

North Carolina Addictions Practice Board
Meeting Minutes
Raleigh, NC
October 25, 2024

Members Present: Kendra Davis, Kathy Allen, Lauren Quick, Flo Stein, Virginia Johnson, Katie Salmons, Anita Daniels

Staff: Barden Culbreth, Donna Strickland, Randolph Cloud, Catherine Lee, Carrie Duhon, Grant Simpkins, Lynn Bodenheimer

Public: Michael Daniels, Jessica Madden, Michelle Pendergust

Call to Order: Board Chair Kendra Davis called the meeting to order and asked members to introduce themselves.

Ethics Awareness Statement: Chair Davis read the Ethics Awareness Statement and asked the Board members if they had any conflict or appearance of conflicts with the business before the Board. Kendra noted she was recusing herself from the Will Guest Hearing today.

Approval of Agenda: Kathy Allen approved the agenda. Anita Daniels seconded, and the agenda was approved.

Public Comment: Michael Daniels was recognized and presented on the Addictions Certificate master's in social work (Criteria C) program at ECU, which was denied at the last meeting, and he presented his curriculum for review.

He asked the Board to consider reinstating Criteria C status.

Kendra asked for information about the actions the school program took when it was first deferred by the committee.

Kathy asked how the process of reinstating vs. reapplying would be perceived by the school.

Donna Strickland affirmed that all current students will still be considered Criteria C level applicants.

Michael Daniels stated that the course revision took time to clear University approval.

Kendra thanked Michael for his presentation and asked the Board to put this item in the Unfinished Business portion of the meeting. Michael Daniels left the meeting.

Approval of the Meeting Minutes: Kathy motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Anita seconded.

Hearing 1: Jessica Madden, CADC-R

Hearing 1 – Ms. Madden appeared and asked the Board for a continuance. Kathy motioned to grant continuance. Kendra seconded and continuance granted to the next meeting in January 2025.

Financial Report: Kathy motioned to approve the financial report. Lauren Quick seconded and the financial report was approved.

Board Chair Report: Kendra thanked the Board for their hard work, and being ambassadors for the profession and Board.

Board Staff Report: Barden Culbreth reported he was working on the annual audit and annual report.

Government and Policy Report: Randolph Cloud was recognized. He spoke about the governor and legislature's work to address Hurricane Helene response.

Committee Report:

Ethics Committee – Kathy reported that the committee was meeting regularly and resolving cases via consent orders.

Standards Committee – Donna filled in on Chair Stephanie Robinson's behalf. ECU and FSU were notified of their non-compliance with Criteria C. Arizona State has withdrawn from their consideration because they had one student.

Schools have been notified that they need to update the Board of their current website so it can be linked to the Board's website.

A new form has been added to the website to ensure that schools are using CCS or CSI for their internships.

Barden presented a proposal from staff to charge for the curriculum review of Criteria C programs.

Kendra asked what amount. Barden recommended \$500 every three years. Kendra stated the fee should be annual and higher. Anita agreed. Virginia Johnson also concurred. Kathy reported that annual fees will help stabilize the budget. Lauren supported, but noted the Board need to have justification for the fee is that charged. Flo Stein noted that our role has changed and we need to professionalize the Criteria C programs. The Board asked that the discussion be shared with Stephanie.

QA Committee – Anita presented on recent meetings of the committee. She was pleased that many cases with applicants were being resolved with consent orders, and it would allow promising applicants an opportunity to pursue credentialing despite significant criminal histories.

Hearing 3 – William Guest

Flo Stein chaired the hearing, following Kendra's recusal. Michelle Pendergust, attorney for Mr. Guest, presented their opening statement, followed by Grant Simpkins representing the Board. Flo then motioned to go to closed session.

Normal order resumed. Virginia announced that the Board accepted the decision of the ALJ Decision and denied the request for attorney fees and denied the request of specific language from the decision. Anita seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Hearing 2 – Charla Alvarez

Kathy Allen recused herself because she is Ethics Committee chair and was familiar with the case.

Flo left the meeting at 3:00pm.

The Board went into closed session for deliberation. Upon resuming normal order, Anita made the motion to revoke Ms. Alvarez's LCAS-Associate. Katie Salmons seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Nicholas Dowgul, attorney for Ms. Alvarez, left the meeting and noted that they would be appealing the decision.

Unfinished Business: Donna stated she would follow up with the Standards Committee with the material Michael Daniels provided.

New Business: Kathy and Kendra were presented with awards from IC&RC.

Kathy asked about verbal approval on a consent, and the staff needed to clarify if this was effective.

Anita asked about the Board labeling its ethics reports as "investigation" reports. Discussion followed on how materials were labeled and ethics investigations reported.

Adjourn: With no further business the meeting adjourned.