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Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
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**Board of Social Workers**  
**Public Session Meeting Minutes**  
December 19, 2023

**TIME:** 9:31 a.m.

**ATTENDANCE:** Quanesha Fuller  
Tamara Lundi (arrived at 9:35 a.m.)  
Carrie Kelley  
Yvonne Ruiz  
Marcia Roddy  
Scune Carrington (left meeting at 10:30 a.m., returned at 10:39 a.m., left meeting at 1:35 p.m.)  
Marie Pierre-Victor (left meeting at 1:35 p.m.)

**STAFF:** Brian Bialas, Executive Director  
Sheila York, Board Counsel  
Lauren McShane, Investigator Supervisor  
Doris Lugo, Investigator

All board members and staff appeared by videoconference.

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m.

**Board Business**

- **Roll Call Vote for Attendance:** Mr. Bialas called the roll of board members. Quanesha Fuller, Carrie Kelley, Yvonne Ruiz, Marcia Roddy, Scune Carrington, and Marie Pierre-Victor all present by videoconference.
- **Public Meeting Minutes of October 24, 2023:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Ms. Kelley, to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of October 24, 2023. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote, with Ms. Roddy, Ms. Pierre-Victor, and Ms. Carrington abstaining.

Ms. Lundi arrived at 9:35 a.m.

- **Executive Session Minutes of October 24, 2023:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Ms. Ruiz, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of October 24, 2023. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote, with Ms. Roddy, Ms. Pierre-Victor, and Ms. Carrington abstaining.

### Application Review Interviews – Reference

- **Bridget Twomey, Applicant for LICSW**
  - **Interview of Bridget Twomey:** Ms. Twomey appeared to discuss her application, specifically the reference from her former supervisor Catherine Givens. She explained that she has worked in two different positions since Ms. Givens’s supervision ended. Her positions have been “brief intervention” positions in which she completed psychosocial assessments. She would like to continue developing clinical skills and learn at each new position.

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Ms. Kelley, to allow Ms. Twomey to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

- **Madison Pozner, Applicant for LCSW**
  - **Interview of Madison Pozner:** Ms. Pozner appeared to discuss a reference from her former supervisor Nicholas Miller. Ms. Pozner explained that she initially was nervous to work with males because of a fight she witnessed on her first day, but now she mostly works with males. She became more comfortable in her role over time and any hesitations or biases she had went away. She has learned how to work with people from different backgrounds. When Ms. Pozner moved to Chicago during her first year of training, she asked many questions about the culture there but did not receive many answers. She has an “informal supervisor” and will need to find an LICSW supervisor to earn experience hours. Ms. Pozner only had one year of experience during her graduate program because of her “advanced standing”; in the future, she would like to learn more about cultural competency, building rapport with students, and how to address “economic distress.”

After a brief discussion, acknowledging Ms. Pozner’s current supervisory relationship and advanced practice standing, and to ensure that she learns what is necessary to become an LICSW, a motion was made by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Ms. Carrington, to allow Ms. Pozner to continue with the licensing process subject to a conditional licensure agreement with the following conditions:

- two years of weekly supervision by a Board-approved LICSW with quarterly reports from the supervisor to the Board; and

- supervision should focus on social work theory and vocabulary concepts, cultural sensitivity, client engagement and therapeutic alliance, Ms. Pozner's role in the school where she works and her knowledge of resources available for her clients, and any other areas the supervisor identifies as deficient in Ms. Pozner's practice.

The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

- **Jacqueline Klock, Applicant for LICSW**
  - **Interview of Supervisor Madelyn Sauget:** Mr. Bialas explained that Ms. Sauget has refused to appear for an interview regarding her reference for Ms. Klock. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to explain the reason for the Board's request to interview her, request the written statement that she offered, explain her ethical obligations to participate, and again invite her to the meeting next month.

#### **Application Review – Discipline in Another Jurisdiction**

- **Melanie Miller, Applicant for LICSW:** The Board reviewed Ms. Miller's application, including her disclosure of prior discipline in New York. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to invite Ms. Miller to a meeting for an interview.
- **Ryan Zelov, Applicant for LICSW:** The Board reviewed Mr. Zelov's application, including his disclosure of prior discipline in Vermont. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Ms. Lundi, to allow Mr. Zelov to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote, with Ms. Carrington abstaining.

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

#### **Application Review Interview – No Reference**

- **Michael Cortez, Applicant for LICSW**
  - **Interview of Supervisor Paige Shaw:** Ms. Shaw appeared to discuss her supervision of Mr. Cortez. She explained that she has supported Mr. Cortez for several years, his work has been well-received, he has had no complaints against him, he deals with "tricky" patients, and the reports she has received from other supervisors about Mr. Cortez have been positive.

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Ms. Ruiz, to allow Mr. Cortez to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Ms. Carrington returned to the meeting at 10:39 a.m.

## Discussion

- **Proposed Revisions to 258 CMR 9.00:** The Board reviewed proposed changes to eliminate the reference requirement for the LCSW, LSW, and LSWA licensure levels and to extend the time before an examination score expires. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to revise the reference form so that it tracks regulatory requirements more closely and to include the draft form on the next meeting agenda for consideration by the Board.

## Application Review Interview – Reference

- **Judith Boutiette, Applicant for LCSW**
  - **Interview of Supervisor Paula Thompson:** Ms. Thompson appeared to discuss her reference for Ms. Boutiette. She explained that the position Ms. Boutiette worked in while Ms. Thompson supervised her may not have been “the right fit.” Ms. Boutiette had to “find strengths” in the families she worked with, and Ms. Thompson offered tools to use for that. Even so, Ms. Boutiette found that to be a challenge, and she also had difficulty working with families of different ethnicities and allowing families to direct “family-directed” therapy. Ms. Thompson provided daily supervision for the first three months of Ms. Boutiette’s employment, then Ms. Boutiette received an hour a week of supervision from two supervisors in addition to monthly meetings with both supervisors, trainings, and peer support. Ms. Thompson stated that Ms. Boutiette is capable of learning, was eager to learn, and showed some progress even though she deflected blame on families.

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

## Discussion

- **Policy on Delegation of Authority re: Drafting Orders to Show Cause and Consent Agreements to Board Counsel and the Prosecution Unit:** The Board reviewed the revised draft policy that allows a prosecutor (1) to negotiate with respondents in adjudicatory matters within a range of discipline provided by the Board; (2), in consultation with the executive director and board counsel, to add violations to orders for show cause that are not included in the Board’s referral to the Office of Prosecutions; and (3), in consultation with the executive director and board counsel, to delete violations in orders to show cause that are included in the Board’s referral to the Office of Prosecutions provided those deleted violations do not relate to social work standards of practice. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to add continuing education violations and failure to respond to the Board as the specific violations that staff may delete from orders to show cause without specific Board permission and to place the new draft policy on a future agenda for the Board’s consideration.

- **Policy on Teletherapy for Applicant Experience and Supervision Hours:** The Board reviewed a draft policy that would update and make permanent an existing emergency policy allowing social work services through telephone or videoconferencing toward experience requirements, and supervision through videoconferencing toward supervision requirements. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to revise the policy to specify that all supervision and experience hours must be “synchronous.”

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Carrington, seconded by Ms. Lundi, to approve the draft policy with the specified changes. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

**Monitoring**

- **Pamela Bourque, 2021-001010-IT-ENF, 2nd Quarterly Report:** The Board reviewed Ms. Bourque’s report. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Ms. Pierre-Victor, to accept the report. The motion passed by a majority vote, with Ms. Carrington voting no.

**Executive Session** (Executive session CLOSED under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 4, § 7, ¶ 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, § 1B)

At 12:10 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Ruiz, seconded by Ms. Kelley, to (1) exit the public meeting and enter into a closed executive session 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 monitoring reports for a licensee that involve medical records and information of a patient, then (2) enter into investigative conference under G.L. c. 112, § 65C to review new cases, and then, after the conclusion of investigative conference, (3) not return to the public meeting and adjourn. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Board maintains separate minutes of executive session.

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

The Board entered investigative conference at 12:47 p.m.

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

**Cases**

2022-001012-IT-ENF (JA):	Refer to office of prosecutions
2022-000904-IT-ENF (SY):	Review case at next meeting

Ms. Carrington and Ms. Pierre-Victor left the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

SW-2023-0010 (KJ):	Interview respondent
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SW-2023-0009 (KJ):  
FSW-2023-0003 (KJ):

Interview respondent  
Interview respondent

### **Adjournment**

At 1:48 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Kelley, seconded by Ms. Lundi, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

The above Minutes were approved at the public meeting held on January 23, 2024.



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Brian Bialas, Executive Director

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

- Agenda for Meeting of December 19, 2023
- Public Meeting Minutes of October 24, 2023
- Executive Session Minutes of October 24, 2023
- LICSW Application of Bridget Twomey
- LCSW Application of Madison Pozner
- LICSW Application of Jacqueline Klock
- LICSW Application of Melanie Miller
- LICSW Application of Ryan Zelov
- LICSW Application of Michael Cortez
- Draft Proposed Revisions to 258 CMR 9.00
- LCSW Application of Judith Boutiette
- Draft Policy on Delegation of Authority re: Drafting Orders to Show Cause and Consent Agreements to Board Counsel and the Prosecution Unit
- Draft Policy on Teletherapy for Applicant Experience and Supervision Hours
- Pamela Bourque, 2021-001010-IT-ENF, 2nd Quarterly Report