

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINERS

Meeting Minutes

July 17, 2020

1. Call to order/roll call to determine the presence of a quorum.

Call to Order: The meeting of the Nevada State Board of Psychological Examiners was called to order by President Whitney Owens, PsyD, at 12:05 p.m. Due to COVID-19 and Governor Sisolak's Emergency Mandate to *Stay at Home for Nevada*, this meeting was conducted online via *Zoom*.

Roll Call: Board President Whitney Owens, PsyD, and Members John Krogh, PhD, Secretary/Treasurer, Stephanie Woodard, PsyD, and Tony Papa, PhD, were present at roll call. Members Stephanie Holland, PsyD, and Monique McCoy, LCSW, were absent.

Also present were Harry B. Ward, JD, Deputy Attorney General, Lisa Scurry, Executive Director, and members of the public Noelle Lefforge and Hal Taylor.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

3. (For Possible Action) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE CURRENT STATE EXAMINATION CONTENT AND PROCESS; AND POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION OF A CHANGE TO THE MINIMUM SCORE REQUIRED TO PASS

The Board has been having conversations over the past few meetings regarding the status of the State Psychological Licensure Examination. That discussion has included review of the questions as well as the current minimum score required to pass the exam. The Board previously selected three members – Dr. Holland, Dr. Krogh, and Dr. Papa – to review the questions on the exam for accuracy and appropriateness.

The Board members were presented with data regarding exam processes in states that neighbor Nevada such as passing rates, number of questions, and the ways in which the exams are given.

Dr. Papa and Dr. Krogh stated they have reviewed the exam questions individually and that the small group would be meeting in the next few days to determine if any questions needed revision. Dr. Krogh added that his inclination was to discuss adjusting the passing score of the exam.

Dr. Holland inquired if any trends were being seen in the questions such as questions that all who have taken the exam have missed. President Owens explained that there is a pool of questions and that not everyone who has taken the exam have had the same questions. However, there are questions that 2-3 of the test takers have missed

leading to the decision to review the questions as a whole. Dr. Woodard suggested that as there is additional data on the test (i.e. more people have taken the test), the exam should continue being reviewed, watching for trends in missed questions, etc. President Owens recommended that Dr. Holland, the testing officer, and the Board's executive director meet quarterly for that purpose.

Dr. Krogh stated that the intent of the exam is to identify areas that the examinees need to know or need to know how to find. He added that is the idea behind having the exam be open book.

There was discussion about whether the number of questions should be adjusted and/or the pass rate be adjusted. Dr. Papa recommended only adjusting one or the other. Dr. Krogh agreed with keeping the number of questions at 50.

President Owens asked for a recommendation for the pass rate. Dr. Krogh suggested lowering the pass rate to 85%.

On motion by Tony Papa, second by John Krogh, the Nevada State Board of Psychological Examiners changed the passing score for the Nevada State Licensure Examination to 85%. (Yea: Whitney Owens, Tony Papa, John Krogh, and Stephanie Woodard) Motion Carries Unanimously: 4-0

President Owens inquired if there was any other discussion needed related to review of the examination. Dr. Papa clarified that the Board had previously empowered he, Dr. Krogh, and Dr. Holland to make revision to exam questions without additional action by the Board.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT.

There was no public comment at this time.

5. (For Possible Action) ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, President Owens asked for a motion to adjourn at 12:25 p.m.

On motion by Tony Papa, second by Stephanie Woodard, the Nevada State Board of Psychological Examiners adjourned the meeting. (Yea: Whitney Owens, Tony Papa, John Krogh, and Stephanie Woodard) Motion Carries Unanimously: 4-0