

BEHAVIOR ANALYST COMMITTEE

MINUTES

MARCH 23, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Ms. Jesseca Hartman called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. in Room W064 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, and declared a quorum in accordance with Indiana Code § 15-5-1.1-6(c).

Board Members Present:

Jesseca Hartman, BCBA, Chair

Leila Allen, BCBA

Dr. Richard Turner, M.D.

Dr. Jill Forte, Ph.D., BCBA

Board Members Not Present:

Vivian Heerens, Consumer Member

State Officials Present:

Evan Bartel, Deputy Director, Professional Licensing Agency

Cindy Vaught, Board Director, Professional Licensing Agency

Dana Brooks, Assistant Board Director, Professional Licensing Agency

Adam Harvey, Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda.

Forte/Hartman

Motion carried 4-0-0

III. INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. Jesseca Hartman, BCBA, Chair

Ms. Hartman has been a BCBA for seven years and has been a special education teacher for the IPS school system. She is currently Director of Clinical Operations at Damar, ABA.

2. Leila Allen, BCBA

Ms. Allen has been a BCBA since 2010. Leila is the Chief Clinical Officer of Lighthouse Autism Center.

3. Dr. Richard Turner, M.D.

Dr. Turner is a Board-certified pediatrician at Margaret Mary Health in Southeastern Indiana.

4. Dr. Jill Forte, Ph.D., BCBA

Dr. Forte has been a BCBA since 2011. She founded Children's Autism Center in Fort Wayne, Indiana, which is a non-profit in 2005. She now serves as the Chief Executive Officer.

IV. OVERVIEW

A. The committee shall recommend proposed rules to the Medical Licensing Board establishing standards for the following:

- (1) The competent practice of behavior analysis.
- (2) The renewal of licenses issued
- (3) Continuing education requirements for an individual seeking renewal of licensure as a behavior analyst or assistant behavior analyst.
- (4) The approval of continuing education providers, programs, courses, fees, and proof of course completion
- (5) Fees

Dr. Gina Green is the Executive Director for Association Professional of Behavior Analysts and has joined the meeting via phone. She has been advocating for public policies for Behavior Analysts and assists with passing legislation and rules across multiple States for the field.

Vince Lamarca present as he has helped draft some of the legislation for the Indiana BA Committee. He provided some background information on the creation of the Committee along with some information on the new laws. He stated they started with the national rule for competent practice for BCBA's and expanded from there based upon what other States have done.

Dr. Green stated that a lot of new Committees start with the BACB (Behavior Analyst Certification Board) Certifications, and then they streamline their process from there. She stated that the BACB does a lot of the educational and training verification processes, and they also track discipline of their certifications.

The Committee members are familiar with the BACB as that entity tracks Continuing Education, practice questions, discipline, and supervision requirements to obtain and maintain their certification. Most States, estimated thirty-four (34), follow BACB rules, or meet their requirements.

It was clarified that BACB certification is still considered separate from obtaining a license in a State, should the State offer a license to work. Dr. Green stated that most licensure processes have a foundation from the Board certification, with an addition of any requirements that a State might need from all licensed practioners.

The Committee discussed how the BACB handles verifications of their certifications, and how discipline is handled by the BACB. Board staff stated they would need to see how the BACB reports discipline, and how that is reported to the different jurisdictions. Ms. Allen stated that she can reach out to find more information on that process.

The Committee discussed what the competent practice would be defined as. They stated that they would review what the BACB has provided. At minimum this would have to include information on ethical training and supervision.

The Committee discussed Behavior Analyst Assistants and their role in the field. It was stated they must be supervised by a Behavior Analyst with supervisor training, and if they wish they can remain an Assistant for their career. However, most practioners go for the full license due to billing insurance, and they are not considered independent practioners. The issue was brought up of individuals obtaining an LLC and then hiring someone to supervise them. The Committee is aware of this practice and the ethical and safety concerns to this practice.

The Committee asked for clarification on the importance of licensure. IPLA stated that the BACB can only discipline those practioners who hold a certificate with them. If an individual does not hold a certificate with them, then they have no jurisdiction to impose discipline. The Committee members stated that the State of Kentucky and Virginia have strong laws for BACB licensure. Licensure is a form of public protection for both the practioner and the public. It also gives parents an avenue for complaints to ensure competent practice for field. IPLA explained the complaint process to the Committee members.

V. DISCUSSION

A. Role of Committee Members

The role of the Committee members is to establish Rules to provide clarification on the statues that have been passed for the profession. They will review applications for licensure and will rule on consumer complaints after they have been investigated.

B. Establishment of Meeting Dates for 2022

The Committee decided that they next schedule meeting to discuss Rules will be April 11th at 10 am. They discussed that until rule making is done, they will try to meet each month to discuss rules.

C. Documentation Needed for Rule Writing

The Committee members and IPLA will compile copies of rules from Virginia and Kentucky. They will also reach out to the BACB on their processes and rules as well in order provide more clarification on the expectation of practice in the field.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and having completed its duties, the meeting of the Indiana Behavior Analyst Committee adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

Jessica Hartman, Chair

Date