the Texas Counseling Association. TCA appreciates the Human Trafficking FAQ's to be posted to the website to assist with inquiries. TCA supports the Counseling Compact and continues to advocate for sponsorship.
- Angela Bulls with the Texas Counseling Association noted how appreciative she is that the board has a plan to how the review process will be completed related to academic requirements and wants to ensure the changes will not impact the ability to be part of the Counseling Compact.
- Betty Dawson with the Texas Association of Psychological Associates explains her concern is not the difference between counselor and psychological as these terms have always been used. The concern is with the word "Associate" that has two very different meanings. LPC-Associate appears to be parallel with Licensed Psychological Associate, which it is not. The organization continues to oppose this change.
- Mario De La Garza with Texas Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. TACES would like to thank Chair Hallbauer for requesting BHEC take no action to proposed academic coursework content language. TACES has concerns with the impact it could have to supervisors and those who are sitting to take the national exam. Individuals who have a counseling-related degree should be looked at more closely to ensure they have the knowledge required. TACES is concerned this change could hurt the ability to be part of the Counseling Compact.
- Kerry Proctor LPC in Texas. Appreciates the move to the academic discussion is being sent to the Rules Committee. Feels that the academic standards in important for the Counseling Compact.
- Diane Smiley LPC in Texas. Agrees that efficiency is important and appreciates the changes in processing times. Was initially concerned with how the board was handling the academic coursework and now that would affect supervisors. Appreciated that the proposed language has been send back to review again. She noted the board needs to ensure the public is protected.
- Tom Kennedy with Christian Counselors of Texas. Appreciates the boards work and the support of the Counseling Compact.

18. The Board moved to Item XIII, Items for consideration for future committee and Board meeting agendas.

Christopher Taylor requests the Human Trafficking course be counted as continuing education. This will be proposed to the BHEC Standardization Committee.

19. The Board moved into Item XV, Announcements and comments not requiring Board action, such as statements regarding conferences, future board meetings, and other recent or upcoming events.

- TCA Conference – November 2021
- Christian Counselors of Texas – February 10-12, 2022
- TSBEP Full Board Mtg – February 11, 2022
- TACES Conference February 23-25, 2022

20. Adjournment

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DR. CHRISTOPHER TAYLOR AND SECONDED BY DR. LIA AMUNA TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Steven Hallbauer

2/11/22