**Public Session Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, October 25, 2022

**TIME:**  9:30 a.m.

**ATTENDANCE:** Quanesha Fuller, Chair (arrived at 9:49 a.m.)

Richard Powers, Vice Chair

Scune Carrington (arrived at 11:00 a.m.)

Yvonne Ruiz (left the meeting at approximately 10:30 a.m. and returned at 10:55 a.m., left the meeting at 1:28 p.m.)

Marie Andree Pierre-Victor (arrived at 9:46 a.m., left the meeting at 1:30 p.m.)

Tamara Lundi

Carrie Kelley

**STAFF:** Brian Bialas, Executive Director

Kristina Gasson, Deputy General Counsel

All board members and staff appeared by videoconference.

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m.

**Board Business**

* **Public Meeting Minutes of October 18, 2022:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Ruiz, to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of October 18, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.
* **Executive Session Minutes of October 18, 2022:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Powers, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of October 18, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.
* **Subcommittee Meeting Minutes of October 20, 2022:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Kelley, to approve the Subcommittee Meeting Minutes of October 20, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Pierre-Victor arrived at 9:46 a.m.

**Monitoring Interview**

* **Stephen Hoy, 20141015SW010-IT-ENF, Petition to Terminate Probation**
	+ **Interview of Stephen Hoy and Supervisor Bettina Buchs:** Mr. Hoy and Ms. Buchs appeared to discuss Mr. Hoy’s petition to terminate probation. Mr. Hoy explained that he was disciplined for boundary violations and documentation issues.

Ms. Fuller arrived at 9:49 a.m.

Mr. Hoy crossed boundaries with a disabled client and did not deal with the client’s family very well. Specifically, he paid for his client’s art class and involved himself in the client’s finances because the client’s mother was too controlling. In sum, Mr. Hoy “overidentified” with the client.

Ms. Buchs explained that Mr. Hoy, at the beginning of supervision, continued to say that he was an advocate for his client and was not “overidentifying.” Later he realized that he became so focused on the client that he left the mother without a therapist because he was the client’s mother’s therapist initially. Ms. Buchs stated that Mr. Hoy has expertise in disability issues and was “pulled” to help in these circumstances but now has learned to be careful and humble.

Mr. Hoy stated that he now knows to let families do the work they need to do and not to try to do the work himself.

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Ruiz, seconded by Mr. Powers, to accept Mr. Hoy’s petition to terminate probation. The motion passed unanimously.

**Application Review Interview – Negative Reference**

* **Chelsea Cheatham, Applicant for LCSW**
	+ **Interview of Supervisor Kristin Russo:** Ms. Russo appeared to discuss her negative reference for Ms. Cheatham. Ms. Russo explained that Ms. Cheatham had documentation issues and basically was not taking care of her clients properly; she was not meeting or reaching out to clients and was not updating treatment plans. Ms. Russo indicated that she tried to coach Ms. Cheatham, but her response was non-cooperative, and Ms. Cheatham did not do what she said she was doing to improve. Ms. Russo noted that Ms. Cheatham even reached out to former clients after she was no longer employed offering to be their “trauma therapist.”

After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to invite Ms. Cheatham to a meeting for an interview.

**Correspondence**

Ms. Ruiz recused herself from the following matter and left the meeting at approximately 10:30 a.m.

* **9.28.22 Email from R. Gewirtz of NASW-MA re: Supervision as CE:** Rebekah Gewirtz, Barbara Burka, and Brianna Silva appeared from NASW to request the Board consider allowing supervision hours to count for CE credit. Ms. Gewirtz explained that the nation is experiencing a crisis in mental health care access. Social workers provide 50% of mental health care services nationwide, but even so, it can be difficult to find LICSWs to provide supervision. Incentivizing those LICSWs who provide supervision by offering CE credit like Rhode Island does could help increase opportunities for LCSWs to provide clinical services.

After a brief discussion, the Board requested NASW provide a list of the states that allow supervision for CE credit and regulatory language from those states, including information about what documentation those states require.

Ms. Ruiz returned to the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

**Application Reviews – Discipline in Another Jurisdiction**

* **Caitlyn Sailer, Applicant for LICSW:** The Board reviewed Ms. Sailer’s application, including discipline she received in Louisiana. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Mr. Lundi, to allow Ms. Sailer to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Carrington arrived at 11:00 a.m.

* **Charles Harney, Applicant for LICSW:** The Board reviewed Mr. Harney’s application, including discipline he received in the state of Minnesota and an order denying his application for license in the District of Columbia. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to invite Mr. Harney to a meeting for an interview.

**Executive Session** (Closed Session under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1), individual character rather than competence, and under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 4, § 7, para. 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, § 1B, to review sensitive medical information)

At 11:02 a.m., a motion was made by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Ms. Ruiz, to exit the public meeting and enter into a closed executive session under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1), individual character rather than competence, to interview four applicants regarding their good moral character, and under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 4, § 7, para. 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, § 1B, to review sensitive medical information in an application review interview. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

The Board entered executive session at 11:02 a.m.

**Investigative Conference (**Closed under G.L. c. 112, § 65C)

The Board entered investigative conference at 1:14 p.m.

During the investigative conference, the Board took the following actions:

**Settlements**

Ms. Ruiz left the meeting at 1:28 p.m.

Ms. Pierre-Victor left the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

2021-000890-IT-ENF (AM): Gave direction to prosecutor

2021-001021-IT-ENF (LK): Gave direction to prosecutor

2021-001010-IT-ENF (PB): Gave direction to prosecutor

**Cases: Report of Subcommittee Meeting on October 20, 2022**

2016-000753-IT-ENF (SS): Dismiss

2021-001013-IT-ENF (AG): Refer to Office of Prosecutions

2022-000477-IT-ENF (CM): Refer to Office of Prosecutions

2022-000538-IT-ENF (SR): Refer to Office of Investigations. Ms. Fuller recused herself from the discussion of, and vote on, the case.

2022-000591-IT-ENF (LC): Dismiss

2022-000009-IT-ENF (HS): Dismiss

2022-000136-IT-ENF (AZ): Dismiss

2022-000228-IT-ENF (JF): Dismiss

2022-000255-IT-ENF (MR): Refer to Office of Prosecutions

2022-000361-IT-ENF (DL): Dismiss with advisory letter

2022-000393-IT-ENF (KB): Dismiss. Mr. Powers recused himself from the discussion of, and vote on, the case.

2022-000460-IT-ENF (JK): Dismiss

2022-000494-IT-ENF (NQ): Refer to Office of Prosecutions

2022-000540-IT-ENF (AC): Refer to Office of Prosecutions

2022-000556-IT-ENF (KM): Interview respondent

2022-000576-IT-ENF (AC): Dismiss

2022-000584-IT-ENF (NK): Dismiss

2022-000598-IT-ENF (PT): Dismiss

2022-000600-IT-ENF (KB): Dismiss

2022-000601-IT-ENF (MS): Dismiss

2022-000599-IT-ENF (MR): Dismiss

2022-000611-IT-ENF (MA): Dismiss

2022-000036-IT-ENF (CS): Refer to Office of Investigations

2022-000122-IT-ENF (SP): Refer to Office of Prosecutions

2022-000273-IT-ENF (TC): Dismiss

2022-000489-IT-ENF (JD): Dismiss, open complaint for CE violation

2022-000492-IT-ENF (JD): Dismiss, open complaint for CE violation

2022-000490-IT-ENF (NG): Dismiss

2022-000647-IT-ENF (KS): Dismiss

2022-000662-IT-ENF (KC): Dismiss, open complaint for CE violation

2022-000788-IT-ENF (MC): Dismiss

2022-000843-IT-ENF (TH): Dismiss

2022-000910-IT-ENF (MB): Dismiss

2022-000938-IT-ENF (CK): Dismiss

**Adjournment**

At 1:43 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Lundi, seconded by Mr. Powers, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

The above Minutes were approved at the public meeting held on November 15, 2022.



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Brian Bialas, Executive Director

**List of Documents Used During the Public Meeting:**

* Agenda for Meeting of October 25, 2022
* Public Meeting Minutes of October 18, 2022
* Executive Session Minutes of October 18, 2022
* Subcommittee Meeting Minutes of October 20, 2022
* Stephen Hoy, 20141015SW010-IT-ENF, Petition to Terminate Probation
* LCSW Application of Chelsea Cheatham
* 9.28.22 Email from R. Gewirtz of NASW-MA re: Supervision as CE
* LICSW Application of Caitlyn Sailer
* LICSW Application of Charles Harney