



**STATE of OREGON  
BOARD of LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS  
Board Meeting  
Friday, January 20, 2023  
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*  
Amy Ashton-Williams, *LCSW*

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

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

**Pubic Present:** Delmar Stone, *Executive Dir., NASW OR/ID Chapter*

---

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

**Chair Dennis** called the Board Meeting to order at 11:02 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:**

[Minutes removed from agenda]

**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 11:04 a.m.

**Chair Dennis** moved the Board out of Executive Session at 12:32 p.m.

**5. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

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

**In the matter of case 2022-06:**

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

**In the matter of case 2022-28:**

- i. **Manriquez 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 2023-01:**

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

**In the matter of case 2019-25:**

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

**In the matter of case 2019-19:**

- i. **Manriquez 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 2019-12:**

- i. **Manriquez 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 2020-27:**

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

**In the matter of case 2019-32:**

- i. **Manriquez moved to approve and adopt the Stipulated Final Order as presented.**
- ii. **Fant seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**Janssen** provided the Licensing and Examination Committee report, announcing that committee had reviewed six Exam Extension requests for CSWAs **Desiree Mossberger, Kiante Holmes, Melissa Lara, Nicole McMullin, Shawnetta Yahtin,** and **Tonja Green**; one Plan Extension request for CSWA

**Adriana Jones Easton**; and five Previous Hours requests for LCSW Applicants **Delisea Johnson, Erin Bunch, Jocelyn Coraggio, Sherri Joswiak, and Sima Borsuk**. The Committee also discussed supervisor concerns, compliance renewals, and creating a matrix for unlicensed practice applicants.

**Fant** provided the Continuing Education Committee report and advised that committee had approved 10 CE requests from LCSWs **Aileen McAteer, Beth Rossi, Csilla Andor, Deborah Rink, Franny Thompson, Margaret Molina, Melanie Parent, Sarah Poulisse, Todd Jacobson, and Naomi Harwin**. The Committee also discussed creating a matrix for continuing education violations.

**Outland** provided the Joint Legislative and Rules Committee report. The Committee will be reviewing division 30 of the Board's administrative rules next. They are ensuring all rules are examined through a DEI lens and with a focus on microaggressions, practice changes, updates, etc. Once the rules review is complete, there will likely need to be an update to the Board's Oregon Statutes and Administrative Rules Exam.

## 6. SPECIAL REVIEWS

[No special reviews]

## 7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

**Harnisch** reviewed Governor Kotek's agency expectations, which include customer service and enterprise-wide system improvements. The Governor's office will be organized with a new focus on public administration and will be partnering with agencies to solve problems and prioritize housing and homelessness, behavioral health and addiction care, and education. Other agency expectations include performance reviews for Directors, performance feedback for employees, measuring employee satisfaction, supporting strategic planning and measuring agency performance, managing IT progress, succession planning, DEI planning, emergency preparedness planning, hiring practices, audit accountability, and developing a new employee orientation program. DAS will be providing the Governor's office with updates on progress in meeting these new expectations quarterly beginning June 1, 2023. Harnisch is also tracking HB 2621 which would establish a Task Force on Reviewing State Boards and Commissions. The bill would direct the task force to review certain boards and commissions that establish policies and oversee state agencies, and make recommendations for any changes necessary in state statutes that can promote accountability and effectiveness in operations of state boards and commissions.

**Harnisch** provided a legislative session update and protocol. Any contact a Board member receives from a legislator or legislative staff regarding their connection to the Board should be directed to Harnisch. This will ensure appropriate response as a Board rather than as an individual. Harnisch is continuing to monitor SB 517 which if passed would prohibit the Board from denying, suspending or revoking a license solely for the reason that the applicant or licensee was convicted of a crime or subject to qualifying juvenile adjudication that does not substantially relate to specific duties and responsibilities for which the license is required. This bill would also create a pre-application determination process.

**Harnisch** provided an update on the fee waiver program. The contract with OHA has been signed. A press release is being drafted and when approved, will be published and posted on the Board's website. For the upcoming year there will be no application fees for new CSWAs, LCSWs or LMSWs. CSWAs will also have their renewal fees waived. Board staff will track numbers for reimbursement from OHA.

**Harnisch** provided a staff and IT update. We have received approval from DAS HR to reclass the Board's current Office Specialist 1 position to an Office Specialist 2, which reflects the duties that position now performs and recognizes the higher level of professionalism that the State expects of its employees. That position was filled by Tracy Ocegueda who accepted another position within the State in early August. We now have Angela Goodpaster-Hicks in that position as of the beginning of January. We also received approval to reclass the Board's current Office Specialist 2 position, which is filled by Wende Thatcher, to a Compliance Specialist 1. Having a Compliance Specialist 1 in the Board's licensing unit will allow for more thorough review of licensing-related compliance issues such as unlicensed practice and continuing education violations.

**Harnisch** provided a 2021-23 budget update. We received projections from the Board's Fiscal Analyst that show we should come in just under budget due to increases in HR costs and DAS fees.

**Harnisch** provided a 2023-2025 budget process update. The Board's budget hearing has been scheduled for February 15<sup>th</sup> and the work session will be February 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Harnisch** provided licensing statistics. The Board's licensee base is at approximately 7900. The continuous growth made it so a fee increase was not necessary for the 2023-2025 biennium.

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

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

**9. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Stone** provided an update on the ongoing conversations and debates regarding the ASWB exams. The Michigan, Utah and several other NASW chapters are calling for elimination of all exams except the clinical level exam. The Michigan NASW chapter is requesting that ASWB waive or reduce retesting fees, make the practice exam available for free, remove the requirement that work hours must be completed before candidates are eligible to sit for the exam, release Michigan-specific exam data, and expand the passing score range. The Oregon NASW chapter is getting a new lobbyist who will be starting January 30<sup>th</sup>. The OR chapter is putting forth a resolution to make Social Work Month permanent in Oregon. They are also working on HB 2485 which would significantly increase funding for students to have degrees paid for or significantly paid for, to increase the number of social workers in Oregon. South Carolina currently has legislation to eliminate social work licensing completely. There are public relations occurring right now to stop that legislation.

**10. OLD BUSINESS:**

**Outland** provided a Six Month Report Task Force update. Outland and **Janssen** have created a draft Six Month Report. The next step is to send the draft report to a group of supervisors for their feedback. Once that is done, the draft will be sent out to all supervisors and CSWAs for feedback. After all feedback has been considered, the Board can then approve and adopt the revised form.

**11. NEW BUSINESS:**

**Outland** discussed the ASWB Nominating Committee and current trends in regional representation on the ASWB board. Currently there are 6 out of the 12 Canadian provinces utilizing a form of the

ASWB exam. At this time, all of the US and some US territories uses exams provided by ASWB. Outland as well as several other regions have noted a trend in the ASWB Board's representation becoming predominantly represented by Canada. The ASWB Board of Directors consists of 11 members, 4 of which are from Canada. 2 members must be public, both of those positions are represented by Minnesota. Outland is proposing writing a letter of encouragement on behalf of the Board to the ASWB Nominating Committee regarding being mindful of percentage of jurisdictional representation for the US and Canada on the board. The letter would request that the committee examines the trends of slating US and Canadian member jurisdictions' candidates for the same office and encourage the committee to slate candidates from jurisdictions that are not already represented on the Board. The goal is to provide the membership with a balanced slate of qualified candidates to serve on the Board of ASWB.

- i. **Ashton-Williams moved to approve Kathy Outland to compose a draft letter to the ASWB Nominating Committee.**
- ii. **Fant seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**Chair Dennis** announced she and **Harnisch** reached out to the Oregon Association of Black Social Workers. They will be attending their next meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup>. The goal is to introduce the OR ABSW to what the Board does and discuss current projects, how to become a Board member, and answer questions. Dennis and Harnisch will also be meeting with Oregon State Hospital social workers on February 14<sup>th</sup>.

**12. CORRESPONDENCE:**

[No correspondence]

**13. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Chair Dennis** announced the ASWB spring Education Meeting will be held April 21-22, 2023 in New Orleans, LA. The Board does not have travels funds for this meeting, but ASWB is offering scholarships. **Manriquez** and **Outland** will be applying for scholarships.

**Chair Dennis** announced ASWB's CEO Stacey Hardy-Chandler will be doing an online presentation for the Oregon Coalition of Black Trade Unionists on March 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss the growth of ASWB and social work as a profession. The presentation will be available to everyone.

**Chair Dennis** announced former Board Chair Ebony Sloan Clarke has been appointed by the Governor to be the new Statewide Director of Behavioral Health for OHA.

**14. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Chair Dennis** adjourned the Board meeting at 2:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Coleman, Licensing Manager