

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of

The Alabama Board of Examiners in Psychology
100 N. Union Street, Suite 880
Montgomery, AL 36104

May 10, 2024

Members Present: Nancy W. Berland, Ph.D. – Chair (In Person)
Michael A. Carlton, Ph.D. – Vice-Chair (In Person)
Kimberley S. Ackerson, Ph.D., ABPP – Psychologist Member (In Person)
Edwin W. Cook, III, Ph.D. – Psychologist Member (In Person)
Carmen Douglas, SHRM-SCP, SPHR – Public Member (In Person)
Candice D. Lewis, M.S. – Psychological Technician Member (In Person)
C. Jeffrey Terrell, Ph.D., ABPP – Psychologist Member (In Person)
Dale Wisely, Ph.D. – Psychologist Member (In Person)

Others Present: Angela D. Ledbetter – Executive Assistant (In Person)
Lori H. Rall – Executive Director (In Person)
Susan Nettles Han – Legal Counsel (In Person)
Ellen L. Spence, Ph.D. – AL Psychological Association Liaison (In Person)
Alexa Ruiz Lowrey, Psy.D. – Member of the Public (Via Zoom)

Opening by Berland: The time is 9:00 a.m. We are gathered in the Board Office and on Zoom for a regular meeting of the Alabama Board of Examiners in Psychology. As required by the Open Meetings Act, we have a lawful quorum of at least four (4) members and at least three members (3) are present in person, and sufficient prior notice of this meeting has been posted for the Public on both the Board's and the Secretary of State's websites, to include a link for Zoom meeting participation information at both websites because one (1) or more of our Members may participate remotely and for remote Public access. All unanimous votes will be announced aloud by the Chair and non-unanimous votes will be held by Roll Call. Board Members with a close personal or professional relationship to a subject of, or party to, an action are reminded to recuse themselves from participation in that part of the Meeting Agenda.

As a reminder of why the Board gathers, the BOARD's **MISSION STATEMENT:**

The Alabama Board of Examiners in Psychology seeks to promote and protect the public's health, welfare, and quality of life by licensing and regulating the practice of psychology and by promoting access to psychological services delivered in a safe, competent, and ethical manner.

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Review of the March 8, 2024 Minutes. Motion by Carlton to accept Minutes as written. Seconded by Wisely. Motion passed unanimously.

REVIEW OF NEW APPLICANTS:

Psychologists

- 1) ARROLL, Megan Anne – EPPP & PSE Candidate (Cook & Wisely) Motion by Cook to admit Dr. Arroll to EPPP & PSE while pursuing Official Transcripts from the University of Sussex. Seconded by Wisely. Motion passed unanimously.
- 2) BENAVIDEZ, Dominique Rhodes – Candidate for Licensure (Berland & Carlton) Specialization in Clinical. Motion by Berland to issue licensure to Dr. Benavidez. Seconded by Carlton. Motion passed unanimously. **(License No. 2366)**
- 3) GEARY, Caitlin Margaret – EPPP & PSE Candidate (Ackerson & Douglas) Specialization in Clinical. Motion by Ackerson to admit Dr. Geary to EPPP & PSE. Seconded by Douglas. Motion passed unanimously.
- 4) HOLMES, Sarah Christian – PSE Candidate (Terrell & Lewis) Specialization in School. Motion by Terrell to admit Dr. Holmes to the PSE. Seconded by Lewis. Motion passed unanimously.
- 5) JENNINGS, Dana Sheniqua – EPPP & PSE Candidate (Wisely & Cook) Specialization in Counseling. Motion by Wisely to admit Dr. Jennings to the EPPP & PSE. Seconded by Cook. Motion passed unanimously.
- 6) KINNEY, Jade Lynn – EPPP Candidate (Carlton & Berland) Specialization in Counseling. Motion by Carlton to admit Dr. Kinney to the EPPP. Seconded by Berland. Motion passed unanimously.
- 7) LaMAR, Kristy Lynette – EPPP Candidate (Cook & Berland) Specialization in Counseling. Motion by Cook to admit Dr. LaMAR to the EPPP. Seconded by Berland. Motion passed unanimously.
- 8) LERE, Joy Elizabeth – PSE Candidate; Practice Certificate issued by Rall on 04/19/2024, pursuant to the Alabama Military Family Jobs Opportunity Act (Lewis & Douglas) Specialization in Clinical. Motion by Lewis to admit Dr. Lere to the PSE. Seconded by Douglas. Motion passed unanimously.
- 9) LITTEN, Sarah Elise – EPPP & PSE Candidate (Carlton & Berland) Specialization in School. Motion by Carlton to admit Dr. Litten to EPPP & PSE. Seconded by Berland. Motion passed unanimously.
- 10) RAILEY, Michael Gerome – Candidate for Licensure (Terrell & Carlton) Motion by Terrell to request that Dr. Railey resubmit the Specialization Page of the Application removing the designation of Clinical and amending with designation in Counseling and/or School Psychology consistent with his education and training; granting licensure once amendment is received. Seconded by Carlton. Motion passed unanimously. **(License No. 2371 issued 05/14/2024; Specialization in Counseling, only)**
- 11) SMITH, Allison Leigh – EPPP & PSE Candidate (Wisely & Ackerson) Specialization in Clinical. Motion by Wisely. Seconded by Ackerson. Motion passed unanimously.
- 12) VIESELMAYER, Julie Lynn – Candidate for Licensure (Ackerson & Wisely) Specialization in Clinical. Motion by Ackerson to issue a license to Dr. Vieselmeyer. Seconded by Wisely. Motion passed unanimously. **(License No. 2369)**

- 13) WITHEROW, Marta Parkanyi – EPPP & PSE Candidate (Cook & Wisely) Specialization in Clinical. Motion by Cook to admit Dr. Witherow to the EPPP & PSE. Seconded by Wisely. Motion passed unanimously.

Psychological Technicians

- 1) McQUEEN, Tyler Rory – EPPP & PSE Candidate (Lewis & Ackerson) Motion by Lewis to admit Mr. McQUEEN to the EPPP & PSE. Seconded by Ackerson. Motion passed unanimously.

10:28 – 10:44 a.m. BREAK

PREVIOUSLY REVIEWED APPLICANTS:

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

- 1) LOWREY, Alexa Ruiz – Review revised Specialization Designation and Statement (Berland and Ackerson) Motion by Ackerson to issue license with Specialization in School to Dr. Lowrey. Seconded by Berland. Motion passed unanimously. **(License No. 2367)**

Dr. Lowrey exited the Zoom meeting room at 10:55 a.m.

- 2) MANIERSKI, Megan Elizabeth – Review revised Specialization Statement with School designation (Berland and Ackerson) Motion by Cook at 11:13 a.m. for the Board to enter Executive Session to discuss the potential threat of, or possibility of, litigation, and to discuss the good name and character of an individual, for approximately 20 minutes. Seconded by Terrell. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Spence exited the meeting room at 11:13 a.m.

Motion by Cook at 11:37 a.m. to return from Executive Session to resume the regular meeting. Seconded by Wisely. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Spence returned to the meeting room at 11:38 a.m.

Motion by Cook to issue a license to Dr. Manierski based on review of her Specialization Statement in context of her education, training, and experience in School Psychology. Seconded by Douglas. Motion passed. Ackerson abstained. **(License No. 2368)**

11:50 – 12:10 p.m. LUNCH BREAK

- 3) WALTZ, Sharon Diane – Application for admission to PSE and new licensure was denied on March 8, 2024 for nine (9) statutory violations and seven (7) violations of Ethical Principles of

Psychologists’ Ethical Standards; informal reconsideration requested. Review (Cook & Wisely) Scheduled to attend in person at 11:00 a.m.; however, Waltz did not attend the meeting. Rall read aloud letter received from Dr. Waltz. Motion by Wisely to affirm the March 8, 2024, decision to deny Dr. Waltz’s application for licensure. Seconded by Cook. Motion passed unanimously.

SCORE REVIEW:

Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP), &/or the Professional Standards Exam (PSE), &/or Licenses Issued since the March 2024 Board Meeting

Psychologists: Pass or fail for each candidate is based upon the ASPPB recommended passing score for psychologists, and it is 500. The passing score for the PSE is 80% (34 correct).

Psychological Technicians: The EPPP passing score for psychological technicians is 400. The passing score for the PSE is 80% (34 correct).

<i>NAME of Applicant / Licensee</i>	<i>Degree</i>	<i>Application Level</i>	<i>EPPP Passed?</i>	<i>PSE Passed?</i>	<i>License Number</i>	<i>Date of Licensure</i>	<i>Area of Specialization</i>
KARL, Kevin Francis	Ph.D.	Psychologist	Yes	Yes	2358	03/11/24	Clinical
HUNT-FELKE, Thomas John	Ph.D.	Psychologist	Yes; Previously	Yes	2359	03/13/2024	Clinical
SAVINI, Jonathan Michael	Psy.D.	Psychologist	Yes	Yes	2360	03/12/2024	Clinical
CURVEY, Rena Marie Goodwin	Ph.D.	Psychologist	Yes	Yes	2361	03/26/2024	Counseling
SANCHEZ, Jaime Javier	Psy.D.	Psychologist	Yes	Yes	2362	03/28/2024	Clinical
DENG, Kuo	Ph.D.	Psychologist	Yes; Previously	Yes	2363	04/09/2024	Counseling
RAMLER, Taylor Randall	Ph.D.	Psychologist	Yes	Yes	2364	04/29/2024	Counseling
MADLER, Samantha Rose	Psy.D.	Psychologist	Yes	Yes	2365	05/06/2024	Clinical
LOWREY, Alexa Ruiz	Psy.D.	Psychologist	Yes	Yes	2367	05/10/2024	School

MANIERSKI, Megan Elizabeth	Psy.D.	Psychologist	Yes	Yes	2368	05/10/2024	School
RIVERS, Katherine Kennon	Psy.D.	Psychologist	-	Yes	-	-	Clinical
GARDINER, James Thomas	Ph.D.	Psychologist	No; Must Reapply	-	-	-	Counseling & School
ASBY, Aisha TaTa	Ph.D.	Psychologist	No; Must Reapply	Yes	-	-	Clinical
TALLENT, Desiree Anne	Ph.D.	Psychologist	No; May Sit Again	No; May Sit Again	-	-	School

COMPLAINTS:
Against Licensed Psychologists

Old

- 1) 20-007 – On-going investigation
- 2) 20-008 – On-going investigation
- 3) 20-009 – On-going investigation
- 4) 21-004 – On-going investigation
- 5) 21-007 – On-going investigation
- 6) 21-012 – On-going investigation
- 7) 21-013 – On-going investigation
- 8) 22-004 – On-going investigation
- 9) 22-007 – On-going investigation
- 10) 22-012 – On-going investigation
- 11) 23-001 – On-going investigation
- 12) 23-002 – On-going investigation
- 13) 23-004 – On-going investigation
- 14) 23-005 – No Probable Cause / Closed
- 15) 23-006 – On-going investigation
- 16) 23-007 – On-going investigation
- 17) 23-008 – No Probable Cause / Closed
- 18) 23-009 – On-going investigation

- 19) 24-001 - On-going investigation
- 20) 24-002 - On-going investigation
- 21) 24-003 - On-going investigation

New

- 1) 24-007 – On-going investigation

Investigation Committee meetings are held, and will continue to be held, between regularly scheduled meetings of the Board; Committee meetings will take place via electronic means.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) ASPPB Mid-Year Meeting – April 25 to 28, 2024, Boston, MA. Rall, Han, and Ackerson attended. Board Administrators/Registrars Committee (BARC) Meeting took place on Wednesday, April 24; Rall is Chair-Elect. Regular meeting began on Thursday, April 25. Update of meeting highlights by Ackerson, Han and Rall.
 - a. EPPP2 – The Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology will become one exam in two (2) parts as of January 2026. Discussion. Recommendation by Cook to wait until closer to that date; Rall will place topic on the agenda again within the year.
 - b. Visit from ASPPB representatives. Rall will invite Alex Siegel, J.D., Ph.D. and Hao Song, Ph.D. to attend a meeting of the Board in person as soon as their schedules will allow, or via Zoom.

Dr. Terrell left the meeting at 12:46 p.m.

- 2) Alabama Department of Examiners of Public Accounts' Resource Manual for Alabama Regulatory Boards and Commissions, Twentieth Edition, August 2023 is available at <https://alison.legislature.state.al.us/epa-resource-guide>; also provided in Dropbox. Rall thanked Board Members and Staff for completing required Examiners of Public Accounts Board/Commission Training for 2023-2024 by May 1, 2024, and stated she provided confirmation of the agency's compliance to Dixie Broadwater Thomas, Director of the Operational Audit Division of the Examiners of Public Accounts.
- 3) Statements of Economic Interests have been submitted to the Alabama Ethics Commission, as might be required annually of Board Members and Administrative Staff. Rall thanked Board Members and Han for submitting required annual reporting.
- 4) Senate Bill 79, Sponsored by Senator Rodger M. Smitherman: Occupational Licensing Boards, consideration of criminal conviction when licensing restricted, requiring an occupational licensing board to determine whether an individual's criminal conviction disqualifies them from obtaining an occupational license in certain circumstances. Rall informed the Board that letters were sent to Senators Smitherman, Orr, Singleton, and Stewart detailing the Board's position on the matter.
- 5) House Bill 246, Sponsored by Representative Ben Harrison: Consent to medical treatment; age of medical majority, established at 18 up from age 14, currently; circumstances in which a

minor may receive medical treatment, revised. Rall informed the Board that the Bill did not progress after introduction and assignment to the House Health Committee.

NEW BUSINESS:

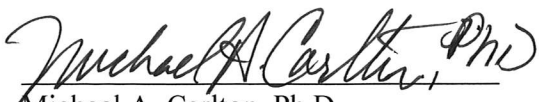
- 1) Board Newsletter – More information needed from outgoing Chair (Cook) and the Alabama Psychological Association. Ackerson to submit statement about neuropsychological practice.
- 2) Act 2024-157 Continuing the existence and functioning of the Alabama Board of Examiners in Psychology until October 1, 2028, introduced as HB144, Sponsored by Senator Coleman-Madison.
- 3) Senate Bill 224 introduced on March 19, 2024, Sponsored by Senator Chis Elliott: Establishment of the Office of Occupational and Professional Licensing within the Department of Labor to serve as a centralized entity to certain professional licensing boards, including the Psychology Board as of October 1, 2026, but amended to not include the Psychology Board. Rall provided a status update – Currently Indefinitely Postponed as of 05/07/2024 – and thanked the Board for its guidance, effort, responsiveness, and support throughout the Legislative Session.
- 4) PSYPACT Updates:
 - a. Board reviewed the PSYPACT Commission’s First Quarter 2024 Compliance Report confirming Alabama’s compliance in all areas. The Board thanked Rall for the work and the update.
 - b. The Board reviewed the Commission Newsletter, March 2024.
- 5) Rall presented Quarterly Reporting to the Board for the First and Second Quarters of Fiscal Year 2024.
- 6) Alabama Psychological Association, 2024 Annual Convention, August 23–25, 2024, Hampton Inn and Suites, Orange Beach, Alabama. Rall has been invited to attend the conference as a presenter. Motion by Cook for Rall to provide an update to the Alabama Psychological Association at their convention in August 2024. Seconded by Carlton. Motion passed unanimously.

End of Meeting: Motion by Carlton to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Cook. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting ended at 1:26 p.m.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: July 12, 2024

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela D. Ledbetter, Recorder
Executive Assistant


Michael A. Carlton, Ph.D.
Board Vice-Chair