

OKLAHOMA BOARD OF LICENSED ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELORS
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
February 13, 2006

The Board of Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors met on February 13, 2006 at the office of the Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision, 5104 North Francis Avenue, Suite C, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The meeting was held in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act and Open Meeting Act of Oklahoma.

Members present:

Patty Gail Patten, Chair
Robert Stevens, Vice Chair
Londa Johnson
Jane Lepak
Evelyn Phyffer
Art Christie

Others present:

Tricia Everest – Assistant Attorney General
Judy Brink – Board Staff
Jan Ewing – Deputy Director of the Medical Board
Linda Winton – Complaint Review Committee Member
Kyle McGraw – Complaint Review Committee Member
Dennis Auld – ODAPCA

Noting that a quorum was present, Mr. Stevens, Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

The minutes of the January 9, 2006 meeting were reviewed. Ms. Phyffer moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Lepak seconded the motion and the vote is recorded as follows:

Robert Stevens	Yes
Londa Johnson	Yes
Jane Lepak	Yes
Evelyn Phyffer	Yes
Art Christie	Yes

Motion carried.

Ms. Patten assumed the Chair and reported on the proposed legislation, HB2570. Ms. Patten had met with Representative Gilbert and explained it as a clean-up bill, changing the definition of "certified alcohol and drug counselor", defining class hours and their equivalency to clock hours and requiring a bachelor or masters degree to make application. New language also adds

the Peer Assistance Committee. The bill is in the Health & Human Resources Committee. When the Committee takes up the bill, someone will need to be present to answer any questions. Ben Brown from the Department of Mental Health called stating that Hazeldon recommends that a licensee who relapses should not be allowed to practice for 3 to 5 years. Ms. Patten stated she felt that would be too punitive and under the Peer Assistant Program they would have supervision and more accountability. The Board agreed that this was not a recommendation from Hazeldon that they knew of. Ms. Patten reported that she notified Vickie White-Rankin, Lobbyist for other Licensing Boards, about the bill and asked the Board if she should contact OSASA. Mr. Christie said he thought they knew about the bill and supported it. Dennis Auld reminded the Board of the need to obtain a Senator to sponsor the bill. Ms. Patten said she would look into that and obtain a sponsor.

The Board reviewed the Practicum/Training Form that is currently required as part of the application. Ms. Patten stated the Board needs something to send to the schools on what is acceptable for the practicum. Mr. Christie will prepare a letter to be sent with this form to the schools for informational purposes.

The proposed permanent rules are on the web-site and the public hearing will be March 13, 2006, 10:00 a.m. at the Medical Board offices. Ms. Patten reported that the definition of "certified alcohol and drug counselor" was changed to that in the proposed legislation, several sections that had been adopted emergency were taken out as they were duplicating the law, and the section on private practice was not adopted. The Board asked for written comments to be forwarded to them prior to the meeting.

The next item of business was discussion/action on questions from staff. Ms. Brink asked the Board about accepting on-line continuing education and if so, what is the criteria for approval. After discussion the Board decided to accept on-line CE courses, limiting the number to ten, half of the required twenty. On-line courses approved by NADAC and ICRC will be accepted by the Board. Other courses will be reviewed and approved on an individual basis. The next question was from counselors under supervision, wanting to know if they could have more than one supervisor. The Board agreed they could. There was also a question regarding reciprocity and how to compare another State's test to the ICRC test. The law/rules state that the applicant must take the ICRC examination.

Kyle McGraw and Linda Winton presented an update on the Advisory Committee, which has been changed to the Complaint Review Committee. A draft policy was distributed for the Board to review. Comments and suggestions should be sent to Linda Winton, who will make changes and present a final draft to the Board at the next meeting for adoption.

Ms. Lepak reported on the Peer Assistant Committee and handed out information from the Oklahoma Board of Nursing Peer Assistant Program, Pennsylvania Professional Health Monitoring Program, Minnesota Health Professionals Services Program, and Idaho's Southworth Associates Monitoring Program. After further review the Board will discuss adopting a program at the next meeting.

The report from the Chair was presented by Ms. Patten. The Board paid the notary fee for Ms. Brink. Mr. Kelsey suggested the Board set a limit giving the Chair authority to approve purchases. This will be placed on the next agenda.

Mr. Varghese presented financial report (Attachment 1) and noted that the printer/fax was installed in the Board's office. The web-site search has been assigned to the vendor, NetPlus, and should be ready for testing in the next two weeks.

There being no further or new business the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.