



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
250 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108-4619

MAURA T. HEALEY  
Governor

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL  
Lieutenant Governor

KATHLEEN E. WALSH  
Secretary

ROBERT GOLDSTEIN, MD, PhD  
Commissioner

Tel: 617-624-6000  
[www.mass.gov/dph](http://www.mass.gov/dph)

**Board of Social Workers  
Public Session Meeting Minutes**  
March 26, 2024

**TIME:** 9:32 a.m.

**ATTENDANCE:** Quanesha Fuller (arrived at 9:38 a.m., left the meeting at 12:34 p.m., returned at 1:39 p.m., left the meeting at 1:52 p.m.)  
Marie Pierre-Victor (left the meeting at 12:11 p.m., returned at 12:25 p.m.)  
Carrie Kelley (left meeting at 11:52 a.m., returned at 12:11 p.m.)  
Yvonne Ruiz (left the meeting at 11:28 a.m.)  
Tamara Lundi (arrived at 9:52 a.m.)  
Scune Carrington  
Marcia Roddy (arrived at 9:37 a.m., left the meeting at 11:14 a.m., returned at 11:30 a.m., left the meeting at 11:51 a.m., returned at 11:52 a.m.)  
Charlene Zuffante

**STAFF:** Brian Bialas, Executive Director  
Judith Bromley, Board Counsel  
Lauren McShane, Investigator Supervisor  
Doris Lugo, Investigator  
James Lavery, Director, Bureau of Health Professions Licensure  
Lauren Nelson, Deputy Director, Bureau of Health Professions Licensure  
Patricia Yu, Senior Director of Healthcare Workforce Policy,  
Executive Office of Health & Human Services

All board members and staff appeared by videoconference.

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m.

**Board Business**

- **Roll Call Vote for Attendance:** Mr. Bialas called the roll of board members. Marie Pierre-Victor, Carrie Kelley, Yvonne Ruiz, Charlene Zuffante, and Scune Carrington all present by videoconference.

- **Public Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2024:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Carrington, seconded by Ms. Kelley, to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2024. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote, with Ms. Zuffante and Ms. Pierre-Victor abstaining.
- **Executive Session Minutes of January 23, 2024:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Ruiz, seconded by Ms. Carrington, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of January 23, 2024. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote, with Ms. Zuffante and Ms. Pierre-Victor abstaining.
- **Public Meeting Minutes of February 27, 2024:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Pierre-Victor, seconded by Ms. Kelley, to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of February 27, 2024. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote, with Ms. Zuffante abstaining.
- **Executive Session Minutes of February 27, 2024:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Ruiz, seconded by Ms. Pierre-Victor, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of February 27, 2024. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote, with Ms. Zuffante abstaining.

Ms. Roddy arrived at 9:37 a.m.

Ms. Fuller arrived at 9:38 a.m.

### Discussion

- **Reduction of Clinical Social Work Service and Supervision Hours Required for LICSW:**
  - **Revisions to 258 CMR 9.03 and 12.02:** Ms. Yu presented a proposal to reduce the clinical experience hours required to obtain the LICSW license from 3,500 hours to 3,000 hours. She explained that this is a proposal to address workforce shortages. Ms. Fuller proposed broadening the definition of what activities qualify as “clinical social work services” for clinical experience hours to obtain the LICSW license, and Ms. Fuller and Ms. Carrington proposed allowing applicants to obtain credit for experience hours worked before an applicant is licensed as an LCSW.

Ms. Lundi arrived at 9:52 a.m.

Board members also discussed expanding the definition of who can supervise LCSWs for experience hours for LICSW licensure and allowing supervisors to obtain continuing education credit for supervising.

The Board directed Mr. Bialas to add the additional proposals to next month’s agenda and took no action on the proposal to revise 258 CMR 9.03 and 12.02

- **Retention of Supervision Records:** The Board directed Mr. Bialas to add this item to next month's agenda.

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

- **Paula Passanisi, Applicant for LICSW:** The Board reviewed Ms. Passanisi's application, including her disclosure of discipline in Texas for a dual relationship with her former supervisor. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Lundi, seconded by Ms. Carrington, to allow Ms. Passanisi to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed by a majority vote, with Ms. Ruiz voting no and Ms. Pierre-Victor abstaining.

### **Petition for Reinstatement**

- **Billie Starks, Applicant for LICSW Re-Licensure:** The Board reviewed Ms. Starks' petition. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to invite Ms. Starks to a meeting for an interview.

### **Monitoring**

- **Aimee Monette, Conditional Licensure Agreement, 8th Quarterly Monitoring Report and Petition to Terminate Agreement:** The Board reviewed Ms. Monette's report and petition. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to inform Ms. Monette that she must submit one additional quarterly report before petitioning to terminate her agreement because she did not work during the last quarter.

**Executive Session** (CLOSED under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1) and 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 10:25 a.m., a motion was made by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Ms. Kelley, to (1) exit the public meeting and enter into a closed executive session under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1) and under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 4, § 7, ¶ 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, § 1B to discuss and evaluate the good moral character of applicants as required for licensure and an application and continuing education extension request that involve medical records and information of patients, then (2) enter into investigative conference under G.L. c. 112, § 65C to conduct case interviews and review a case, 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.

Ms. Roddy left the meeting at 11:14 a.m.

Ms. Ruiz left the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

Ms. Roddy returned to the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Ms. Roddy left the meeting at 11:51 a.m.

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

The Board entered investigative conference at 11:52 a.m.

Ms. Roddy returned to the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

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

Ms. Kelley recused herself from the following matter and left the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

**Case**

2022-000904-IT-ENF (SY): Dismiss

Ms. Pierre-Victor recused herself from the following matter and left the meeting at 12:11 p.m.

Ms. Kelley returned to the meeting at 12:11 p.m.

**Case Interviews**

2022-001131-IT-ENF (OD): Interview respondent next month

Ms. Pierre-Victor returned to the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

Ms. Fuller recused herself from the following matter and left the meeting at 12:34 p.m.

INV8710 (AH): Interviewed respondent and complainants

Ms. Fuller returned to the meeting at 1:39 p.m.

SW-2023-0024 (MF): Interviewed respondent; dismiss with advisory letter

Ms. Fuller recused herself from the following matter and left the meeting at 1:52 p.m.

INV8710 (AH): Dismiss

**Adjournment**

At 2:05 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Pierre-Victor, seconded by Ms. Zuffante, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

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



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Brian Bialas, Executive Director

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

- Agenda for Meeting of March 26, 2024
- Public Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2024
- Executive Session Minutes of January 23, 2024
- Public Meeting Minutes of February 27, 2024
- Executive Session Minutes of February 27, 2024
- Draft Revisions to 258 CMR 9.03 and 12.02
- LICSW Application of Paula Passanisi
- Petition for Reinstatement of Billie Starks
- Aimee Monette, Conditional Licensure Agreement, 8th Quarterly Monitoring Report and Petition to Terminate Agreement