

SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
Monday, January 25, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Synergy Business Park in the Kingtree Building
110 Centerview Drive, Room 105
Columbia SC 29210

MINUTES

Board Members Present

Lynn Melton, Chairperson
Jane Anker, Vice Chair – Resigned, not present
Catherine M. Buchanan
Jacqueline S. Lowe
Harold T. "Pat" Patrick, Jr.
D. Scott Stephens – Departure at: 11:20 a.m.

Absent Members – Jane Anker.

Staff Present

Mary League, Advice Counsel
Roselind Bailey-Glover, Board Administrator
Courtney Clark, WebEx Host

Public Notice of this meeting was properly posted at the office of the South Carolina Board of Examiners for the Licensure of Social Work, Synergy Business Park, Kingtree Building, 110 Centerview Drive in Columbia, SC, was posted on the Board website and provided to any requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the 1976 South Carolina Code, as amended, relating to the Freedom of Information Act. A quorum is noted as *present/not present*. All votes referenced herein were unanimous unless otherwise indicated.

In accordance with the Governor's directives regarding social distancing, the meeting will be held via teleconference. Members of the public who wish to attend may do so by telephone. The telephone number and access code are provided on the posted agenda.

NOTE: *These Minutes are a record of the motions and official actions taken by the Board and a brief summary of the meeting.*

Call to Order

Ms. Melton, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m. The meeting was held via teleconference. Technical difficulties delayed the meetings initial 10:00 a.m. start.

Approval of the Agenda: The board chair requested changes to the board agenda to accommodate Mr. Stephens need to depart the meeting at 11:30 a.m. and to share with the board members, remarks from Ms. Jane Anker, who after many years of devoted service to the board resigned her seat.

Motion: In open session, Ms. Buchanan made a motion to move the application hearings and disciplinary hearings to the top of the agenda after the minutes. The motion was seconded and approved by Mr. Stephens. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Approval of the November 16, 2020 Minutes

Motion: In open session, Ms. Buchanan made a motion to approve the November 16, 2020 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and approved by Mr. Stephens. All were in favor and the motion passed

Approval/Disapproval of Absent Members

Motion: In open session, Ms. Lowe made a motion to approve Mr. Stephen's early departure. The motion was seconded and approved by Mr. Patrick. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Application Hearing: Ms. Alicia W. Stanley

Ms. Alicia W Stanley appeared before the board with a YES answer on her 2020 renewal application.

Ms. Lowe recused herself from the hearing because she formerly worked with Ms. Stanley. Completed Recusal Form is on file.

Motion: Mr. Patrick made a motion to go into executive session for legal advice. The motion was seconded by Ms. Buchanan and approved. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Motion: Ms. Buchanan made a motion to return to public session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Patrick and approved. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Motion: Ms. Buchanan made a motion to approve the renewal application. The motion was seconded by Mr. Patrick and approved. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Lowe rejoined the board meeting.

Application Hearing: Mr. Love C Singleton

Mr. Love C Singleton appeared before the board with two YES answers to the compliance questions on his 2020 renewal application.

Motion: Ms. Buchanan made a motion to go into executive session for legal advice. The motion was seconded by Mr. Patrick and approved. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Motion: Mr. Stephens made a motion to return to open session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lowe and approved. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Motion: Mr. Patrick made a motion to approve the renewal of Mr. Singleton's license with no further action. The motion was seconded by Ms. Buchanan and approved. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The Board took a brief break and Mr. Stephens left at 11:20 a.m.

Disciplinary Hearing: MOA 2019-29

The MOA was presented to the board and opening statements were made.

Motion: In open session, Ms. Lowe made a motion to go into a closed session to remain in compliance with state confidentiality laws. The motion was seconded and approved by Mr. Patrick. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Motion: Mr. Patrick made a motion to return to public session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lowe and approved. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Motion: Ms. Buchanan made a motion to accept the MOA violation as presented. Mr. Acey would receive an official order signed by the board chairperson effectively placing him on probation for two (2) years with quarterly reports back to the board staff from his psychiatrist. Starting in March 2021, the first report is due to the board. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lowe and approved. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Disciplinary Hearing: MOA 2019-8 and 2019-14

Ms. Brown introduced the MOA's to the board where no violation was admitted. The respondent testified on her own behalf. Ms. Brown gave her closing remarks. The MOA was accepted by the board for determination.

Motion: Mr. Patrick made a motion to go into executive session for legal advice. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Lowe. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Motion: Mr. Patrick made a motion to return to public session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Buchanan and approved. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Motion: Mr. Patrick made a motion for the first violation addressed in the proposed MOA and stated that the State met the burden of proof. For the second violation addressed in the second MOA, the State did not meet the burden of proof. The motion was seconded by Ms. Buchanan and approved. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The board let the respondent know that an order will be sent to her and that the order will be public.

30 MINUTE BREAK - 2:15 – 2:45 P.M.

Office of Investigative Enforcement (OIE) Report: Ms. Angela Baldwin, from the Office of Investigative Enforcement, presented the OIE report to the Board. There were five dismissals, one letter of caution and two complaints that would come back before the board. The Board reviewed the report.

Motion: Mr. Patrick made a motion to approve the report as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Buchanan and approved. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel Report (ODC): Ms. Tina Brown, from the Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC) presented the ODC report to the Board. Ms. Brown stated there were eleven open cases, three pending, one pending review, three pending CA/MOAs, one pending board action and three pending a hearing. Ms. Brown stated the report was for information only. The Board accepted the report as information.

Administrator's Remarks

Ms. Bailey-Glover provided the board with an update on the 2020 license renewal period and that licenses continued to renew on line. Board members were reminded to submit their updated board term information for the Governor's Office record. Ms. Glover also stated that a link was added to the board's website to make it easier for licensees to register for the Basic Account with CE Broker and upload their completed continuing education credits. No motion or vote required since the update was for information only.

Ms. Glover reminded board members of the deadline for filing their statement of economic interest report by March 30, 2021 and that late filings will result in penalties. Login information was provided and contact information for the State Ethics Commission was provided. CE Broker and Audit Requirements were briefly discussed and that a CE Broker representative would appear before the board at the May 17, 2021 meeting to discuss CEU audit options.

Finance Report: Ms. Bailey-Glover, presented the financial report to the Board. The Board reviewed the report as information.

Chairman's Remarks –Ms. Milton mentioned that the Governor's Office is aware of the board seat vacancies.

New Business:

Committee Meeting Report:

Supervisor Contract Revision– Approval of Revised Supervision Contract

Board members reviewed the revised supervision contract to update definitions and types of practice settings for final approval of the new contract. The board also addressed the multiple contractual supervisor allowance, under what circumstances and how continuity of supervision would be insured. The board agreed that a licensee could have two supervisor but each one must have a separate contract. Board members discussed various changes to the draft contract. Ms. League will make the updates for the boards review and approval at the next meeting.

Motion: Ms. Lowe made a motion to approve the new supervision contract after revisions were reviewed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Patrick and approved. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Motion: Ms. Lowe made a motion to recognize that non-compliant existing contracts are okay as they are already in place. Moving forward the new supervision contract, after revisions and approval, will be required. The motion was seconded by Ms. Buchanan and approved. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Review List of New Licensees – For information only

2021 New Mileage Rate – For information only.

2021 Travel Meetings:

Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) 2021 Spring Education Conference, April 29, 2021 – May 1, 2021 – Virtual Program.

Motion: Mr. Patrick made a motion to approve two board members to attend, Ms. Buchanan and Ms. Lowe. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lowe and approved. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) 2021 Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly, November 18-20, 2021, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Board members decided to revisit who will attend during the May 17, 2021 meeting.

Limestone University MSW Program – LISW-CP Requirements

Ms. Aubrey L Sejuit, Assistant Professor of Social Work for Limestone University's MSW Program, requested the board to review two syllabi covering Psychopathology-SW 605 and Psychodiagnostics -SW 607 to ensure they met the qualifications of each course for the LMSW and LISW-CP license. The board let Ms. Sejuit know that the three hour courses were fine and that the board did not need to vote on the request.

Election and Vote on 2021 Board Officers: Chair and Vice Chair

Motion: Mr. Patrick made a motion to nominate Ms. Milton as Chairperson. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lowe and approved. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Motion: Mr. Patrick made a motion to nominate Ms. Buchanan as Vice Chairperson. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lowe and approved. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Telehealth Website ALERT Update - Replace with Federal Amendment Language

Ms. League discussed the existing COVID-19 Alert on the Boards website and the Cares Act. Ms. League recommended the board replace the current web site Covid-19 Alert with the federal language. A brief discussion ensued.

Motion: Ms. Buchanan made a motion to adopt the federal language as recommended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lowe and approved. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Regulation Task Force Committee Members Vote and Discussion

Ms. League suggested that the board should add a regulatory task force committee now or defer the decision until the May 17, 2021 meeting. Board members decided to table the decision for the May 17, 2021 meeting.

Continuing Education Sponsorships for Approval – There were none.

Discussion Topics

CEU Guidelines and 2021 CEU Audit through CE Broker

Ms. Buchanan led the discussion on current CEU requirements for 2021. Specifically, of the forty hours required, a minimum of twenty of the forty clock hours must be specifically provided by a trained social worker, in their area of specialty. Mr. Patrick stated that it's often difficult to tease out which courses are actually led by a licensed Social Worker, Counselors or Psychologists. Further discussion ensued. The board suggested that staff contact the ASWB and determine what other state boards are accepting for CEUs and get back to the board at the next meeting.

2021 Board Meeting Dates – Information only

Public Comments: There were none.

Lunch (Time of Lunch will be at the discretion of the Board Chair)

Adjournment: 4:19 p.m.

Roselind Bailey-Glover, Administrator
S.C. Board of Social Work Examiners
DATE: 5/17/2021