INDIANA STATE PSYCHOLOGY BOARD

Minutes January 17, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Dr. Hale called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. in Room 4 of the Conference Center, Indiana Government Center South, 302 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana and declared a quorum in accordance with Indiana Code § 25-33-1-3(g).

Board Members Present:

Gregory Hale, Ph.D., Chair Stephen G. Ross, Psy.D., Vice Chair Amber Finley, JD, Consumer Member Raymond W. Horn, Ph.D., Board Liaison Member

Board Members Not Present:

Jere Leib, Ph.D., Member

State Officials Present:

Jill Haddad, Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General Cindy Vaught, Board Director, Professional Licensing Agency Dana Brooks, Assistant Board Director, Professional Licensing Agency Brad Repass, Litigation Specialist, Professional Licensing Agency

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda as amended.

Ross/Horn Motion carried 4/0/0

III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes of November 15, 2025 were accepted as amended.

Ross/Horn Motion carried 4/0/0

IV. REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Ryan Eldridge, Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General, presented the consumer complaint report. He reported that they have closed four (4) consumer complaints this year, opened thirty-four (34) this year, and there are currently thirty (30) open. The average age for open complaints is 8.6 months. Primarily complaints have been filed in Marion County followed by Hamilton County. There are currently thirty-three (33) complaints pending against psychologists. The primary complaints against psychologists have been professional malpractice, unprofessional conduct, and professional incompetence.

Mr. Eldridge reported they have closed no cases this year. There has been one (1) litigation case opened. The duration of the litigation case is 3.7 months.

Dr. Horn inquired if Mr. Eldridge had reached out to his supervisor regarding the changes regarding using the Board liaison's expertise. Mr. Eldridge stated that he did, and that the change that has been implemented has been used across all Boards. He stated that the AG's office did use the Board liaison's frequently from 2017 to 2020, and in some cases, it was a poor use of the liaison's time. He stated that some cases were determined that the legal definition applied better, and they used the legal definitions of practice. They would consult past cases, reach out to the associations, and review the current ethical code of the professions if there was a question on practice. If a case fell into a grey area of that practice, then the AG's office would reach out to the liaison. Dr. Horn inquired if there have been any grey area cases in the past few years. Mr. Eldridge stated that there we no cases that required liaison. Dr. Horn stated he finds that it is hard to believe that there have been no cases, and that the Board has not been able to help regulate the competent practice of the profession with this change. Mr. Eldridge stated that he is aware of the areas of concern for the Boards. Dr. Horn stated that as a professional, they have to do updated ethics training every cycle, and it can be very nuanced. Mr. Eldridge stated that he does what he can to help the investigation process since it is a confidential process. Dr. Horn stated that he understands that the policy will not change but he expressed his concerns about the number of complaints that might be prematurely closed. Mr. Eldridge stated that he has forwarded all of Dr. Horn's concerns to his supervisor. He also noted that in some other smaller Board cases, they do not reach out to the liaison due to concerns regarding quorum. If the AG's office reaches out to the liaison, and the liaison has to recuse themselves from the hearing, there might not be enough board members to vote on the issue.

Ms. Finley stated that she used to work at the AG's office in the licensing division back in 2017. She stated that this policy change is probably to help address issues where a member would send all cases to the Board liaison. Dr. Horn stated that he didn't expect all cases, but to go from some to none was a concern.

V. ADMINSTRATIVE HEARING

A. Debra Taylor

Cause No. 202411-PSY-0003

Re: Motion for An Order to Cease and Desist and Agreed Proposed Order

Parties Present:

Respondent was not present Ryan Eldridge, Deputy Attorney General Lindy Myer, Court Reporter, Accurate Court Reporting

Participating Board Members:

Gregory Hale, Ph.D., Chair Stephen G. Ross, Psy.D., Vice Chair Amber Finley, JD, Consumer Member Raymond W. Horn, Ph.D., Board Liaison Member

Case Summary: On or about January 3, 2024 an Administrative Complaint was filed against Ms. Taylor with allegations that she practiced psychology and advertised herself as a psychologist without a license. On or about December 9, 2024 an Agreed Proposed Order was filed that Respondent shall Cease and Desist the practice of psychology and/or holding herself out as a psychologist without possessing a license to practice as a psychologist in Indiana.

Mr. Eldridge stated that Ms. Taylor does provide DCS services that are exempt from the licensure law. He stated that the issue was that she was calling herself a psychologist without a license, and that she was advertising help with food addiction and family therapy without a license to practice. He stated that she has agreed to remove the advertising that indicates practice beyond the exemption in the law. Mr. Eldridge stated that there is language in the order that if she continues to practice outside the scope, it could escalate to the circuit court and lead to injunctions. The Board inquired how they would know she follows the cease and desist. Mr. Eldridge stated that if another complaint is filed it will be investigated. He stated that he does take note of some individuals to follow up. Mr. Eldridge stated that this matter also went to the Behavior Health Board, who expressed similar concerns.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to accept the Proposed Agreed Order in the matter of Ms. Taylor.

Ross/Finley Motion carried 4-0-0

VI. PERSONAL APPEARANCES

A. Probation

B. Application

1. Miosha Williams (PhD)

Dr. Williams appeared as requested to provide clarification of her application and documentation. The Board noted that after their previous discussion with Dr. Williams on November 15, 2024, they confirmed that her Master program was an APA accredited program and verified the information on the APA website. She provided additional information for the Board to consider regarding the COVID guidelines when she completed her program. She discussed the details of her clinical meetings that occurred via zoom and indicated that during the meetings she attended, there were 20 to 40 students across the United States present. She stated that she started her program in 2010 but took a 10-year hiatus and resumed her program in 2020. The Board discussed her classes from 2020 to her graduation in 2024. The Board noted that her internship will not meet HSPP requirements, but it could meet requirements for the psychology license. They asked for clarification on needing the required license since she holds the mental health counselor license. She indicated that she wishes to pursue working at the VA, and the position she wishes to pursue requires a psychology license. The Board discussed whether the VA would need the HSPP credential; however, Dr. Williams indicated that they just needed the license

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve Dr. Williams' psychology application and the EPPP examination.

Ross/Finley Motion carried 4-0-0

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

The Board discussed the Continuing Education Audit. Ms. Vaught stated that those selected for the audit will be receiving their notices by email today. Currently they will have until February 28, 2025 to respond, and she will give an update on the progress at the March meeting.

Ms. Vaught stated that due to legislation, PLA was required to review all fees, fines and civil penalties to determine whether they are set forth in statute or regulation. For those that were not supported by statute or rule, there will be a public rule hearing to cover the fees and fines for all the professions. The hearing is set for February 14, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. via zoom. In order to hold the hearing, we need at least three Board members to participate. If there is a public comment or concern, then the rule making process will have to start over to address that comment. The Board members stated they could be present for the hearing.

Ms. Vaught discussed a change of the November 7, 2025 Board meeting date due to a request. The Board requested that the meeting be reset for November 14, 2025.

Dr. Raymond Horn stated that he is stepping down from the Board. The Board members thanked Dr. Horn for his many years of service and expertise.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to appoint Dr. Ross as Board liaison.

Horn/Finley Motion carried 4-0-0

VIII. APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW

A. Limited Scope Temporary Psychology Permit

There were no limited scope permits for review.

B. Psychology by Examination/Reciprocity

1. Maria Skoulidas

Dr. Skoulidas's application was submitted for review. She indicated on her application that her doctoral program was not APA approved, and her internship was not APPIC and/or APA approved at the time of completion. She submitted additional documentation for the Board to review. The Board noted that her pre-doctoral internship does not appear to meet minimum requirements. They noted that it appears to be a hybrid program, and it is unclear how much was done in person.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to deny Dr. Skoulidas' psychology application by not meeting the requirements of 868 IAC 1.1-4-4(11).

Hale/Ross Motion carried 4-0-0

C. HSPP Endorsement

1. Rachel Walters, PhD

Dr. Walter's HSPP application was submitted for review of her HSPP hours. She submitted multiple Form B – Verification of Practicum Experience which listed doctoral practicum hours, and Form C – Verification of Post Internship Experience of only one month. Dr. Walters has requested that the Board accept her hours mostly under her practicum for her HSPP endorsement. The Board had several questions regarding her post-doctoral training and requested that she appear to provide clarification on her hours.

Dr. Walters' application was tabled.

D. Continuing Education

There were no Continuing Education applications for review.

IX. INDIANA PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION REPORT

Mr. Rhoads of the IPA provided his report to the Board. He stated that the IPA does have an ethics committee where a practitioner can provide a case for review. The cases are considered confidential, and there is at least one case a month that is being reviewed. He indicated that some of the cases can touch on some of the Boards concerns, and this is another avenue to help psychologists obtain answers to some practicing questions or concerns.

Mr. Rhoads stated that the 2025 legislative session has begun, and he is currently tracking over 100 bills. There are bills being proposed that do not directly impact psychologists but do tangentially affect them. Some bills being proposed will have an impact on the Behavior Health Board. Bill 1237 will grant a behavior health therapist litigation immunity should they provide testimony in child custody cases.

He stated that the APA is currently going through their CE accreditation process and discussing the use of AI sources. He stated that the discussion is that it is ok to use AI to make the event only, not the course content. He stated that currently there are studies being done on the impact AI has, as it is still a new technology that is not fully developed.

Mr. Rhoads stated that the APA is currently reviewing their ethics code as it has not changed in ten (10) years.

He stated that the IPA will be having their CE presentations soon.

He thanked Dr. Horn for his service to the Board.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and having completed its duties, the meeting of the Indiana State Psychology Board adjourned at 10:42 a.m.