



**STATE of OREGON**  
**BOARD of LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS**  
**Board Meeting**  
**Friday, December 6, 2024**  
**Via Microsoft Teams**  
**3218 Pringle Road SE, Salem, OR 97302**

**Board Members Present:** Stephanie Manriquez, *Public Member, Chair*  
Amy Ashton-Williams, *LCSW, Vice Chair*  
John Fant, *Public Member*  
Mollie Janssen, *LCSW*  
Paddy Farr, *LCSW*

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

**Staff Members Present:** Ray Miller, *Executive Director*  
Kim Coleman, *Licensing Manager*  
Mindy Tucker, *Compliance Specialist*  
Troy Clinton, *Investigator*  
Abe Dedek, *Investigator*  
Wende Thatcher, *Licensing Compliance Specialist*

**Public Present:** George Finch  
Chris Stoeger, *Executive Dir., VisionGift*  
Ashley Lane, *ASWB*  
Dale Penn, *ASWB*  
Tori Mackey, *LCSW*  
Scott Wilson, *LCSW*  
Cat Luna, *MSW student*  
Angela Allbee, *Sect. Mgr., OR Psilocybin Svcs. Prog.*

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**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

**Chair Manriquez** called the Board Meeting to order at 10:19 a.m. and provided brief opening remarks.

**2. REVIEW OF AGENDA:**

**Chair Manriquez** asked for review of the draft agenda.

- i. **Fant moved to approve and adopt the agenda as presented.**
- ii. **Farr seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**3. MINUTES:**

**Chair Manriquez** asked if the Board members had an opportunity to review the minutes for the October 25, 2024 Board meeting:

- i. **Farr moved to approve the minutes for October 25, 2024 as presented.**
- ii. **Fant seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**George Finch** and **Chris Stoeger** discussed individuals in hospice care who are eye, tissue, and organ donors. Oftentimes when these individuals pass away, the call is not made in time for their donations to be possible. Finch inquired on the possibility of communicating concerns surrounding the transfer of care between hospice and hospital to social workers. **Chair Manriquez** discussed adding it as a topic in the next Board newsletter. VisionGift will create verbiage for the newsletter. **Janssen** also suggested reaching out to MSW programs, universities with programs specific to aging, and senior communities.

**Scott Wilson** voiced his support for the Alternative Pathways to Licensure Committee report and urged the Board to consider the recommendations in the report.

**Cat Luna** asked that the Board reevaluate the efficiency of the ASWB exam and its impact on BIPOC and marginalized populations' ability to practice social work.

**5. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**Chair Manriquez** 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 10:34 a.m. Chair Manriquez moved the Board out of Executive Session at 10:42 a.m.

**6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS:**

**Director Miller** informed Board members that he and Board staff **Coleman** would be attending Legislative Outreach Day at the State Capitol on December 10<sup>th</sup>. This will give legislators an opportunity to meet with boards and commissions and learn about their missions and discuss upcoming legislation.

**Director Miller** provided an update on SB 1552, which will require the Board to make a predetermination based upon an individual's criminal conviction as to whether or not it would prevent them from obtaining licensure before they apply. This legislation affects multiple licensing Boards. These Boards have been working together to develop a shared response and process for how these predeterminations will work. The law takes effect July 1, 2025.

**Director Miller** provided a Thentia update. There are no significant updates since the last Board meeting. Miller is considering alternatives.

**Director Miller** provided a new Board member update. The Board is in need of public member applicants. The majority of Board member applications received are for licensed member positions. **Janssen** requested verbiage that can be sent out to colleagues.

**Director Miller** provided a staffing update. The Board's current limited duration Office Specialist 2 position will continue in the 2025-27 biennium. Director Miller expects to make that position permanent in the following biennium.

**Director Miller** will have a DEI plan ready for Board members to review and discuss at the next Board meeting.

**Director Miller** discussed regulated social worker communications including mass emails and newsletters. The Fall newsletter will be distributed following Board review and approval. **Farr** would like to include legislative updates and Alternative Pathways to Licensure information in the next newsletter.

**Director Miller** reviewed licensing statistics. There are currently 6,890 LCSWs, 2,090 CSWAs, 357 LMSWs, and 33 RBSWs for a total of 9,370 regulated social workers in Oregon, which is approximately 1,000 more licensees than this time last year. **Chair Manriquez** suggested putting that information on the Board website.

**Director Miller** reviewed applicant statistics. As of December 5, 2024 there are 6 CSWA applications in the queue to be reviewed by Board staff, the oldest of which was submitted 8 days ago. For all application types there are currently 22 to be reviewed, with the oldest application also submitted 8 days ago. Last year at this time there were 170 CSWA applications in the queue to be reviewed with the oldest application being 74 days old. For all application types there were 380, with the oldest being 119 days old.

## **7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Janssen** presented the Consumer Protection Committee report.

### **In the matter of case 2012-07:**

- i. **Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. **Ashton-Williams seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

### **In the matter of case 2015-34:**

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

### **In the matter of case 2017-14:**

- i. **Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. **Ashton-Williams seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

### **In the matter of case 2020-19:**

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

**In the matter of case 2020-41:**

- i. **Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. **Ashton-Williams seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed with 4 in favor, 1 abstention.**

**In the matter of case 2020-45:**

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

**In the matter of case 2021-23:**

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

**In the matter of case 2021-35:**

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

**Coleman** provided the Licensing and Examination Committee report, announcing the committee approved one Previous Hours request for LCSW applicant **Michael Ary** and one Temporary Reduction in Supervision Meetings request from CSWA **Alisha Koons**. CSWA **Chelsea Vargas'** Plan Change request and CSWA **Alyssa Mota's** Reduction in Supervision Meetings request did not meet rule requirements and therefore were not approved. Topics discussed included staff guidance for CSWA practice hours, long-term CSWAs, hospice hours, CSWAs in private practice, and expired license practice.

**Coleman** provided the Continuing Education Committee report, announcing the committee approved 10 CE requests from LCSWs **Catherine Zern, Dana Sexton, Deborah Kirby, Maija Ryan, Monica Mattick, Sarah Petersen, Scotti Warren (2), Stacy Snover**, and Ph.D **Naamith Heiblum**, as well as 3 study group requests from LCSWs **Colleen Moloney, Miranda Bass**, and **Susan Rosen**. The committee also approved **NorthStar Psychiatry's** request to be added to the list of Board accepted CE credentialing bodies. Topics discussed included CE compliance and psilocybin CE courses.

## **8. SPECIAL REVIEWS**

**Farr** discussed Mindful Therapy Group (MTG). MTG is a corporation that hires social workers, largely CSWAs, as private contractors. MTG provides CSWAs with supervision, however the CSWAs are functionally working as private contractors. Board staff have seen a trend in CSWAs submitting Plans of Supervision that explicitly state MTG requires the CSWA to obtain their own business license and the CSWA will be practicing privately. Farr expressed concern around the liability put on these CSWAs and the potential harm it could cause. **Director Miller** discussed the Board's current constraint being that it regulates social workers, not agencies. **Janssen** discussed the agency definition rule and finding the balance between accountability and opportunity, and not creating barriers for CSWAs. **Director Miller** will research what has been discussed at previous Board meetings and add an agenda item for discussion at the next Board meeting.

**9. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

[No public comment at this time]

**10. OLD BUSINESS:**

**Director Miller** provided an Interstate Compact update. It is anticipated that there will be a legislative concept for the Compact in the upcoming session. Miller expressed concerns regarding Oregon social workers being subject to other states' laws that pertain to gender identity and reproductive health. Board members discussed the impact the Compact would have on an alternative pathway to licensure that does not require an exam. **Ashton-Williams** discussed different standards of clinical supervision. Board members directed Miller to draft a document that compiles the Board's concerns.

Board members discussed the Alternative Pathways to Licensure Committee report recommendations. **Janssen** highlighted the importance of the document reflecting all perspectives. Board members discussed increasing the brevity of the document by reducing narrative that does not pertain to data or historical impacts. **Director Miller** reviewed the mission of the Alternative Pathways to Licensure Committee. Board members discussed soliciting input from a larger population of Oregon social workers. Board members commended Farr for the intention and thoroughness of the document, and requested a revised version that is concise, factual, data driven, and focuses on recommendations rather than issues. The document should state the 7 charges of the committee and its response to each of them, ensuring the document is accessible for social workers and people outside the field. **Farr** will revise the document with the Board's recommendations and submit for the next meeting.

**11. NEW BUSINESS:**

**Director Miller** introduced **Angela Allbee**, Section Manager of the Oregon Psilocybin Services Program. Allbee's role is to lead the implementation of ORS 475A which is the law that was established to direct the Oregon Health Authority to license and regulate the production of psilocybin and the provision of psilocybin services. Allbee also serves as the Executive Director of the Oregon Psilocybin Advisory Board. Allbee provided a presentation on psilocybin facilitator licensure and answered Board questions about dual licensure.

Board members discussed plans for an outreach meeting in April. Licensees were polled for a meeting location and the survey results indicated the Oregon coast was most preferred. Board staff will review licensee data and propose a location on the Oregon coast.

**12. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

**13. CORRESPONDENCE:**

[No correspondence at this time]

**14. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Chair Manriquez** reported on the ASWB Delegate Assembly in San Diego. ASWB will be releasing an exam analysis next year. The next ASWB New Board Member Training will be held in Savannah, Georgia in March 2025.

**15. TRAINING:**

Board members completed the required DAS 2024 Information Security Training: Foundations.

**16. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Chair Manriquez** adjourned the Board meeting at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Coleman, *Licensing Manager*