The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Department of Public Health

250 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108-4619



KATHLEEN E. WALSH

Secretary

ROBERT GOLDSTEIN, MD, PhD Commissioner

**Tel: 617-624-6000**

**www.mass.gov/dph**

MAURA T. HEALEY

Governor

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL

Lieutenant Governor

**Board of Social Workers**

**Public Session Meeting Minutes**

August 27, 2024

**TIME:**  9:33 a.m.

**ATTENDANCE:** Marie Pierre-Victor (left the meeting at 9:35 a.m., returned to the meeting at 9:41 a.m.)

Carrie Kelley

Scune Carrington (left the meeting at 12:27 p.m.)

Marcia Roddy (left the meeting at 10:32 a.m., returned to the meeting at 10:38 a.m.)

Yvonne Ruiz

Charlene Zuffante

Tamara Lundi

**STAFF:** Brian Bialas, Executive Director

Judith Bromley, Board Counsel

Lauren McShane, Investigative Supervisor

Doris Lugo, Investigator

All board members and staff appeared by videoconference.

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

Ms. Pierre-Victor left the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

**Board Business**

* **Roll Call Vote for Attendance:** Mr. Bialas called the roll of board members. Carrie Kelley, Scune Carrington, Marcia Roddy, Yvonne Ruiz, Charlene Zuffante, and Tamara Lundi all present by videoconference.
* **Public Meeting Minutes of July 23, 2024:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Kelley, seconded by Ms. Carrington, to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of July 23, 2024. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote, with Ms. Lundi abstaining.
* **Executive Session Minutes of July 23, 2024:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Zuffante, seconded by Ms. Kelley, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of July 23, 2024. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote, with Ms. Carrington and Ms. Lundi abstaining.

**Discussion**

* **Unified Recovery and Monitoring Program (URAMP)**

Ms. Pierre-Victor returned to the meeting at 9:41 a.m.

* + **Jonathan Dillon of Bureau of Health Professions Licensure:** Mr. Dillon described a new voluntary, non-disciplinary program for licensees affected by mental illness or substance use issues. URAMP consists of an advisory committee, a rehabilitation evaluation committee, and program staff. Those who wish to enter the program, either voluntarily or after a complaint has been filed against them, are evaluated by the rehabilitation evaluation committee before being admitted. Mr. Dillon and other staff described the conditions licensees in the program must meet. Mr. Dillon asked for the Board’s feedback on the structure of the program that he expects will launch by the end of the year.

**Application Review – Experience**

* **Renee Jacques, Applicant for LSW:** The Board deferred consideration of this application until the meeting next month.

**Application Review – Reference**

* **Jody Rogovin Mostow, Applicant for LCSW:** The Board reviewed Ms. Rogovin Mostow’s application, including a reference. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Pierre-Victor, seconded by Ms. Carrington, to allow Ms. Rogovin Mostow to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

**Application Review – Discipline in Another Jurisdiction**

Ms. Roddy recused herself from the following matter and left the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

* **Maria West, Applicant for LCSW:** The Board reviewed Ms. West’s application, including documentation of a disciplinary matter with the Department of Children and Families. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Kelley, seconded by Ms. Pierre-Victor, to allow Ms. West to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

**Discussion**

* **Telehealth Businesses and Supervision:** The Board deferred consideration of this topic until the meeting next month.

Ms. Roddy returned to the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

**Monitoring**

* **Meredith Bolden, Conditional Licensure Agreement, Approval of Proposed Supervisor:** The Board reviewed Ms. Bolden’s proposal that Allison Harren supervise her. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Kelley, seconded by Ms. Lundi, to approve Allison Harren as Ms. Bolden’s supervisor. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

**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 10:40 a.m., a motion was made by Ms. Ruiz, seconded by Ms. Pierre-Victor, to (1) exit the public meeting and enter into a closed executive session under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1)and 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 discuss and evaluate the good moral character of applicants as required for licensure, and applications and a petition to terminate a conditional licensure agreement that involve medical records and information of patients, and then (2) enter into investigative conference under G.L. c. 112, § 65C to review a settlement offer and 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.

The Board entered executive session at 10:40 a.m.

Board maintains separate minutes of executive session.

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

The Board entered investigative conference at 12:14 p.m.

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

**Settlement**

Ms. Carrington left the meeting at 12:27 p.m.

2020-001725-IT-ENF (RC):Gave direction to prosecutor

**Cases**

SW-2023-0070 (JL): Dismiss

SW-2023-0066 (TL): Refer to the office of prosecutions

SW-2024-0034 (RS): Dismiss with advisory letter

INV7187 (DM): Dismiss

SW-2023-0053 (LE): Dismiss

SW-2023-0033 (AS): Dismiss

INV8085 (KS): Dismiss

INV8556 (SC): Open formal complaint

INV8874 (PP): Open formal complaint

INV9960 (MF): Dismiss

SW-2023-0080 (LW): Dismiss

**Adjournment**

At 1:23 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Ruiz, seconded by Ms. Pierre-Victor, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

**Approval**

The above minutes were approved at the public meeting held on September 24, 2024.

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Brian Bialas, Executive Director

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

* Agenda for Meeting of August 27, 2024
* Public Meeting Minutes of July 23, 2024
* Executive Session Minutes of July 23, 2024
* Unified Recovery and Monitoring Program, Department of Public Health, PowerPoint presentation
* LCSW Application of Jody Rogovin Mostow
* LCSW Application of Maria West
* Meredith Bolden, Conditional Licensure Agreement, Submission of Proposed Supervisor