# **Board Meeting - Minutes**

# January 21, 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 Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 60 Commerce Street, Suite 1050, Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called to order at 9:32 am by Chairman, Dr. Raven Livingston.

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

- 1. Dr. Raven Livingston
- 2. Dr. Samuel Jones
- 3. Tony Watkins

Also present, Claire Austin, Executive Director, Will Parker, Jacki Tucker Administrator. Present via Zoom were Ben Seiss, Board Legal Counsel, Sara Beth Earles and Rachel Sullivan

Chairman Livingston asked for an approval of an amended agenda. Austin made one addition, including the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter financial report after the Executive Director's report. Dr. Samuel Jones made the motion to approve the agenda, and it was seconded by Tony Watkins. All members present voted in favor of the agenda.

Chairman Livingston asked for an approval of the board minutes from the November 1, 2024, meeting. Tony Watkins made the motion to approve the minutes, and it was seconded by Dr. Samuel Jones. All members of the board voted in favor of approving the minutes from the November 1, 2024, meeting.

Chairman Livingston thanked everyone for making the effort to attend the meeting in severe winter weather.

Executive Director Austin reported that there had been 249 renewals this year, and as of 1/21/25, 230 had been renewed. Reminder emails were sent on 11/01/24, and 12/06/24, and 01/03/25. There are 18 licensees that had not renewed yet, with these licenses having until March 1, 2025 to renew with a late fee. Austin stated the Board has 524 current active Licensees and ten pending applications for today's board meeting.

Austin called on Jacki Tucker Board Administration to update the Board on the National Board Examination numbers in Alabama. Tucker presented the numbers and updated on the Examinations for the Board licenses.

Parker reported a continued improvement in the Board's financial standing. The Board has a balance of \$182,784.00. We had an increase of \$51,928.01

Legal Counsel, Ben Seiss mentioned two complaints, one that was pending from some time ago that had been pending in the Northern district of the US Attorney's Office. The other was a new complaint that was filed last week, he stated that he and Dr. Samuel Jones met this morning on the matter. A decision was made to close the file for the previous investigation.

Under old business, Austin presented the certification of three new rules for the MFT Board. Rules that were amended were 536-X-4-.01 – Requirements for Designation: Marriage and Family Therapy Intern, amended 536-X-4-.04 Approved Supervisor - Requirements for Designation: LMFT, amended 536-X-3-01 – Board approved Marriage and Family Therapy Designations. The board voted unanimous by roll call vote in favor of certification of these rules. These rules will go into effect on March 17, 2025.

Under new business, there was a review of all completed applications. All of the below applicants were approved by a Board vote.

### **Intern Applications:**

Damon Turner Rachel Williamson

#### **Associate Applications:**

Jonathan Cook Tianna Edwards

### Associate & Permission to Sit for the Exam/Applications:

Jasmine Hall Grace Treutel

#### LMFT:

Carolyn Cox Halle Lesuer

### **LMFT By Endorsement**

Kylie O'Driscoll - Georgia

## **Approved Supervisor Application:**

Robert Thomas

With no further business before the board, Chairman Livingston requested a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Tony Watkins and seconded by Dr. Samuel Jones; the meeting adjourned at 10:12 am

The next Board meeting will be held on Friday, March 14, 2025 @ 9:30 AM CST – at the ABEMFT office located downtown at 60 Commerce Street, Suite 1440, Montgomery, AL 36104.

Board Chairman – Raven A. Livingston, PhD