

## Board Meeting - Minutes

March 8, 2024

With proper and required notice having been provided to the Alabama Secretary of State's Office and with posting on the websites of the Alabama Secretary of State and the Alabama Board of Examiners in Marriage & Family Therapy (ABEMFT), the ABEMFT meeting was held Friday, March 8, 2024, at 60 Commerce Street, Suite 1440, Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called to order at 11:01 am by Chairman, Dr. Raven Livingston.

A quorum having been established and maintained; the following Board members were present:

1. Dr. Tim Nichols
2. Dr. Raven Livingston
3. Dr. Samuel Jones
4. Anthony (Tony) Watkins
5. Dr. Kathryn Jones

Also present were, Claire Austin, Executive Director, Jacki Tucker, Board Administrator, Charles McKay, Board Legal Counsel, Sarah Beth Earles, ALAMFT Representative. Invited guests included: Drs. Robert Landry and Glenn Hollinsworth, University of Mobile, Dr. Judith Harrington, Montevallo University, Adi Olshansky, Auburn University. Applicants in attendance from Montevallo University included Meredith McClendon, Leanne Pearce Reed, and Amanda Martin.

Chairman Livingston asked for an approval of the agenda that was motioned by Dr. Samuel Jones and seconded by Dr. Kathryn Jones. All members of the board voted in favor.

Chairman Livingston asked for an approval of the board minutes from the January 19, 2024 meeting. Dr. Tim Nichols made the motion to approve the minutes with two requested edits. This motion was seconded by Dr. Samuel Jones. All members of the board voted in favor of approving the minutes from the January 19, 2024 meeting.

After welcoming and providing an opportunity for all guests to introduce themselves, Claire Austin provided an administrative update on current operations of the Board. The Board has 481 Active Licensees, 19 Pending Applicants, and 11 expired licenses as of March 1, 2024. Austin discussed pending legislation and its potential impact on the practice of Marriage and Family Therapy in the State of Alabama.

The Board received information regarding educational requirements and history of partnerships between the Board and both the University of Mobile and Montevallo University guests. Dr. Judith Harrington also presented information regarding Montevallo University's appeal and Adi Olshansky provided information to be considered alongside her application.

Charles McKay presented an updated negotiated consent decree for a pending case from June 2023. The board voted favorably to accept this consent decree with a unanimous roll call vote and one abstention by Dr. Kathryn Jones.

Under new business, Austin advised the Board of a bill that Senator Elliott announced the evening prior, that will be introduced to the Legislature on Tuesday, March 18th.

The Board then moved to reviewing applications. Out of 19 applications reviewed, 2 were determined to require additional documentation before approval.

A motion was made by Anthony (Tony) Watkins to approve the applications that were determined to meet requirements for the level of licensure indicated by the application. This motion was seconded by Dr. Samuel Jones. There was roll call vote in favor of this motion from all board members. Dr. Raven Livingston, Dr. Samuel Jones, Dr. Tim Nichols, Anthony (Tony) Watkins, and Dr. Kathryn Jones voted in favor of accepting the applicants listed below:

**Intern Applications Approved:**

Amber Lee  
Amanda Martin  
Leanne Reed

The motion was made by Dr. Tim Nichols and seconded by Tony Watkins to approve these three applicants. A roll call vote was unanimous by all members of the board.

**Permission to Sit for the Exam**

Jonathan Cook

The motion was made by Dr. Tim Nichols and seconded by Dr. Kathryn Jones to approve these three applicants. A roll call vote was unanimous by all members of the board.

**Associate Applications:**

Megan Beard/Exam  
Lia Hopper/Exam  
Meredith McClendon  
Adi Olshansky/Exam  
Jaelyn Quayle/Exam

The motion was made by Dr. Samuel Jones and seconded by Dr. Kathryn Jones to approve these 6 of the 7 applicants. One applicant was determined to need additional hours to meet license requirements. A roll call vote was unanimous by all members of the board.

**LMFT by Endorsement**

Kimberly Barn – Mississippi & Oregon

Donald Britt - California – pending

Wendy Copeland – Texas

Brian Martin – California - pending

Grace Self – Tennessee

Michael Stanfield – Tennessee & Missouri

Eric Sweatt – Georgia

Hazel Walker – Massachusetts

The motion was made by Dr. Samuel Jones and seconded by Tony Watkins to approve 6 of the 8 applicants. Two applicants were determined to need additional documentation to meet license requirements. A roll call vote was unanimous by all members of the board.

**SIT: Supervisor in Training**

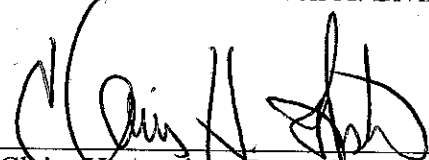
Theresa Steele

The motion was made by Dr. Samuel Jones and seconded by Dr. Tim Nichols to approve her application. A roll call vote was unanimous by all members of the board.

With no further business before the board, Chairman Livingston requested a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Dr. Tim Nichols and seconded by Dr. Samuel Jones. The meeting adjourned at 1:02 pm.

The next Board meeting will be held on May 17, 2024 @ 11:00 AM CST – at the ABEMFT office located downtown at 60 Commerce Street, Suite 1440, Montgomery, AL 36104.

  
Board Chairman – Raven A. Livingston, PhD

  
Claire H. Austin – Executive Director