

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**TENNESSEE BOARD OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE COUNSELORS**

**DATE:** October 18, 2019  
**TIME:** 9:00 A.M.  
**LOCATION:** Health Related Boards Conference Center  
Poplar Room, 665 Mainstream Drive  
Nashville, TN 37243

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**PRESENT:** David Brown, LADAC, Chair  
Ella Bentley, LADAC, Secretary  
Thomas Corman, LADAC  
Dr. Jane Abraham, LADAC, NCAC II

**ABESENT MEMBER:** Major McNeil, Citizen Member

**STAFF**

**PRESENT:** Latonya Shelton, ASA 3  
Teddy Wilkins, Unit Director  
Caroline Tippens, Assistant General Counsel

Ms. Teddy Wilkins, Unit Director called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. Ms. Wilkins determined that a sufficient number of members were in attendance to constitute a quorum. Ms. Wilkins asked staff to introduce themselves: Teddy Wilkins, Unit Director; Latonya Shelton, ASA3, Caroline Tippens, Assistant General Counsel.

**Minutes**

Upon review of the April 5, 2019 and July 12, 2019 minutes Dr. Abraham made a motion, seconded by Ms. Bentley to approve both sets minutes as written. The motion carried.

**Office of General Counsel (OGC)**

Ms. Tippens also discussed the conflict of interest policy with the board members:

**PURPOSE:** To assure that the individual interests of board members do not conflict with or have the appearance of conflicts with their responsibilities to the Board to which they are appointed.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** A circumstance in which a board member's individual interest impairs or impedes, or gives the appearance of impairing or impeding, his or her ability to make full, unbiased decisions or to provide full unbiased service to the Board. Each board member shall disclose to the Board on a case-by-case basis, any personal relationship, interest or dealings that impairs or impedes, or gives the appearance of impairing or impeding, his or her ability to make full, unbiased decisions on a matter. Any board member who has a conflict of interest as defined above must recuse himself/herself from any matter and is prohibited from participating in any discussion or vote on the matter, and shall leave the hearing room during the discussion or vote. It is improper for any board member having a conflict of interest to attempt to influence another board member at any time, including prior to the discussion on the matter for which the conflict exists.

### **Litigation**

Ms. Tippens informed the Board there are no cases currently in the Office of General Counsel pertaining to licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselors.

### **Legislation**

Ms. Tippens stated that Legislative Session began on January 8, 2019. As of yet, no legislation has been filed pertaining to licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselors.

### **Rules**

The rules pertaining to Public Chapter 396 (2018), the “Kenneth and Madge Tullis, MD, Suicide Prevention Training Act;” Public Chapter 215 adopting National Association for Addiction Professionals (NAADAC) and the National Certification Commission for Addiction Professionals (NCC AP) Code of Ethics; and Public Chapter 350 allowing healthcare providers to satisfy continuing education hours through performance of voluntary healthcare were heard before Joint Government Operations on July 24, 2019. The rules were approved and were effective on August 5, 2019.

Public Chapter 131 (2019), the “Kenneth and Madge Tullis, MD, Suicide Prevention Training Act,” requires the Board to promulgate rules regarding suicide prevention training. Public Chapter 131 requires that beginning on January 1, 2020, all licensed LADACs must take at least one approved course from the Department of Mental Health on suicide prevention every four (4) years. The Board approved the changes required by Public Chapter 131 at its April 5, 2019 meeting. A Notice of Rulemaking has been filed and these rules will be heard before the Board on January 17, 2020.

### **Financial Report**

Mrs. Teddy Wilkins reviewed the Financial Report stating for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 actual revenue and expenditures. The Board incurred total direct expenditures of \$63,589.79 and allocated expenditures of \$8,928.53 for total expenditures of \$72,518.32 through ending fiscal year 2019.

Mrs. Wilkins said through fiscal ending year 2019 the Board Fee Revenue totaled \$83,900.00, current year net \$11,381.68 with a cumulative carryover of \$115,690.37.

### **Office of Investigations**

Ms. Leonard stated her office had a total of seven (7) new complaints opened for the year 2019. Ms. Leonard informed the Board that she is not currently monitoring any practitioners; there are seven (7) open complaints that are being investigated or reviewed.

### **Administrative Report**

Ms. Shelton stated there are 470 licensees; five (5) level one applications; eight (8) level two applications; three (3) reinstatement applications, one (1) upgrade application and one (1) reciprocity application.

Ms. Shelton stated seventeen (17) licenses have been issued; two (2) retired; five (5) expired; thirty-one (31) renewals and, zero (0) denials. Ms. Shelton informed the Board that when online renewals went live on March 22, 2018 there was a coding error. The vendor is aware and they are actively working to resolve the issue to accurately reflect the online renewal numbers. At this time there is no mechanism in place.

Ms. Shelton stated the next meeting is: January 17, 2020; April 10, 2020; July 17, 2020 and October 9, 2020.

### **Ratify newly licensed/reinstated applications**

Ms. Bentley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corman, to approve the following newly licensed applicants. The motion carried.

#### **Level 1**

Bryan Edward Hamer  
Lisel Diane Jack  
Mark Irwin Lackmann  
Susan Maureen Mullaly

#### **Level 2**

Charles Trevor Brashier  
Helen Clare Buck  
Lisa Jeanette Corbin  
Katelynd Marie Frierson  
Brenda Gibson  
Daniel Wilson Jordan  
Katrina Sheree Long  
Asia Alexander McIntyre  
Kristie Mechoso

### **Upgrade**

Ms. Bentley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corman, to approve the following upgraded applicants. The motion carried.

Rodney Brewer

## **Reinstatements**

Ms. Bentley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corman, to approve the following reinstated applicants. The motion carried.

Mufid Amin Abdullah  
Jeffrey Allen Shaw  
Bobi Thomas Elsensohn

## **Discussion and voting of Rule Making Hearing Action(s)**

After a lengthy discussion and clarification the Board agreed to submit two (2) separate rule change packets regarding behavioral health and accepting IC & RC for reciprocity only. Pursuant to rule 1200-30-01-.04 (2) (c) will read as follows: The applicant must hold a current license or equivalent from another state. The other state's standards for licensure must be comparable to or exceed the requirements for the level of licensure sought in Tennessee; **OR** (2) (d) the applicant must hold a current credential through the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (IC & RC). Ms. Bentley made a motion to accept rule 1200-30-01-.04 (2) (c) adding; OR and Mr. Corman seconded the motion. Dr. Abraham recused herself for this portion. The motion carried.

## **Review, discuss and consider approval of continuing Education programs**

Mary Linden Salter, LCSW Executive Director of Tennessee Association of Alcohol Drug, and other Addiction Services (TAADAS) appeared before the Board on behalf of TAADAS, to request that the LADAC Board consider accepting continuing education CEUs from on line trainings that are provided by a live, on-line presenter. Ms. Salter spoke on how acceptance of training hours provided in this manner would greatly enhance the ability of providers to support continuing education of their staff and make education efforts available to many clinicians who cannot afford the time or money to travel to a seminar. TAADAS is a statewide association of alcohol and drug abuse professionals and organizations across Tennessee. We represent over 80 agencies statewide and over 40 individual member professionals. TAADAS provides continuing education opportunities to addiction counselors and is keenly aware of licensure issues for its members and the addiction provider community. Several providers in attendance at a TAADAS meeting asked for this issue to be brought to the Board for discussion. They noted many quality trainings being provided on line with live presenters that enabled clinicians to interact, ask live questions and participate in case studies. When presented by a live person via the internet, it was observed that these trainings provide the same quality interactions as in-person training.

Many agencies want to support and provide access to quality training but find it cost prohibitive to send staff to in-person trainings when they incur hotel, mileage and other travel related expenses in addition to the costs of the training seminars. For programs in more rural areas especially, the costs of routine travel to larger metropolitan areas can be prohibitive. Additionally, these providers also have to pay additional staff to cover staff time away from the program and many also would cover staff salaries for those attending training. For those who can't incur that additional cost now, providing access to CEUS for staff through on-line in person trainings could enable them to pay for staff time to attend trainings.

After a lengthy discussion and clarification regarding the difference between on-line in person trainings verses online courses, Ms. Bentley made a motion to accept TAADAS request and Dr. Abraham seconded. Within the discussion after the initial motion Ms. Bentley amended her motion to include a disclaimer that TAADAS assure that live interactive presentations with both parties both learning and teaching are able to communicate. Dr. Abraham seconded the amended motion. The motions carried.

### **Applicant Interview**

Priscilla Broussard was present. Ms. Broussard application was reviewed at the July 12, 2019 Board meeting. Ms. Broussard was present to answer questions regarding disciplinary action from North Carolina Social Work Certification and Licensure Board. Ms. Broussard has also submitted a signed consent order. Ms. Broussard mentioned to the Board that her supervisor had to provide additional narrative reports every three (3) months independent of regular six (6) month reporting requirements. The report had to summarize Ms. Broussard's professional functioning during the previous three (3) month period and describe any concerns that the supervisor(s) might have. After Ms. Broussard informed the Board that she had moved before this could take place, due to her husband accepting a job in another state. Dr. Abraham made a motion to accept her application for licensure and Mr. Corman seconded the motion. This motion carried.

### **Application Review**

Upon review of the application of **Ms. Juliane Boyd**, Ms. Bentley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corman to approve Ms. Boyd to sit for the Level 1 written exam. The motion carried.

Upon review of the application of **Ms. Eugenia Carter**, Mr. Corman made a motion, seconded by Ms. Carter, to approve Ms. Carter to sit for the Level 2 written exam. The motion carried.

Upon review of the application of **Ms. Jessica Culp**, Ms. Bentley made a motion, seconded by Dr. Abraham, to approve Ms. Culp to sit for the Level 2 written exam. The motion carried.

Upon review of the application of **Ms. Theresa Fuqua**, Ms. Bentley made a motion, seconded by Dr. Abraham, to approve Ms. Fuqua to sit for the Level 2 written exam. The motion carried.

Upon review of the application of **Mr. Ricky Owens** Mr. Brown made a motion, seconded by Ms. Bentley, to approve Ms. Moore to sit for the Level 1 written exam. The motion carried.

Upon review of the application of **Ms. Cynthia Richards** Mr. Brown made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corman, to approve Mr. Richards to sit for the Level 2 written exam. The motion carried.

Upon review of the application of **Ms. Simone Rohan-Henderson** Ms. Bentley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corman, to approve Ms. Simone Rohan-Henderson to sit for the Level 2 written exam. The motion carried.

Upon review of the application of **Ms. Tammy Rohan-Henderson** Dr. Abraham made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corman, to approve Ms. Tammy Rohan-Henderson to sit for the Level 2 written exam. The motion carried.

Upon review of the application of **Mr. Collin Smith** Dr. Abraham made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corman, to approve Mr. Smith to sit for the Level 2 written exam. The motion carried.

Upon review of **Ms. Ashley Coleman's** application, she marked "Yes" to question 9 *"Have you ever been convicted (including a "nolo contendere" plea or guilty plea) of a felony or a misdemeanor (other than a minor traffic offense) whether or not sentence was imposed or suspended?"* Upon review Ms. Coleman's statement and court documents, Mr. Corman made a motion that Ms. Coleman appear at January 17, 2020 Board Meeting to answer questions regarding her criminal background history. Dr. Abraham seconded the motion. Ms. Bentley recused herself and stepped out of the room. The motion carried.

Upon review of **Ms. Robbie Broughton's** application, she marked "Yes" to question 9 *"Have you ever been convicted (including a "nolo contendere" plea or guilty plea) of a felony or a misdemeanor (other than a minor traffic offense) whether or not sentence was imposed or suspended?"* Upon review Ms. Broughton's statement and court documents, Mr. Corman made a motion that Ms. Broughton appear at January 17, 2020 Board Meeting to answer questions regarding her criminal background history. Ms. Bentley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

## **Discussion**

Mr. Brown had questions and concerns regarding the 270 hours of the eight domains. Mr. John Jackson spoke because Mr. Kinnaman was not at the meeting and informed the board that currently the taskforce is working on how many hours an applicant has to have per domain. The taskforce should have more solid information at the April 2020 Board meeting if possible. Mr. Brown suggested that Mr. Jackson or the Chairperson of the taskforce give an update regarding this topic in January to ensure that the April 2020 meeting will be reachable.

Dr. Abraham has a conflict for the following meetings January 17, 2020 and July 17, 2020. Ms. Tippens informed the board that notice of rulemaking hearing has already been scheduled for January 17, 2020 meeting and if rescheduled this will start the process all over.

With no other business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 11:13 a.m. The next meeting is January 17, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at 665 Mainstream, Ground Floor, Nashville, Tennessee

*These minutes were ratified at the January 17, 2020 Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor Board meeting.*