

MINNESOTA BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND THERAPY
TIERED LICENSURE WORKING GROUP
MEETING MINUTES

February 26, 2014; 10:00 a.m.

Conference Room A, Fourth Floor, 2829 University Avenue SE, Minneapolis, MN

BBHT Committee Members Present: Judi Gordon, Marlae Cox-Kolek, Duane Reynolds

Staff Present: Samantha Strehlo, LADC Licensing Coordinator

Working Group Members Present: **Roy Kammer**, MSU-Mankato; **Naomi Ochsendorf**, MARRCH and MATD; **Dustin Chapman**, Fairview; **Therissa Libby**, Metropolitan State University; **Cindy Swan-Henderlite**, Minnesota Department of Human Services; **Liz Reid**, Turning Point; **Julie Rohovit**, University of Minnesota

Working Group Members Absent: **Ted Tessier**, MARRCH; **Nelson Perez**, Century College; **Jonathan Lofgren**, Minneapolis Community and Technical College/Adler Graduate School/Minnesota Association of Resources for Recovery and Chemical Health;

Members of the Public Present: Charlie Mishek, Minnesota Department of Human Services

Duties of the Working Group:

Sec. 43. REPORT; BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND THERAPY.

(a) The Board of Behavioral Health and Therapy shall convene a working group to evaluate the feasibility of a tiered licensure system for alcohol and drug counselors in Minnesota. This evaluation shall include proposed scopes of practice for each tier, specific degree and other education and examination requirements for each tier, the clinical settings in which each tier of practitioner would be utilized, and any other issues the board deems necessary.

(b) Members of the working group shall include, but not be limited to, members of the board, licensed alcohol and drug counselors, alcohol and drug counselor temporary permit holders, faculty members from two- and four-year education programs, professional organizations, and employers.

(c) The board shall present its written report, including any proposed legislation, to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over health and human services no later than December 15, 2015.

(d) The working group is not subject to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059.

Judi Gordon, Chair of the Tiered Licensure Working Group, convened the meeting.

The Working Group reviewed the minutes from the January 22, 2014 meeting. No changes to the minutes were recommended.

Mr. Mishek addressed a rumor that the Department of Human Services has a separate plan for tiered licensure. He clarified that this rumor is not true. He stated that DHS does hope that Minnesota can achieve independent billing for LADCs that is not tied to Rule 31 or Rule 29 facilities, and that a tiered license may be the solution. Ms. Swan-Henderlite added that DHS would like to see no changes made to the temporary permit and does not want to see the workforce shrink.

Ms. Swan-Henderlite mentioned that 25-30% of the ADC workforce currently have a master's degree. This is according to a DHS survey that was sent to all Rule 31 facilities. Ms. Strehlo asked if the survey results could be provided to BBHT. Ms. Swan-Henderlite noted that the survey was still in progress and results could be provided when complete.

Chair Gordon and Mr. Reynolds reminded the group that the Board's job at this time is to just submit a report to the legislature.

Chair Gordon stated she envisions small providers in the field disappearing and being absorbed by large providers. Mr. Chapman disagreed stating that even though some facilities are large, they cannot provide every service and sometimes need to refer patients to smaller facilities (example: Vinland and their work with brain injuries). Ms. Swan-Henderlite stated that statewide, there are areas of Minnesota that are not part of a large system.

Ms. Rohovit asked for clarification on what the group has accomplished so far and what has been agreed upon. Chair Gordon stated that the next step is to hear from actual practitioners in the field. Ms. Rechtzigel mentioned the possibility of sending out a survey. Ms. Rohovit stated that the Minnesota Center for Mental Health (MCMH) had completed a workforce development survey and that she would email the results to Ms. Strehlo.

Mr. Mishek stated that he got the feeling the Board is against the idea of clinical supervision as an educational requirement for licensure. Ms. Strehlo clarified that the Board has requirements for who can provide supervision to persons wishing to obtain licensure, but the Board does not regulate who can provide clinical supervision once a license is issued. Ms. Ochsendorf stated her belief that there needs to be guidelines for persons who are providing clinical supervision and noted that Rule 31 has some requirements. Chair Gordon stated there is ambiguity in what the term clinical supervision means. Ms. Swan-Henderlite mentioned that peer reviews are being done that reveal clinical supervision is occurring at many work sites. Ms. Rechtzigel added that clinical supervision is a workplace issue once a license is issued. Ms. Reid stated that interns and temporary permit holders usually do well if that have a strong supervisor.

Chair Gordon stated that the Board members and Board staff will now take all the information that has been discussed so far and develop a draft tiered licensure outline. The Board members that are part of the Tiered Licensure Working Group will meet on March 26, 2014 and April 23, 2014. The next meeting of the full Working Group will be May 28, 2014, at 10:00 AM.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM.