



Janet T. Mills
Governor

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL & FINANCIAL REGULATION
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL & OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION
BOARD OF COUNSELING PROFESSIONALS LICENSURE
76 NORTHERN AVENUE
GARDINER, MAINE 04345

Anne L. Head
Commissioner

**Board of Counseling Professionals Licensure
Public Board Meeting
Monday, September 23, 2024**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jennifer King, Board Chair
Angela Blier, Vice Chair (remote)
Holly Cavna, Complaint Officer (remote)
Joanne Grant
Ellen Grunblatt
Carolyn Silsby, Public Member

STAFF PRESENT

Megan Hudson-MacRae, Assistant Attorney General
Kristina Halvorsen, Board Administrator
George Morgan, Board Investigator
Jessica Cirello, Professional Licensing Supervisor

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair, Jennifer King, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Review and approval of the August 26, 2024 minutes.

A motion was made by Joanne Grant and seconded by Carolyn Silsby to approve the minutes as written.

Vote: 5 in favor, 1 absent: Holly Cavna.

COMPLAINT COMPLIANCE ITEMS

2024-COU-19811 Proposed Supervisor Review

A motion was made by Joanne Grant and seconded by Ellen Grunblatt to approve the proposed supervisor and submitted continuing education hours.

Vote: 6 in favor.

COMPLAINT PRESENTATIONS

MAILING: 35 STATE HOUSE STATION, AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
PHONE: (207) 624-8626
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FAX: (207) 624-8637

2024-COU-19920

A motion was made by Joanne Grant and seconded by Ellen Grunblatt to set this matter for an adjudicatory hearing and offer a consent agreement, in lieu of a hearing, citing M.R.S. 10 §8003 5-A (A)10 (failure to produce documents during an open investigation) with; a suspension of licensure until the licensee provides medical documentation regarding the licensee's capacity to practice and until the Board can review this documentation and determine the licensee is fit to practice; and 3 months of probation upon the licensee's return to practice, that will include monthly 60-minute in-person (licensee can request Board approval of telesupervision) supervision sessions with a Board-approved clinical mental health licensee who has been in good standing for at least 5 years, who can be approved by Board Chair, Jennifer King, outside of a regular Board meeting, and who will submit monthly and final reports to the Board for review.

Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstained: Holly Cavna.

2024-COU-19982

A motion was made by Angela Blier and seconded by Carolyn Silsby to dismiss this complaint due to the lack of evidence of a violation of Board laws or rules and to issue a letter of guidance, discussing accurate client records, which will stay in the licensee's file for 1 year.

Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstained: Holly Cavna.

2024-COU-20210

A motion was made by Angela Blier and seconded by Joanne Grant to set this matter for an adjudicatory hearing and offer a consent agreement, in lieu of a hearing, citing Board rules Chapter 8-A (2)1(A) (potential harm to client), with: a warning; 12 months of probation that will include monthly 60-minute supervision sessions with a Board-approved LMFT or a clinical mental health licensee who has experience in relational therapy who has been in good standing for at least 5 years, who can be approved by Board Chair, Jennifer King, outside of a regular Board meeting, and who will submit quarterly and final reports to the Board for review; and completion of 6 hours of synchronous continuing education on ethics, that includes electronic client communication, which can be approved by Complaint Officer, Holly Cavna, outside of a regular Board meeting, and will be completed within 6 months.

Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstained: Holly Cavna.

2024-COU-20250

A motion was made by Angela Blier and seconded by Ellen Grunblatt to table this complaint until Board staff can gather additional information.

Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstained: Holly Cavna.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

2024-COU-20002

A motion was made by Carolyn Silsby and seconded by Angela Blier to deny the request for reconsideration.

Vote: 6 in favor.

RULEMAKING DISCUSSION

Vote on Department of Education Accreditation Updates

A motion was made by Holly Cavna and seconded by Ellen Grunblatt to approve the basis statement and the edited response to comments and to adopt the updates to the Board rules.

Vote: 6 in favor.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Board Administrator, Kristina Halvorsen, discussed that Board staff is in the process of scheduling future rulemaking sessions.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Joanne Grant and seconded by Holly Cavna to adjourn the meeting at 11:23 a.m.

Vote: 6 in favor.