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Division of Professional Licensure
Board of Registration of Social Workers

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

Public Session Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 26, 2020

TIME: 9:30 AM

ATTENDANCE: Melanie Robinson Findlay, Chair (arrived at 9:56 a.m.)
Jeffrey Trant
Dana Zais
Shaynah Barnes
Richard Powers
Quanesha Boykins

STAFF: Brian Bialas, Executive Director
Bruce Hopper, Deputy General Counsel
Erin Murphy, Associate Executive Director

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 teleconference.

The meeting was called to order at 9:38 a.m.

Board Business

Mr. Bialas proposed that the Board return to starting meetings at 9:30 a.m. now that new members have joined the Board, and the Board agreed.

Mr. Bialas also notified board members that officer elections for Fiscal Year 2021 would take place at next month's meeting.

Executive Session Minutes of February 25, 2020 and Public Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2020

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Zais, seconded by Mr. Powers, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Robinson Findlay arrived at 9:56 a.m.



Discussion

- **4.17.20 Email from D. Ryczko of ASWB re: Examination Approval Extensions and 5.18.20 Email from D. Ryczko of ASWB re: Examination Approval Extensions:** The Board discussed whether to further extend the approvals to test for candidates who had their examination dates canceled because of test center closures, and whether to require those candidates to do an application update if needed. The Board asked staff to investigate whether ASWB could be reimbursed by the state for doing application updates so that candidates are not charged.
- **ASWB Exam Policy:** After a brief discussion, the Board asked staff to seek comment from stakeholders regarding a statutory change that would require LSWs to have a bachelor's degree in social work and would comply with ASWB's Exam-Use Policy.
- **Good Moral Character Review Subcommittee:** After a brief discussion, the Board declined to create a subcommittee to interview applicants with good moral character issues.
- **Practice Advisory Regarding Social Work Services by Electronic Means:** After a brief discussion, the Board made no changes to the policy.
- **Practice Advisory Regarding Supervision of Licensed Certified Social Workers via Videoconferencing:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Trant, seconded by Ms. Zais, to approve changes to the existing policy. The motion passed unanimously.

Monitoring Reports

- **Karen Thornton, Conditional Licensure Agreement, 14th, 15th, and 16th Quarterly Monitoring Reports:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Trant, seconded by Mr. Powers, to accept the reports. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Maria Rose, 2017-001420-IT-ENF, 6th Quarterly Monitoring Report:** After a brief discussion, the Board directed staff: (1) to notify the supervisor that she must do mandatory record reviews and visits to Ms. Rose's practice as required by the consent agreement, and (2) to ask for a response from the supervisor. The Board did not accept the report.
- **Wendy Forbush, 2018-001209-IT-ENF, 3rd Monthly Report and Final Report:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Boykins, to accept the reports. The motion passed unanimously.

Investigative Conference (Closed Session under G.L. c. 112 s. 65C)

At 11:10 a.m., a motion was made by Mr. Trant, seconded by Ms. Barnes, to exit the public meeting and enter into a closed investigative conference under G.L. c. 112 s. 65C to interview the respondent in a case and to review cases. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Interview:

2019-000497-IT-ENF (PL):

Interviewed Respondent; Invite
Complainant to Next Meeting

Cases:

2018-001304-IT-ENF (TM):

Refer to Office of Investigations

2019-001492-IT-ENF (KJ):

Dismiss

2020-000045-IT-ENF (LW):

Dismiss

2020-000140-IT-ENF (ML):

Ms. Robinson Findlay recused
herself from consideration of the
case. Board will review next month.

2020-000243-IT-ENF (AJ):

Refer to Office of Prosecutions

2020-000452-IT-ENF (BG):

Refer to Office of Prosecutions

At 1:01 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Boykins, to exit investigative conference and return to open session. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Boykins, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

The above Minutes were approved at the open meeting held on June 23, 2020.



Brian Bialas, Executive Director

List of Documents Used During the Public Meeting:

- Executive Session Minutes of February 25, 2020
- Public Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2020
- 4.17.20 Email from D. Ryczko of ASWB re: Examination Approval Extensions
- 5.18.20 Email from D. Ryczko of ASWB re: Examination Approval Extensions
- Practice Advisory Regarding Social Work Services by Electronic Means
- Practice Advisory Regarding Supervision of Licensed Certified Social Workers via Videoconferencing
- Karen Thornton, Conditional Licensure Agreement, 14th, 15th, and 16th Quarterly Monitoring Reports
- Maria Rose, 2017-001420-IT-ENF, 6th Quarterly Monitoring Report
- Wendy Forbush, 2018-001209-IT-ENF, 3rd Monthly Report and Final Report