



STATE of OREGON
BOARD of LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS
Board Meeting
Friday, February 21, 2025
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*
Abe Dedek, *Investigator*

Public Present: Scott Wilson, *LCSW*
Delmar Stone, *Executive Director, NASW*

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Manriquez called the Board Meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. and provided brief opening remarks.

2. REVIEW OF AGENDA:

Chair Manriquez asked for review of the draft agenda.

- i. **Farr moved to approve and adopt the agenda with the addition of the Alternative Pathways to Licensure Committee Policy Brief.**
- ii. **Second not received.**
- iii. **Motion not carried.**

- i. **Farr moved to approve and adopt the agenda with the addition of the proposed statement on gender affirming care and migration.**
- ii. **Janssen seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

3. MINUTES:

Chair Manriquez asked if the Board members had an opportunity to review the minutes for the December 6, 2024 Board meeting:

- i. **Fant moved to approve the minutes for December 6, 2024 as presented.**
- ii. **Farr seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Scott Wilson expressed concern around the ASWB exam and requested that Board members thoroughly read and consider the Alternative Pathways to Licensure Committee recommendations.

5. RECOGNITION OF BOARD SERVICE:

Director Miller presented **John Fant** with a plaque for exceptional Board service. Board members acknowledged Fant's contributions through his invaluable community perspective and experience over the years. Fant served as a public member of the Board of Licensed Social Workers from 2017 to 2025.

6. 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 10:52 a.m. Chair Manriquez moved the Board out of Executive Session at 10:57 a.m.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS:

Director Miller provided a legislative update. On February 18, 2025 Miller provided testimony on HB 2554 to the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care. If passed, HB 2554 would enact a social work licensure compact. The language in HB 2554 is nearly identical to the 2024 social work licensure compact bill, HB 4071.

Director Miller provided an update on HB 2387, which pertains to psilocybin and dual licensure. HB 2387 has a public hearing scheduled on March 20, 2025 in House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care.

Director Miller informed Board members that the Board's budget presentation is scheduled for February 24, 2025 in front of the Joint Subcommittee on Education.

Director Miller informed Board members that OHA is changing its Medicaid funding structure so that CSWAs must work under an organization that has a COA in order to bill Medicaid.

Director Miller provided an update on SB 1552 (2024) which creates a process for individuals to request a determination from the relevant licensing agency as to whether a criminal conviction will disqualify them from receiving a license before incurring the costs of education or training. Miller is working with eight other licensing Boards to create a uniform predetermination process across all boards.

Director Miller provided a Thentia update. The Board's 2025-27 budget requests \$625,000 of general funding to invest in a new licensing system. Miller is in communication with four potential licensing system vendors. **Farr** discussed the benefits of a system capable of extracting data into reports and generating visual analytics.

Director Miller provided a new Board member update. Miller anticipates having a CSWA member and public member confirmed before the next Board meeting.

Director Miller provided a staffing update. The Board's current limited duration Office Specialist 2 position will continue in the 2025-27 biennium. Miller will request to convert the limited duration position to a permanent position in the next biennium. Miller will also request an additional compliance investigator in the next biennium.

Director Miller requested that Board members review the DEI plan for discussion at the next Board meeting.

Director Miller is working on scheduling a Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting and anticipates holding at least one RAC meeting before the next Board meeting.

Director Miller requested to move licensing and applicant statistics to the next Board meeting.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Janssen presented the Consumer Protection Committee report.

In the matter of case 2011-55:

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

In the matter of case 2012-17:

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

In the matter of case 2020-11:

- 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 2020-44:

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

In the matter of case 2020-46:

- 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 2020-47:

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

In the matter of case 2021-08:

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

In the matter of case 2022-02:

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

In the matter of case 2023-06:

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

In the matter of case 2024-43:

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

Coleman provided the Licensing and Examination Committee report, announcing the committee approved five Previous Hours requests for LCSW applicants **Shelby DeBord, Stephan Blount, Nicholas Bolton, Jamie McDermott, and Caitlin Truitt**; two Temporary Reduction in Supervision Meeting requests from CSWAs **Christina De Benedetti** and **Annie DeMotta**; and five Supervision Plan Change Requests from CSWAs **Alla Hamide, Amy McFeeters, Annie DeMotta, Chelsea Vargas, and Paul Peters**. Supervision Hours requests from CSWAs **Jennifer Sippy** and **Mary Nesmith** required additional information. CSWA **Lisa Geise's** Supervision Hours request was not approved. The committee also reviewed a draft template letter for unauthorized practice and would like to bring it forward for future Board discussion. Board members discussed designing the future licensing system to allow a CSWA and their Board approved supervisor to meet in individual or group supervision without the need to indicate that on their plan of supervision. **Farr** suggested looking at clarifying the Board's rule definition of agency.

Farr provided the Continuing Education Committee report, announcing the committee approved six CE requests from LCSWs **Alycia O'Connell, Elizabeth Miller, Evyan Daugherty, Kathy Lawrence, Megan Tooker, and Sofia Khan**; one study group request from LCSW **Dana Sexton**; and two CE waivers for LCSWs **Devora Rubin** and **Karen Willow**. The committee also approved **Western Oregon Mental Health Alliance's** request to be added to the list of Board accepted CE credentialing bodies. A draft template letter for CE compliance was reviewed and the committee would like to bring it forward for future Board discussion.

9. SPECIAL REVIEWS

[No special reviews at this time]

10. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Delmar Stone informed Board members that the Oregon NASW Legislative Education and Advocacy Day (LEAD) is scheduled for February 25, 2025 in-person in Salem and virtually on Zoom.

11. OLD BUSINESS:

[No old business at this time]

12. NEW BUSINESS:

Board members discussed plans for holding an outreach Board meeting in Newport, OR. **Farr** discussed providing a free Ethics training to anyone who attended. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 12, 2025. **Ashton-Williams, Janssen, and Farr** volunteered to develop the Ethics training content.

Board members discussed a proposed statement on gender affirming care and migration. **Martin** recommended sending the statement to the Governor's Office for approval before the Board considers the statement. **Farr** will reference the guidance provided on the DOJ website.

13. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

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

14. CORRESPONDENCE:

[No correspondence at this time]

15. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chair Manriquez announced that the ASWB Education Meeting will be held in Portland, OR this May.

Board staff **Wende Thatcher** will be attending the ASWB New Board Member Training in Savannah, GA next month.

16. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Manriquez adjourned the Board meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Coleman, *Legislative and Licensing Analyst*