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California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists

CAMFT BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING MINUTES  
March 19-20, 2016  
Meritage Resort and Spa  
Napa, CA

*Board Members In Attendance:*

Jodi Baldel, Past President  
Liz Birch  
Jurgen Braungardt, Chief Financial Officer  
Bob Casanova, Secretary  
Jonathan Flier  
James Guay  
Cathryn Leff  
Mark Perlmutter  
Patricia Ravitz, President Elect  
Laura Strom, President  
Chris Trailer  
Danah Williams

*Staff:*

Cathy Atkins, Deputy Executive Director  
Jill Epstein, Executive Director

*Guests:*

Mike Griffin, Staff Attorney  
Dean Lobovitz, Past Chair, Ethics Committee  
Irving Zaroff, Chair, Ethics Committee

*Observers:*

Kevin Bergen  
Nanci Finley  
Beth Greivel  
Laura Haynes  
David Pickup

Jennie Warner  
Robert Vazzo

### **I. Call to Order**

President Laura Strom called the meeting to order at 8:35am on March 19, 2016. President Strom acknowledged the winners of the March 18, 2016 election:

President-Elect: Bob Casanova  
Treasurer: Chris Trailer  
Directors-At-Large: Cathryn Leff, Curt Widhalm, Danah Williams

### **II. Anti-Trust Compliance**

President Strom acknowledged that the CAMFT Board adheres to the CAMFT Policy on Antitrust Compliance.

### **III. Consent Agenda**

Motion (1) – Baldel: Accept the consent agenda, without the Leadership Advisory Council minutes.

APPROVED

### **IV. Member Open Forum**

Seven members participated in Member Open Forum and gave opinions on Sexual Orientation Change Efforts (SOCE) and CAMFT policy, intern voting rights, and CAMFT election process.

### **V. Policies and Procedures**

#### **A. CAMFT Statement on SOCE**

The Board noted letters, articles, and comments from members as they discussed whether to expand the current statement on SOCE. The Board agreed that the concept of gender identity should be included in a statement on SOCE.

Motion (2) – Baldel: Direct staff to add language reflecting the concept of gender identity and gender non-conforming communities into the existing CAMFT Statement on SOCE.

APPROVED; Opposed – Liz Birch

Motion (3) – Braungardt: Adopt James Guay’s statement on Conversion Therapy, as presented, changing the word “condemn” to “oppose” in paragraph 7 and removing references to endorsements of the specified Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Report, APA Guidelines, and World Professional Association for Transgender Health’s Standards.

James Guay’s conflict of interest was disclosed and he confirmed that he was able to make a decision that would be in the best interest of CAMFT. Mr. Guay participated in the vote.

APPROVED; Opposed: Jodi Baldel, Liz Birch

Motion (4) – Birch: Eliminate the CAMFT Statement on Conversion Therapy.  
FAILED

*B. Policy on Chapter Formation*

The proposed “Policy on Chapter Formation” provides the terms for chapters to receive a CAMFT charter.

Motion (5) – Perlmutter: Adopt the “Policy on Chapter Formation”.  
APPROVED

*C. Policy on Chapters of CAMFT*

The Chapter Agreement, which went into effect on March 1, 2016, and the “Policy on Formation of Chapters” cover all the terms contained in the “Policy on Chapters”. Thus, the “Policy on Chapters” is now moot.

Motion (6) – Perlmutter: Rescind the “Policy on Chapters of CAMFT”.

*D. Policy on Board Member Attendance at CAMFT’s Annual Conference and Workshops*

The language of the Board Member Attendance policy is included in the CAMFT Board and Committee Reimbursement Policy and, thus, this policy is redundant.

Motion (7) – Ravitz: Rescind the “Policy on Board Member Attendance at CAMFT’s Annual Conference and Workshops”.

*E. New Column for The Therapist*

The Board discussed CFO Jurgen Braungardt’s proposal for a column to highlight topics within CAMFT’s finances.

Motion (8) – Braungardt: Create a “Report from the CFO” column to be printed in *The Therapist* bi-annually.

APPROVED

*F. Intern Labor Issues*

After reviewing a memo detailing the costs, benefits, and challenges of CAMFT supporting select Interns who want to file claims with the California Labor Commissioner against employers, the Board took no action.

**VI. Closed Session**

The Board went into Closed session at 11:27am to discuss a Board member issue. The Board returned to Open session at 12:04pm.

## **VII. Finance**

Jurgen Braungardt, CFO, reported on investment gains/losses from 2014-2016 and noted that the current portfolio value of \$5.6 million is approximately the value of the portfolio in 2014.

Dr. Braungardt presented the financial reports.

Motion (9) – Birch: Accept the financial reports.

APPROVED

Dr. Braungardt reviewed the Audit Committee recommendation of retaining a consultant to perform a CAMFT management audit every five years. The Board will review the scope of this audit and the costs of such an audit at the June Board meeting.

Dr. Braungardt reviewed the costs of the website/database upgrade and the recommendations of the IT Consultant for future database platforms.

Dr. Braungardt presented the Auditor's Report and the Board received a copy of the Form 990.

Motion (10) – Trailer: Accept the Auditor's Report.

APPROVED

## **VIII. Committee Actions**

### *A. Continuing Education Provider Approval (CEPA) Committee*

The Board reviewed the proposal to increase the size of the CEPA Committee.

Motion (11) – Ravitz: Increase the CEPA Committee to up to 25 member. The Committee shall meet no fewer than two times a year. Committee members are encouraged to use tele/videoconferencing for meetings.

APPROVED

### *B. Strategic Planning Committee*

The Board reviewed the proposed changes to the Strategic Plan.

Motion (12) – Baldel: Adopt the proposed Strategic Plan, with the following changes: capitalize Marriage and Family Therapist throughout the documents, add "promote" to section 3.2 in lieu of "seek", add "strive" to section 5.1.

APPROVED

### *C. Bylaws Committee*

The Board reviewed the Bylaw Committee's proposed bylaw amendments that addressed housekeeping issues, including online voting.

Motion (13) – Perlmutter: Present members with a bylaws proposal to allow for electronic voting.  
FAILED

Motion (14) – Perlmutter: Request that the Bylaws Committee draft an amendment allowing intern voting rights for consideration by the Board when it next entertains bylaw amendments.  
FAILED

Motion (15) – Perlmutter: Request that the Bylaws Committee draft an amendment allowing intern voting rights for Board elections for consideration by the Board when it next entertains bylaw amendments.  
FAILED

Motion (16) – Perlmutter: Direct staff to schedule space in *The Therapist*, within the next six months, for an article from the Prelicensed Committee supporting intern voting rights.  
FAILED

The Board recognized that pending legislation to change the “Intern” title to “Associate” could require bylaw amendments at some point after such legislation is in effect.

Staff was directed to explore separate classes of membership for Trainees and Interns the next time the Bylaws Committee meets to explore bylaw amendments.

#### *D. Diversity Committee*

The Board reviewed the genesis of the proposal for a Diversity Committee and looked at the global impact on resources of adding a new Committee. The Board agreed that it should review the relevance and need for each existing Committee before new Committees are added.

Motion (17) – Ravitz: Create a Board Task Force to review the relevance and need for each existing Committee.  
APPROVED

Bob Casanova and James Guay volunteered to serve on the Task Force.

The Board agreed to add language to all Committee descriptions to reflect that diverse Committee membership is desired.

#### *E. Recruitment Campaign for Committee Volunteers*

Executive Director Jill Epstein reported that there is a recruitment video on the CAMFT website featuring President-Elect Patricia Ravitz that will be embedded in the new call for volunteers.

#### *F. Honors Committee Nominees*

The Board reviewed the nominees for 2016 Honors Awards.

Motion (18) – Ravitz: Approve the recommendations from the Honors Committee for Honors Awards.

APPROVED

*G. Leadership Advisory Council*

The Board discussed the genesis behind the creation of the Leadership Advisory Council and reiterated a concern about use of resources by Committees/Councils.

Motion (19) – Casanova: Disband the Leadership Advisory Council.

FAILED

Motion (20) – Baldel: Approve the Leadership Advisory Council minutes from the Consent Agenda.

APPROVED

**IX. Ethics Committee Presentation**

Representatives from the Ethics Committee presented a summary of case data from the Ethics Committee from 2011-2015 and discussed the role and purpose of the Committee.

**X. Executive Director Report**

The Board received written reports on CAMFT Staff/Operations, External Groups, *The Therapist*, Marketing and Public Relations, Continuing Education Provider Approval Program Report, Chapter Relations, and Professional Development.

**XI. Member/Chapter Issues**

*A. Unclaimed Zip Codes*

The Board reviewed requests by Chapters to use unclaimed zip codes for potential new members.

Motion (21) – Baldel: Allocate zip codes to the Chapters, as proposed.

APPROVED

*B. Variance Requests*

The Monterey County Chapter and the Central San Joaquin Valley Chapter requested variances to their Board composition, pursuant to CAMFT Bylaws, Article XXII.

Motion (22) – Baldel: Approve a one-year Monterey County Chapter variance to allow an Associate member to serve as Chapter President.

APPROVED; Opposed – Williams

Motion (23) – Baldel: Approve a one-year Central San Joaquin Valley Chapter variance to allow for more than 30% of their Board to be Prelicensed members.

APPROVED

### *C. Chapter Agreements*

Ms. Epstein reported that all 28 Chapters had signed the CAMFT Chapter Agreement, which went into effect on March 1, 2016.

#### **XII. Legislative/Advocacy Update**

The Board received written reports on the BBS and state and federal legislation/advocacy and heard updates CAMFT's 2016 bills. The Legislative Committee will meet in April to review and analyze other legislation of interest. The Board received a list of the participants for the late March, 2016, DC fly-in. The Board also received an update on the Texas Medical Association v. Texas State Board of Examiners and TAMFT lawsuit.

#### **XIII. Open Forum**

The Board brainstormed and engaged in a discussion of the Board process.

#### **XV. New Business**

The Board discussed emerging issues for future Board agendas. Items discussed included:

- Consider a year-long Leadership Training Program and/or Leadership Skills Building session at Chapter Leadership Conference

#### **XVI. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 11:25am on March 20, 2016.