

Approved Feb 18, 2022



STATE of OREGON
BOARD of LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS
Board Meeting
Friday, December 17, 2021
Via Microsoft Teams
3218 Pringle Road SE, Salem, OR 97302

Board Members Present: Brenda Dennis, *Public Member, Chair*
Mollie Janssen, *LCSW, Vice Chair**
Kathy Outland, *LCSW**
John Fant, *Public Member**
Stephanie Manriquez, *Public Member**

Board Counsel Present: Kyle Martin, *AAG, Oregon Dept. of Justice**

Staff Members Present: Randy Harnisch, *Executive Director*
Kim Coleman, *Licensing Manager**
Mindy Tucker, *Senior Compliance Specialist*
Abe Dedek, *Investigator*

* = Participation by Microsoft Teams, all others present at the Board Office

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Dennis called the Board Meeting to order at 11:06 a.m. and provided brief opening remarks.

2. REVIEW OF AGENDA:

Chair Dennis asked for review of the draft agenda.

- i. **Outland moved to approve and adopt the agenda as amended.**
- ii. **Manriquez seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

3. MINUTES:

Chair Dennis asked if the Board members had an opportunity to review the minutes for the September 17, 2021 Board meeting:

- i. **Manriquez moved to approve the minutes for September 17, 2021 as presented.**
- ii. **Outland seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chair Dennis announced that the Board would now enter into Executive Session to conduct Board business, pursuant to ORS 162.660(2)(b)(f)(h)(i)(l). The Board entered into Executive Session at 11:09 a.m.

Chair Dennis moved the Board out of Executive Session at 12:10 p.m.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fant provided the Licensing and Examination Committee report, announcing that committee had reviewed and approved eight Previous Hours requests for LCSW Applicants **Amanda Matthews, Amanda Terry, Brandi Rhoads, Catherine Gobel, Jesse Kern, Maggie McGraw, Marnie Kogos,** and CSWA applicant **Tawnya Severe**; three Plan Extension requests for CSWAs **Amanda Takish, Christina Nelson,** and **Linda Thomas**; and two Exam Extension requests for CSWAs **Kenya Luvert** and **Krystal Senner**. CSWA **Kathleen Adamson's** Previous Hours request required additional information.

Outland presented the Consumer Protection Committee report.

In the matter of case 2018-39:

- i. **Outland moved to dismiss the case due to no violation of rule or law.**
- ii. **Janssen seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed with unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2018-41:

- i. **Outland moved to close the case.**
- ii. **Fant seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed with unanimously.**

Manriquez provided the Continuing Education Committee report and advised that committee had approved three CE requests from LCSWs **Brenda Weirschin, Jennifer Taylor,** and **Molly Gage**. The committee also approved **Unity Legacy** as a Board accepted credentialing body. LCSWs **Andrea Dobroski, L. Catherine Beckett,** and **Mary Gates'** requests required additional information.

6. SPECIAL REVIEWS

[No special reviews]

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Harnisch provided a 2021-23 budget update. The Board is currently \$182,000.00 over projected revenue for the biennium and slightly under budget in expenditures for personal services and supplies & services. There will be a salary pot to help with additional personal costs. If the Board needs more money for personal services, there is a process that allows the Board to go to an Emergency Board session and make a request to the legislature to increase its spending authority.

Harnisch reviewed licensing statistics. There are currently about 7300 licensed social workers.

Harnisch provided a COVID response update. We have been moving toward the target of reopening our office to the public starting January 3, 2022.

Harnisch discussed 2022 Board meeting dates. The Board may want to consider moving the December meeting date a little further into the month to avoid scheduling conflicts with the holidays. **Chair Dennis** would like to consider doing another off-site meeting in Eastern or Southern Oregon when COVID restrictions have lifted.

8. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

- i. **Manriquez moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.**
- ii. **Fant seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

9. PUBLIC COMMENT:

[No public comment]

10. OLD BUSINESS:

Harnisch discussed the language in the Board's COVID emergency rules being specifically keyed to the existence of an Emergency Declaration by the Governor. The last time the Emergency Declaration was extended, it was revised and written in terms of COVID recovery. It is scheduled to expire December 31, 2021. The Board's emergency authorization rules have a 90 day cushion built into them that allows someone working under an emergency authorization to work 90 days beyond the lifting of the declaration. Board rules also allow for an additional 90 days upon request. Board members may want to consider making some adjustments to the emergency rules going forward. There are roughly 400 people practicing under emergency authorization.

Outland reviewed the supervision survey results. It looks as if the majority of the comments support a six month report. **Outland** would like to work with **Janssen** and Board staff to come up with a proposal and be mindful of the workload and the efficacy of the reports.

11. NEW BUSINESS:

Harnisch has been invited to participate in a mental health workforce group that was convened at OHA to look at the Board's licensure process. Over the past year there has been an increased need for employees in the health professional realm. Out-of-state licensees applying for Oregon licensure have been using the emergency authorization to begin practicing immediately while their application is being processed. The longest part of the application process is waiting for background check results. **Harnisch** would like to discuss evolving the emergency authorization into a bridge between application and licensure. **Outland** supports investigating this, gathering more information, and moving forward.

Harnisch discussed the Board's administrative rule that requires individuals to use their Name of Record for the regulated practice of social work. Name of Record is defined in rule as a licensee's legal name. Several issues come up with that definition such as individuals who are in gender transition being required to use a name that no longer represents them. Another issue arises with licensees who have potentially dangerous clients and court ordered protection. Using their legal name would allow individuals to easily find them. **Harnisch** would like the Board to consider coming up with some language that would allow a licensee to use a practice name. **Outland** recommended moving these suggestions forward to the Joint Legislative and Rules Committee and putting this on the agenda for the next meeting.

Chair Dennis discussed an ASWB survey research project to explore the decision making of Board members during the course of proceedings. ASWB is asking Board members in US jurisdictions to consider participating in an online survey as part of the project. The survey contains questions about participant demographic information and Board make up. **Harnisch** will be emailing the survey to Board members in the next few days.

12. CORRESPONDENCE:

[No public comment]

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chair Dennis congratulated **Outland** for finishing a fill-in term on ASWB's Board of Directors. **Outland** provided an overview of the Board's historical involvement with ASWB and encouraged Board members to continue to be involved.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dennis adjourned the Board meeting at 1:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Coleman
Licensing Manager