



## **Examining Board of Psychology Meeting Minutes**

**May 19, 2023**

Hybrid Meeting via Microsoft Teams and in-person at Capital Event Center (ESD 113), 6005 Tyee Drive SE, Tumwater, WA 98512, Chehalis A Room

---

**Board members present:**

Cedar O'Donnell, Ph.D., Chair  
Ruth Varkovitzky, Ph.D., ABPP, Vice Chair  
Florence Katz Burstein, Public Member  
Leslie Cohn, Ph.D.  
Elena Lopez, Psy.D.  
Erin Olson, Ph.D.  
Jessica Carlile, Ph.D.  
Vanessa Goosen, Psy.D.  
Jan Bleakney, Public Member  
Evan Freedman, Ph.D., ABPP

**Board members absent:**

Phillip Hawley, Psy.D.

**Staff members present:**

Harold Wright, Jr., Executive Director  
Nancy Delgado, Program Manager  
Zachary Patnode, Program Manager  
Davis Hylkema, Program Support  
Joan Simmons, Program Support  
Lilia Lopez, Assistant Attorney General  
Bill Kellington, Supervising Staff Attorney  
Melody Casiano, Policy Analyst  
Heidi Hughes, Policy Analyst

**Guest Speaker(s):**

None

On May 19, 2023, the Examining Board of Psychology held a hybrid meeting in-person at Capital Event Center (ESD 113) and online via Microsoft Teams and. Notice of the meeting was published on the Examining Board of Psychology [profession website](#) and was sent out through the GovDelivery listserv.

## **1. Opening of Public Meeting – Cedar O'Donnell, Ph.D., Chair**

- 1.1. Call to Order: The chair called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. followed by introductions of board members, department staff, the Assistant Attorney General, and guests.
- 1.2. Approval of the Agenda: *Motion to approve the amended agenda, seconded, vote 10-0.*
- 1.3. Approval of March 3, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes: *Motion to approve the minutes, seconded, vote 10-0.*

## **2. Public Comment – Ruth Varkovitzky, Ph.D., ABPP, Vice Chair**

- 2.1. Vice Chair Dr. Ruth Varkovitzky read aloud the public comment statement:  
“Thank you for taking the time to be with us today. We are eager to hear from you. We typically provide notice to our constituents and other interested parties before taking action on any topic, so we seldom take action on topics unexpectedly raised by the public or others if not on the agenda. While individual board members may ask questions or make comments about your presentation, please be aware that individual board members do not represent the board as a whole and that the subject of your comment may not be acted upon today or in the near future. We will include your comments in our meeting minutes for possible review if the matter you raise is brought up for formal discussion and/or a vote at a subsequent board meeting.”
- 2.2. Dr. Slaughter, Director of Professional Affairs for the Washington State Psychological Association (WSPA), shared she will be leaving WSPA. She also gave an overview of bills 1197, 1340, and 1469.
- 2.3. Multiple comments received in support of extending telesupervision and benefits of telehealth such as accessibility, removing barriers, improved quality of care, expansion of opportunities, effectiveness of telesupervision as demonstrated in literature, reduction of exposure to individuals who are immunocompromised and in turn helps those who do not accumulate sick leave to provide care without the risk of exposing others, no negative effects have been experienced.
- 2.4. Concern if telesupervision is not extended, it could cause issues due to physical limitations both for individuals and in facilities that still enforce masking and social distancing.
- 2.5. Concern and frustration for the application process was expressed with a request that the process be streamlined and communication with applicants is implemented.
- 2.6. Dr. Slaughter, Director of Professional Affairs for the Washington State Psychological Association (WSPA), shared they put out a request for people who were interested in talking to the board about virtual supervision and thanked the training directors and supervisors who attended this meeting. She also asked the board to consider an extension of the virtual supervision policy or create a new policy and to change the definition of face-to-face supervision to include virtual supervision.

## **3. Management Reports - Zachary Patnode, Program Manager**

- 3.1. Budget – The board reviewed the budget numbers for April 30, 2023. The current fund balance was \$581,638. Mr. Patnode explained the expenses by categories and noted the process of fee increases is done by the fiscal office.

- 3.2. Credentialing Report – Mr. Patnode & Mr. Wright gave a presentation to the board on Pilot Project Pathway’s history and background, focus areas and deliverables, scorecard, nonroutine progress, and answered questions from the board.
- 3.3. Program Updates  
Ms. Delgado shared the Professional Reference Request (PRR) form and new application.
- 3.4. Policy Analyst Updates  
Ms. Casiano shared there are no new policy updates.

#### **4. Covid Policy Statements – Zachary Patnode, Program Manager**

The board considered extending the effective date of the following policy statements:

- 4.1. [Virtual Supervision for Psychology Internships and Preinternships during the COVID-19 Declared Emergency.](#) *Motion to approve extending the virtual supervision policy statement until new rules can be completed, seconded, vote 10-0.*
- 4.2. [Use of Telepsychology to Fulfill Experience Requirements during the COVID-19 Declared Emergency.](#) *Motion to approve extending the use of telepsychology to fulfill experience requirements due to continuity of training and care and increasing access to vital mental health services, seconded, vote 10-0.*

#### **5. Requests for Lists & Labels - Cedar O'Donnell, Ph.D., Chair**

- 5.1. CE Learning Systems, LLC has applied to receive lists and labels to distribute information regarding continuing education offerings. *Motion to approve, seconded, vote 10-0.*

#### **6. Continuing Education – Nancy Delgado, Program Manager**

- 6.1. The board reviewed draft language for health equity CE standards on the matter of reducing or placing different CE requirements for retired active credential types or similar. *Motion to require the full CE standards to all active credentials, regardless of retired status in the health equity CE standards, seconded, vote 10-0.*
- 6.2. The board reviewed draft language for health equity CE standards on the matter of giving board members/and/or attendees CE credits for attendance to board meetings. *Motion to not offer CE credits to attend board meetings, seconded, vote 5-3-2.*  
  
*Approve 5: Drs. Freedman, Cohn, Bleakney, Lopez, and Ms. Katz Burstein*  
*Opposed 3: Drs. Varkovitzky, Goosen, and Carlile*  
*Abstain 2: Drs. Olson and O'Donnell*
- 6.3. The board reviewed draft language for health equity CE standards on the matter of self-study and discussed other needed changes. *Motion to make no changes and to leave it as written, seconded, vote 10-0.*
- 6.4. The board reviewed draft language for health equity CE standards on the matter of jurisdictions accepting another jurisdiction’s CE standards as their own. *Motion to remove the language so that if one is licensed in Washington State, they are required to meet Washington State CE requirements, motion approved, seconded, vote 10-0.*

- 6.5. The board reviewed draft language on the matter of continuing to offer waivers and extension and including or excluding retirement as a reason. *Motion to continue to allow waiver and extension requests but remove retirement as the reason for the request and everyone who is active must meet WA State CE requirements, seconded, vote 9-0-1. (Dr. Cohn abstained)*

*Motion to accept the draft language for the health equity CE standards for items 6.1 through 6.5 as amended and approve staff to move forward, seconded, vote 9-0-1. (Dr. Lopez abstained)*

## **7. Signature Authority – Zachary Patnode, Program Manager**

- 7.1. The board reviewed the signature authority document to approve for the 2023/2025 biennium.
- i) Form 1-1-19A. *Motion to approve the signature authority form 1-1-19A for the 2023/2025 biennium, seconded, vote 10-0.*
  - ii) Form 1-1-19C. *Tabled for next board meeting.*

## **8. Legislative Update – Zachary Patnode, Program Manager**

- 8.1. The board was briefed on 2023 legislation of interest to the psychology profession.
- 8.2. Ms. Delgado and Ms. Casiano briefed the board on [HB 1724](#) (Increasing the trained behavioral health workforce). They noted there is a report due in November, which will create emergency rules are needed.

## **9. Substantial Equivalency Review – Zachary Patnode, Program Manager**

The board reviewed program input on substantial equivalency and provided direction to program on short-term and long-term approach to substantial equivalency updates. *Item tabled for the next board meeting or retreat.*

## **10. Board Retreat – Nancy Delgado, Program Manager**

The board discussed and decided when to have the board retreat and what trainings or projects to complete. *Motion for staff to send out new availability poll, seconded, vote 10-0.*

10.1. Location: TBD.

10.2. Topics to consider:

- i) Mock examples of disciplinary cases review to see if there are consistencies between the two panels regarding interpretation of violations and responding to violations.
- ii) Legal refreshers, not going through statutes or regulations, rather principles and issues they see across other boards and commissions.
- iii) Consistencies in panels regarding complaint review.
- iv) Applications review refresher.

## **11. Ethics Training – Zachary Patnode, Program Manager**

The board decided when to host the ethics training and discussed the format of the training. *Motion to approve October 13, 2023, from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm for the ethics training, seconded, vote 9-0-1. (Dr. Olson abstained)*

**12. ASPPB Report – Cedar O’Donnell, Ph.D., Chair, Erin Olson, Ph.D., Board Member, and Zachary Patnode, Program Manager.** *Motion to table this item and all items following to July board meeting, seconded, vote 10-0.*

12.1. Attendees discussed highlights at the ASPPB mid-year meeting and provided an update on the equivalency taskforce guidebook.

**13. Subcommittee Work & Reports – Cedar O’Donnell, Ph.D., Chair**

This item was tabled for the July board meeting.

13.1. Communications Subcommittee – Nothing to report.

13.2. Diversity Workgroup – Nothing to report.

13.3. Applications Subcommittee – Nothing to report.

13.4. Rules Subcommittee – Nothing to report.

**14. Future Agenda Items – Cedar O’Donnell, Ph.D., Chair**

This item was tabled for the July board meeting.

- Guidelines for communicating via digital platforms: confidentiality and recordkeeping
- Full administrative rule chapter review
- EBOP-DOH operating agreement

**15. Meeting Adjourned**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

**Submitted by:**

Nancy Delgado, Program Manager  
Examining Board of Psychology

Signature on file

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

**Approved by:**

Cedar O’Donnell, Ph.D., Chair  
Examining Board of Psychology

Signature on file

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE