



Janet T. Mills
Governor

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL & FINANCIAL REGULATION
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL & OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION
BOARD OF COUNSELING PROFESSIONALS LICENSURE
76 NORTHERN AVENUE
GARDINER, MAINE 04345

Anne L. Head
Commissioner

**Board of Counseling Professionals Licensure
Public Board Meeting
Monday, May 20, 2024**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Angela Blier, Vice Chair (remote)
Holly Cavna, Complaint Officer
Ellen Grunblatt
Joanne Grant (remote) (left meeting at 11:49 a.m.)
Carolyn Silsby, Public Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jennifer King, Board Chair

STAFF PRESENT

Megan Hudson-MacRae, Assistant Attorney General
Kristina Halvorsen, Board Administrator
George Morgan, Board Investigator
Jessica Cirello, Professional Licensing Supervisor

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair, Angela Blier, called the meeting to order at 9:13 a.m.

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Review and approval of the April 22, 2024 minutes.

A motion was made by Holly Cavna and seconded by Ellen Grunblatt to approve the minutes as written.

Vote: 5 in favor.

COMPLAINT PRESENTATIONS

2023-COU-19361

A motion was made by Carolyn Silsby and seconded by Ellen Grunblatt to dismiss this complaint due to the lack of evidence of a violation of Board laws or rules and issue a letter of guidance, citing Board rules Chapter 8-A (5)4 (confidentiality of records) and (6)1 (disclosing client information), which will stay in the licensee's file for 2 years.

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Vote: 4 in favor, 1 abstained: Holly Cavna.

2023-COU-19607

A motion was made by Ellen Grunblatt and seconded by Angela Blier to dismiss this complaint due to the lack of evidence of a violation of Board laws or rules and issue a letter of guidance, citing Board rules Chapter 8-A (2) (client relationship), which will stay in the licensee's file for 2 years.

Vote: 4 in favor, 1 abstained: Holly Cavna.

2023-COU-19699

A motion was made by Ellen Grunblatt and seconded by Carolyn Silsby to set this matter for an adjudicatory hearing and offer a consent agreement, in lieu of a hearing, citing Board rules Chapter 8-A (2)1 A & B (dual relationship), (2)5 (referral), 2 (client relationship), (2)6 (termination), 4(5) (inappropriate environment), 4(6) (impairment), 4(10) (gifts), 5 (records) and 6 (confidentiality), with: a reprimand; the licensee's continued engagement in her personal counseling services, until her provider determines a clinically appropriate discharge of services, during which the licensee will submit annual attendance records of these services and notify the Board of discharge of this service; 12 hours of synchronous continuing education hours, including 6 hours in professional and ethical boundaries and 6 hours in dual relationships, to be obtained in day-long, 6-hour trainings (pre-approved by Angela Blier outside of a regular Board meeting) that will be completed within 1 year of the start of the probationary period; and 3 years of probation which will consist of: 90 minutes of synchronous individual supervision per month, with a focus on professional and ethical boundaries, dual relationships, countertransference, self-care, and ethics and technology, with a Board-approved Maine licensee (approved by Ellen Grunblatt outside of a regular Board meeting) who has been in good standing for the last 5 years, has experience supervising for at least 5 years and holds a clinical license (counselor, social worker or psychologist), who will submit quarterly and final reports to the Board and will be provided with as much of this complaint's materials as legally possible.

Vote: 4 in favor, 1 abstained: Holly Cavna.

A motion was made by Holly Cavna and seconded by Ellen Grunblatt to take a short break.

Vote: 5 in favor.

Meeting break: 11:03 am.-11:10 a.m.

2023-COU-19710

A motion was made by Ellen Grunblatt and seconded by Carolyn Silsby to dismiss this complaint due to the lack of evidence of a violation of Board laws or rules.

Vote: 4 in favor, 1 abstained: Holly Cavna.

Joanne Grant left the meeting at 11:49 a.m.

2023-COU-19462 and 2023-COU-19706

A motion was made by Carolyn Silsby and seconded by Ellen Grunblatt to set this matter for an adjudicatory hearing and offer a consent agreement, in lieu of a hearing, citing Board rules Chapter 8-A (2)1 A & B (dual relationship and risk of harm to client), 5(4) (record storage) and (6) (confidentiality), with: a reprimand; 6 hours of synchronous continuing education hours in dual relationships and professional and ethical boundaries (pre-approved by Holly Cavna outside of a regular Board meeting) that will be completed within 6 months of the beginning of the probationary period; and 3 years of probation during the licensee's active practice which will consist of: 90 minutes of synchronous individual supervision per month, with a focus on dual relationships and ethics, with a Board-approved Maine licensee (approved by Holly Cavna outside of a regular Board meeting) who has been in good standing for the last 5 years and holds a clinical license (counselor, social worker or psychologist), who will submit quarterly and final reports to the Board.

Vote: 3 in favor, 1 abstained: Holly Cavna.

VOTE TO APPOINT COMPACT COMMISSIONER

This vote will be tabled until the Board's next regular meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Board Administrator, Kristina Halvorsen, discussed this Board's recent rulemaking sessions. A draft of the edited rules will be presented to the Board at a regular meeting once the rulemaking sessions are completed.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Carolyn Silsby and seconded by Ellen Grunblatt to adjourn the meeting at 12:07 p.m.

Vote: 4 in favor.