

Board Meeting - Minutes

August 29, 2025

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 on Friday, August 29, 2025, at 60 Commerce Street, Suite 1440, Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am by Chairman, Dr. Samuel Jones.

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

1. Dr. Kathryn Jones
2. Dr. Samuel Jones
3. Tony Watkins
4. Dr. Timothy Nichols
5. Ann Bethea – Via Zoom

Also present, Claire Austin, Executive Director, Will Parker, Jacki Tucker, Administrator, Ben Seiss, Board Legal Counsel, and Via Zoom Rachel Sullivan, Chair ALAMFT.

Chairman Samuel Jones asked for an approval of the agenda. Dr. Tim Nichols made the motion to approve the agenda, and it was seconded by Dr. Kathryn Jones. All members present voted in favor of the agenda. Roll Call VOTE because 1 member was on Zoom. All Members of the Board voted Yes.

Chairman Samuel Jones asked for an approval of the board minutes from the May 16, 2025, meeting. Dr. Tim Nichols made the motion to approve the minutes, and it was seconded by Tony Watkins, all members of the board voted in favor of approving the minutes from the May 16, 2025, meeting.

Executive Director Austin reported that out of the 249 renewals this year, 235 renewed as of 03/01/25. Austin stated the Board has 534 current active Licensees and forty-one (41) pending applications for today's board meeting.

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Austin called on Jacki Tucker, Board Administrator, to update the Board on the National MFT Examination numbers in Alabama. Tucker presented the Quarterly report (April 2025-June 2025) of the 11 schools reporting their performance

Parker stated that the Board is in very good financial shape, much better than a year ago. The Board has a balance of \$169,967.00. We have continued to try to increase revenue and lower expenses.

Legal Counsel, Ben Seiss stated there were couple of complaints. There was much discussion about therapy patients, Life Coaches, and the fact that none of the 50 states require certification for Life Coaches. There was a vote before the Board following the advice of Legal Counsel, Seiss, on two pending complaints. The motion was made by Dr. Tim Nichols and seconded by Dr. Samuel Jones to vote in favor of the advice by Counsel of the Board on these two licensees.

Under new business, the board asks the employees of The Austin Group to leave the meeting in order to discuss and decide to vote on The Austin Group's management contract. The motion was made by Dr. Tim Nichols and seconded by Tony Watkins for a ten-minute executive session. The board resumed its normal meeting within ten minutes. The motion was made by Dr. Kathryn Jones and seconded by Dr. Samuel Jones to approve a 5% increase in the management fee of The Austin Group.

The review of all the applicants. – All these applicants were approved by a Board vote.

Intern Applications: (6)

Denise Brown
Angela Jones
Jocelyn Norwood
Nathan Smith
Amelia Davis
Claire Kolisz

Permission to Sit for the Exam Applications: (2)

Jacqueline Goble
Maribel Sanders

Associate Applications: (5)

Aliyah Brown
Erin Cooper
Tianna Edwards
Robin Hunter
Darianne Mitchel

Associate & Exam Applications: (7)

Emily Chavis
Alyssa Cook
Sarah Daniel
Tara Erwin
Leanne Reed
Paityn Whittington

LMFT Applications: (8)

Adrienne Brown
Jonathan Cook
Amanda Foederer
Patricia Maurelli
Katelyn Pickett
Peyton Richard
Shalese Williams
Tanesha Wilson

LMFT By Endorsement Applications: (10)

Carrie Austin - -- FL, TX, Hawaii, Idaho
Michelle Barker - Florida
Kristina Dingus-Keulen - TX, NV, SC
Sandra Garzon - FL, NV, RI, Ohio
Katherine Kurtzke-Harter - FL
Emily Mitchell - GA
John Morgan - TN, KY
Skyler Roper- NV
Jenna Saraceno - NJ
Kate Thomas - NJ

Supervisor Candidate Applications: (2)

Laura Frederick
Madison Winter

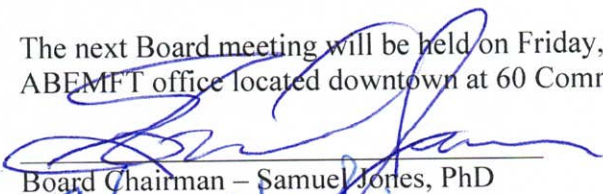
Approved Supervisor Application: (1)

Roy Martin

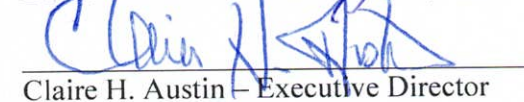
A motion was made by Dr. Kathryn Jones, and seconded by Dr. Samuel Jones, the Board voted unanimously to approve all applicants.

With no further business before the board, Chairman Samuel Jones requested a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Dr. Tim Nichols and seconded by Dr. Samuel Jones; the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am.

The next Board meeting will be held on Friday, November 7, 2025 @ 10:00 AM CST - at the ABEMFT office located downtown at 60 Commerce Street, Suite 1440, Montgomery, AL.



Board Chairman - Samuel Jones, PhD



Claire H. Austin - Executive Director