

CHARLES D. BAKER

KARYN E. POLITO LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

MIKE KENNEALY SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Professional Licensure Board of Registration of Social Workers

1000 Washington Street, Suite 710 Boston, Massachusetts 02118 EDWARD A. PALLESCHI UNDERSECRETARY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS REGULATION

LAYLA R. D'EMILIA COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

## **Public Session Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

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

**ATTENDANCE:** Dana Zais, Chair

Richard Powers, Vice Chair

Jeffrey Trant

Melanie Robinson Findlay (exited meeting at 12:14 p.m.)

Shaynah Barnes Munro (arrived at 12 p.m.)

**STAFF:** Brian Bialas, Executive Director

Kristina Gasson, Board Counsel

Pursuant to Governor Charles D. Baker's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, s. 20, dated March 12, 2020, all board members and staff appeared by videoconference.

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

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

At 9:33 a.m., a motion was made by Mr. Trant, seconded by Ms. Robinson Findlay, to exit the public meeting and enter into a closed executive session under G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(1) to review the good moral character of two applicants, and under G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 4, s. 7, para. 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, s. 1B, to review sensitive medical information as part of an application review, a request to terminate suspension, and CE extension requests. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

At 10:20 a.m., a motion was made by Ms. Robinson Findlay, seconded by Ms. Zais, to exit executive session and return to the public meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

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#### **Application Review Interview**

#### • Negative Reference Interview

Eileen Hourihan, Former Supervisor of LICSW Applicant Ronald Williams: Ms. Hourihan was interviewed by the Board regarding Mr. Williams's performance as her supervisee. Although she was not his supervisor for very long, Ms. Hourihan stated Mr. Williams prepared for client visits and had a good rapport with clients, but struggled with processes at the Veterans Administration (VA). Mr. Williams also did work for his electrical business while working at the VA, which may have distracted him from his day-to-day duties. When asked, Ms. Hourihan stated that she would hesitate to rehire him because of his work for the electrical business. Ms. Hourihan referred the Board to Mr. Williams's current supervisor, Luz Marcano, for more information.

#### • Reinstatement Interview

o Joseph Papa, 20141002SW009-IT-ENF, Petition for Reinstatement: Mr. Papa appeared to discuss his petition for reinstatement from a three-year suspension with his attorney, Kevin Nugent. Mr. Nugent stated that although Mr. Papa was sad when his license was suspended, he has worked to help others remain sober at a prison and substance abuse recovery center during his suspension. Mr. Papa remarked that: (1) he regrets the misrepresentations regarding his criminal past that he made on his applications; (2) he did not cause harm to anyone; (3) he continues to be involved in Narcotics Anonymous; and (4) after the Board noted that he seems to have issues with anger, he stated that he has taken continuing education in anger management. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Trant, seconded by Ms. Zais, to approve his petition for reinstatement without examination and reapplication. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Board Business**

- Public Meeting Minutes of October 27, 2020: After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Zais, to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of October 27, 2020. The motion passed unanimously.
- Executive Session Minutes of October 27, 2020: After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Zais, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of October 27, 2020. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Discussion**

• Update on Meeting re: Anti-Racism CEU Requirement: Mr. Bialas and Ms. Gasson reported that they will schedule a public meeting on this topic and will send a letter to NASW-MA and the Greater Boston Association of Black Social Workers seeking comment on the proposal.

• **ASWB Examination-Use Policy:** Ms. Gasson reported that DPL is seeking passage of legislation requiring LSW candidates to have a bachelor's degree in social work, and the Board may consider seeking a waiver to the ASWB Policy closer to the June 2021 deadline.

#### **Application Review**

- Negative Reference Review
  - Catherine Goldhouse, Applicant for LICSW: The Board reviewed a letter from Ms. Goldhouse's current supervisor supporting her application. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Trant, to allow Ms. Goldhouse to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Monitoring Reports**

• Elio Carretta, 2018-000455-IT-ENF, 5th and 6th Quarterly Monitoring Reports: After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Zais, seconded by Mr. Powers, to accept the reports. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board directed Mr. Bialas to inform Mr. Carretta's supervisor that he needs two more reports.

- Jessica Serrano, 2019-001387-IT-ENF, Approval of Fitness to Practice Evaluator and CEUs: After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Zais, seconded by Mr. Powers, to approve Lindsay Wright as Ms. Serrano's evaluator and the CEUs. The motion passed unanimously.
- Stephen Hoy, 20141015SW010-IT-ENF, 7th Quarterly Monitoring Report: After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Zais, seconded by Mr. Powers, to accept the report. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board directed Mr. Bialas to inform Mr. Hoy that he needs one more report and a petition to terminate probation.

- Barbera Amero, 2019-000819-IT-ENF, Approval of CEUs: After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Zais, seconded by Ms. Robinson Findlay, to approve the CEUs. The motion passed unanimously.
- Kate Henneberry, 2018-001084-IT-ENF, Petition to Terminate Suspension: After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Trant, to accept Ms. Henneberry's petition to terminate suspension and place Ms. Henneberry on stayed suspension. The motion passed unanimously.

- Kelli Fowle, 2020-000364-IT-ENF, Approval of Supervisor: After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Zais, seconded by Mr. Powers, to approve Dawn Perry as Ms. Fowle's supervisor. The motion passed unanimously.
- Maria Rose, 2017-001420-IT-ENF, Approval of CEUs: After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Zais, seconded by Mr. Powers, to approve the CEUs. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Quasi-Judicial Session** (Closed Session under G.L. c. 30A, s. 18)

At 11:25 a.m., a motion was made by Ms. Zais, seconded by Mr. Powers, to exit open session and enter into a closed quasi-judicial session under G.L. c. 30A, s. 18 to review final decisions and orders. The motion passed unanimously.

During the quasi-judicial session, the Board took the following actions:

2019-000496-IT-ENF (CP): Determined sanction for final decision and order 2019-001037-IT-ENF (ST): Determined sanction for final decision and order

#### <u>Investigative Conference</u> (Closed Session under G.L. c. 112 s. 65C)

At 11:44 a.m., a motion was made by Mr. Trant, seconded by Ms. Zais, to exit quasi-judicial session and enter into a closed investigative conference under G.L. c. 112, s. 65C to discuss a hearing and review an order to show cause, a settlement offer, and new cases. The motion passed unanimously.

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

#### **Discussion of Hearing**

2019-001028-IT-ENF (CS): Mr. Powers and Ms. Gasson discussed details of the recent adjudicatory hearing with the Board.

**Order to Show Cause Review** 

2020-000464-IT-ENF (DE): Direction given to prosecutor

Settlement

2019-000571-IT-ENF (SG): Direction given to prosecutor

Cases

2020-000709-IT-ENF (RK): Dismiss 2020-001014-IT-ENF (KF): Dismiss

2020-001044-IT-ENF (PL):

2020-001061-IT-ENF (LJ):

2020-001151-IT-ENF (SC):

2020-001248-IT-ENF (LF):

Ms. Zais recused herself from consideration of this case. The Board will discuss the case at its next meeting.

2020-001728-IT-ENF (CF):

Dismiss

Dismiss

#### **Adjournment**

At 12:39 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Zais, seconded by Mr. Trant, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:39 p.m.

The above Minutes were approved at the public meeting held on February 23, 2021.

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Brian Bialas, Executive Director

Brian P. Bila

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

- Agenda for Meeting of January 26, 2021
- Public Meeting Minutes of October 27, 2020
- Executive Session Minutes of October 27, 2020
- LICSW Application of Ronald Williams
- Joseph Papa, 20141002SW009-IT-ENF, Petition for Reinstatement
- Documents regarding Negative Reference from LICSW Application of Catherine Goldhouse
- Elio Carretta, 2018-000455-IT-ENF, 5th and 6th Quarterly Monitoring Reports
- Jessica Serrano, 2019-001387-IT-ENF, Documents regarding Proposed Fitness to Practice Evaluator and CEUs
- Stephen Hoy, 20141015SW010-IT-ENF, 7th Quarterly Monitoring Report
- Barbera Amero, 2019-000819-IT-ENF, Documents regarding CEUs
- Kate Henneberry, 2018-001084-IT-ENF, Petition to Terminate Suspension
- Kelli Fowle, 2020-000364-IT-ENF, Documents regarding Proposed Supervisor
- Maria Rose, 2017-001420-IT-ENF, Documents regarding CEUs