

MINUTES
SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
Monday, May 20, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.
Synergy Business Park - Kingstree Building
Pee Dee Conference Room
110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, SC 29210

Board Members Present

Lynn Melton, Chairperson
D. Scott Stephens, Vice-Chair
Jacqueline S. Lowe
Jefferey Cameron
Dell Lancaster

Absent Member

None

SCLLR Staff Members Present

Megan Flannery, Esq., Office of Advice Counsel
Pam Dunkin, Board Executive
Sherrie Butterbaugh, Office of Disciplinary Counsel
Ervin Bond, Office of Investigations
Shaun Strother, Program Coordinator
Shanda Richardson, Administrative Assistant

Present

Creel Court Reporter
Charles Sims – Virtual Appearance

Public Notice of this meeting was properly posted at the office of the South Carolina Board of Social Work Examiners for the Licensure of Social Work Boards, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree 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. All votes referenced herein were unanimous unless otherwise indicated.

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

Meeting Called to Order

Ms. Melton, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of the Agenda

MOTION

On the motion of Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Cameron, the board voted unanimously to approve the agenda with the following placement adjustments below. The motion passed.

- Item #7 Application Hearings changed/moved to #6
- Item #8 Disciplinary Hearing changed/moved to #7
- Item #6 Administrative Reports changed/moved #8

Approval/Disapproval of Absent Members

MOTION

On the motion of Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Cameron, the board voted unanimously to approve and excuse Ms. Lowe from all board meeting proceedings at 12:30 p.m.. The motion passed.

Approval of the Minutes – February 26, 2024

MOTION

On the motion of Ms. Lowe, seconded by Mr. Stephens, the board voted unanimously in favor to approve the February 26, 2024 meeting minutes. The motion passed.

Chairperson's Remarks – Lynn Melton

Ms. Melton, addressed the board and welcomed new board member Ms. Dell Lancaster.

Application Hearing

Charles Sims – Virtual Appearance: The purpose of this hearing was to determine if Mr. Sims should be allowed to proceed in the licensure process as a Licensed Independent Social Worker (LISW-CP) in South Carolina. Mr. Sims was present and not represented by legal counsel.

MOTION

On the motion of Mr. Stephens, seconded by Ms. Lancaster, the board voted unanimously in favor to go into Executive Session for legal advice regarding Mr. Sims application. The motion passed.

MOTION

On the motion of Mr. Stephens, seconded by Ms. Lancaster, the board voted unanimously in favor to come out of Executive Session. The motion passed.

MOTION

On the motion of Mr. Cameron and Ms. Lowe, seconded by Ms. Lancaster, the board voted unanimously in favor to approve Mr. Sims to proceed in the LISW-CP licensure process in South Carolina. The motion passed.

Disciplinary Hearing – MOA Case# 2013-17

Closed Hearing for MOA 2013-17: This was a closed hearing in accordance with the state and federal confidentiality laws.

MOTION

On the motion of Ms. Lowe, seconded by Mr. Stephens, the board voted unanimously in favor for a closed hearing for MOA, Case# 2013-17. The motion passed.

MOTION

On the motion of Mr. Cameron, seconded by Ms. Lowe, the board voted unanimously in favor to go into Executive Session for legal advice regarding MOA, Case#2013-17. The motion passed.

MOTION

On the motion of Ms. Lowe, seconded by Mr. Stephens, the board voted unanimously in favor to come out of Executive Session. The motion passed.

MOTION

On the motion of Ms. Lancaster, seconded by Mr. Cameron, the board voted unanimously in favor to accept the MOA Case #2013-17. The motion passed.

The board remained in closed session.

Administrative Reports

a. Investigative Review Conference (IRC) Report – Ervin Bond, Office of Investigations

Mr. Bond, presented the board with four (4) dismissals, five (5) formal complaints, and one letter of caution.

Dismissals

MOTION

On the motion of Mr. Cameron, seconded by Ms. Lowe, the board voted unanimously in favor to approve the IRC recommendations for the four (4) dismissals. The motion passed.

Formal Complaints

MOTION

On the motion of Mr. Stephens, seconded by Ms. Lowe, the board voted unanimously in favor to approve the IRC recommendations for the five (5) formal complaints. The motion passed.

Letter of Caution

MOTION

On the motion of Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Cameron, the board voted unanimously in favor to approve the IRC recommendations for the one letter of caution. The motion passed.

b. Office of Investigations and Enforcement (OIE) Report – Ervin Bond

Mr. Bond, presented the OIE report to the board for informational purposes only.

c. Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC) Report– Sherrie Butterbaugh

Ms. Butterbaugh provided the ODC Report to the board for informational purposes only.

MOTION

On the motion of Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Cameron, the board voted unanimously in favor to come out of closed session and return to open session. The motion passed.

d. Administrator’s Reports/Remarks – Pam Dunkin, Board Executive

Mrs. Dunkin addressed the board and provided the following for informational purposes only:

- Finance Report ending March 31, 2024
- CE Broker
- 2024 Renewals – Opening Beginning October 2024

Legislative Update – Virginia Wetzel, LLR Office of Communications and Governmental Affairs

Ms. Wetzel addressed the board on the status of the Social Work Compact Bill and the Suicide Prevention Training for Health Professionals Bill S.408.

New Business

a. Review List of New Licensees (2/21/2024 – 4/16/2024)

The board reviewed the list of New Licensees for informational purposes only.

b. Review Report of All S.C. Licensees by County (In-state and Out-of-State)

The board reviewed for informational purposes only.

c. Ratification and Continuing Education Sponsorships Approved (2/21/2024 – 4/16/2024)

The board reviewed the Continuing Education Sponsorships Approved for information purposes only.

d. Board Member Reports – Mr. Stephens

Mr. Stephens addressed the board about attending the ASWB 2024 Spring Education Conference in Arlington, Virginia, May 3-4, 2024,

Old Business

a. Discussion and Vote: Additional Investigative Review Conference (IRC) Members – Pam Dunkin

The board asked to table this item to the August 19th board meeting.

Lunch (Time of Lunch will be at the discretion of the Board Chair): No lunch was needed.

Executive Session. If needed: No Executive Session was needed.

Public Comments: There were no public comments presented.

Adjournment: There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.