



Certified Counselors & Hypnotherapist Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2024

Hybrid Meeting via Microsoft Teams and in-person WA DOH 111 Israel Road SE, Town Center
2, Room 153, Tumwater, WA 98501

Committee members present: Drue Larson, Certified Counselor, Chair
Betty Jensen, Certified Counselor
Anthony Gitch, Hypnotherapist
Sarah Prince, Public Member* (joined at 9:15 am)
Vacant, Hypnotherapist
Vacant, Public Member
Vacant, Public Member

Committee members absent:

Staff members present: Eve Austin, Executive Director
Carmen Leso, Program Manager
Joan Simmons, Program Support
Katie Hao, Program Support
Melody Casiano, Policy Analyst
Jennifer Herbrand, Deputy Credentialing Manager

Assistant Attorney General: Luke Eaton, Assistant Attorney General

Guest presenters: None

On April 12, 2024, the Washington State Certified Counselors and Hypnotherapist Advisory Committee met in person at Washington State Department of Health and online via Microsoft Teams. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of the meeting was published on the Certified Adviser, Certified Counselor, and Hypnotherapist professions' websites and was sent out via the GovDelivery listserv for each profession.

1. Call to Order – Drue Larson, Certified Counselor, Chair – The meeting began at 9:00 a.m.

1.1. Introductions

Board members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

1.2. Approval of the April 12, 2024 agenda. *Motion to approve agenda, seconded, vote 4-0.*

1.3. Approval of January 26, 2024, meeting minutes. *Motion to approve minutes as amended, seconded, vote 4-0.*

2. Public Comment – Drue Larson, Certified Counselor, Chair

2.1. Tim Livingston, WAPROCA, shared gratitude to Ms. Austin and Ms. Leso for the collaborative work they have been doing.

3. Management Reports

3.1. Budget Report – Carmen Leso, Program Manager

Ms. Leso presented the program budgets for certified counselors/advisers and hypnotherapists as of February 2024.

Program	Current Fund Balance
Certified Counselors/Advisers	(\$1,420,000)
Hypnotherapists	\$ 42,510

3.2. Credentialing Report – Jennifer Herbrand, Deputy Credentialing Manager

Ms. Herbrand presented the latest licensure statistics for the certified counselors/advisers and hypnotherapists.

Program	Active	Pending
Certified Counselors	296	96
Certified Advisers	1	3
Hypnotherapists	710	8

3.3. Program Report – Carmen Leso, Program Manager

3.3.1. Ms. Leso shared interviews for the public member positions on the committee have been completed and the appointment packet has been submitted.

3.3.2. Ms. Leso notified the committee of minor exam updates.

4. 2024 Legislative Session Update – Carmen Leso, Program Manager

4.1. Ms. Leso provided a status report for the end of the 2024 Legislative Session, mentioning the bills that did not pass. She gave a summary of the bills that did pass as provided in the 2024 BH Legislative Report included in the meeting packet.

- [HB 2247 – Addressing behavioral health provider shortages](#)



- [SB 6228 – Concerning treatment of substance use disorders](#)
- [HB 1939 – Adopting the social work licensure compact](#)

5. Ethics Training – Luke Eaton, Assistant Attorney General

- 5.1. Mr. Eaton gave a detailed presentation titled “Conducting Business Meetings & Ethics: A Guide for Board & Committee Members” and answered questions from the committee.

6. Committee Review of Professional Rules – Drue Larson, Chair and Carmen Leso, Program Manager

- 6.1. The committee reviewed the recommendations to rules proposals and made a decision to approve or deny the draft language. Ms. Leso provided an overview of the following WACs:
 - 6.1.1. [WAC 246-810-029](#) – Acceptable continuing education courses for certified counselor and certified adviser regarding CE Distance Learning Limitations.
Motion to approve the draft language as presented, seconded, vote 4-0.
 - 6.1.2. [WAC 246-810-024](#) Counseling-related degrees that meet the requirements for certified counselors and certified advisers regarding Coursework Requirements.
Motion to approve the draft language as presented, seconded, vote 4-0.

7. Update on AAC rulemaking workshops – Carmen Leso, Program Manager

- 7.1. Ms. Leso provided an update of the rulemaking workshops held to develop the coursework requirements for the new Certified Agency Affiliated Counselor and the Licensed Agency Affiliated Counselor credentials. *Motion to table this item to the next meeting, seconded, vote 4-0.*

8. Committee Operational Document – Bylaws update/approval – Carmen Leso, Program Manager

- 8.1. The committee reviewed the bylaws and decided whether or not to approve the bylaws. *Motion to approve the bylaws as amended, seconded, vote 4-0.*

9. Future Business – Drue Larson, Chair

- 9.1. Update on AAC rulemaking workshops
- 9.2. Future planning for committee goal setting
- 9.3. SWOT Analysis

10. Meeting Adjourned – Drue Larson, Chair

- 10.1. The meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

Submitted by:
Carmen Leso, Program Manager
Certified Counselors & Hypnotherapists
Advisory Committee

Approved by:
Drue Larson, Chair
Certified Counselors & Hypnotherapists
Advisory Committee

On file
SIGNATURE

On file
SIGNATURE

DATE

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