



South Dakota Board of Examiners for Counselors &
Marriage and Family Therapists

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South Dakota Board of Examiners for Counselors & Marriage and Family Therapists
Via Videoconference
September 5, 2025

President Butler called the meeting to order at 9:05 am central and determined a quorum.

Board Members Present via Videoconference: Tiffany Butler, Cynthia Goehring, Maureen Gustafson, Mary Guth, Amy Hartman, Stacy Solsaa, and Jay Trenhaile

Board Members Absent: Jeff Wangen

Others Present via Videoconference: Jennifer Stalley, Executive Secretary; Natalie Young, Administrative Assistant; Court Roper, Board Legal Counsel, Department of Social Services; Erin Handke, Assistant Attorney General; Renee Stellagher, Assistant Attorney General; Tracy Mercer, Department of Social Services; Hande Briddick, LPC Applicant

Motion to approve the proposed agenda by Trenhaile. Seconded by Solsaa. **Motion carried.**

Butler asked for comments from the public. No one from the public was present.

Motion to approve the meeting minutes of May 2, 2025 by Trenhaile. Seconded by Guth. **Motion carried.**

Motion to accept the financial report as of July 31, 2025 by Trenhaile. Seconded by Guth. **Motion carried.**

Butler recognized the time and place for Hearing in the Matter of the Application of Hande Briddick for Licensure as a Licensed Professional Counselor.

Motion to approve the application for licensure for Hande Briddick with the condition that there would be no carry forward hours towards a higher level of licensure by Guth. Seconded by Solsaa. **Motion carried.** Trenhaile recused.

Motion to go into executive session for the purposes noticed at 9:50 am by Trenhaile. Seconded by Solsaa. **Motion carried.**

Butler declared the Board out of executive session at 10:35 am.

Motion to authorize counsel to engage in settlement discussions for Complaints 2025-03 and 2025-05 and move the matter to a hearing if discussions do not resolve the matter by Trenhaile. Seconded by Guth. **Motion carried.**

Motion to dismiss Complaint 2025-07 by Solsaa. Seconded by Trenhaile. **Motion carried.** Janecke was recused.

Motion to dismiss Complaint 2025-08 by Hartman. Seconded by Trenhaile. **Motion carried.**

Motion to authorize counsel to engage in settlement discussions for Complaint 2025-09 and move the matter to a hearing if discussions do not resolve the matter by Guth. Seconded by Solsaa. **Motion carried.**

Motion to dismiss complaint 2025-10 by Trenhaile. Seconded by Solsaa. **Motion carried.**

Motion to authorize counsel to engage in settlement discussions for Complaint 2025-11 and move the matter to a hearing if discussions do not resolve the matter by Trenhaile. Seconded by Guth. **Motion carried.**

Motion to dismiss Complaint 2025-12 by Solsaa. Seconded by Hartman. **Motion carried.**

Motion to dismiss Complaint 2025-13 by Guth. Seconded by Trenhaile. **Motion carried.** Hartman recused.

Motion to dismiss Complaint 2025-14 by Guth. Seconded by Solsaa. **Motion carried.**

Motion to dismiss Complaint 2025-15 by Trenhaile. Seconded by Solsaa. **Motion carried.**

Motion to dismiss Complaint 2025-16 by Guth. Seconded by Trenhaile. **Motion carried.**

Stalley provided an update on the Counseling Compact and the background check application status. Stalley also provided an update on the Board's Counseling Compact webpage on the website. A proposed policy for accepting background checks will be brought to the Board's next meeting in anticipation of accepting background checks on January 1, 2026.

Roper briefed the Board on the Open Meetings Law Overview (required by SDCL 1-25-13). Motion to acknowledge the Open Meetings Law Overview by board counsel by Trenhaile. Seconded by Hartman. **Motion carried.**

Motion to approve the South Dakota Network Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault as a pre-approved Continuing Education Provider as it relates to counseling by Guth. Seconded by Hartman. **Motion carried.**

The Board discussed artificial intelligence standards in Counseling. The Board will continue to monitor regulation of and ethics in artificial intelligence as an emerging issue.

Stalley provided an office update.

Mercer provided the Board with a Department update.

The Board announced its next meeting is scheduled for December 5, 2025 at 9:00 am (central) via Zoom.

Motion to adjourn at 11:17am by Trenhaile. Seconded by Solsaa. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Stalley".

Jennifer Stalley, Executive Secretary

DRAFT