

**MINUTES**

**UTAH  
SOCIAL WORKER LICENSING BOARD  
MEETING**

**December 4, 2014  
Room 474 – 4th Floor – 9:00 A.M.  
Heber M. Wells Building  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

**CONVENED: 9:00 A.M.**

**ADJOURNED: 11:15 A.M.**

**Bureau Manager:**

Richard J. Oborn

**Board Secretary:**

Lee Avery

**Board Members Present:**

Doran Williams, Chairperson  
Kathleen Anderson  
Donna Didas  
Nathan Strait

**Board Members Excused:**

Tanya Nagahiro

**DOPL Staff Present:**

Susan Higgs, Compliance Specialist

**Guests:**

None

**TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

**DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

**MINUTES:**

The Board reviewed the minutes dated October 2, 2014. Ms. Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes with changes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Strait and carried unanimously.

**COMPLIANCE REPORT:**

Ms. Higgs reviewed the compliance report with the Board.

#1. Jason Steed is in compliance with his stipulation. He submitted supervisor reports for October and November. His reports have been positive. He submitted three hours of CEs and still needs three additional hours by 3/11/2015. Mr. Steed's supervisor recommended that the monthly supervisor reports be reduced to quarterly submittals.

#2. Gerald Meade is in compliance with his stipulation. He submitted monthly reports for August, September, October, and November. He submitted his essay for the Board's review. He submitted a list of all CEs that he has completed. The Board may consider moving his supervisor reports to quarterly.

**Discussion:**

The Board expressed concerns about Mr. Meade's essay. The Board would like to see him focus more on what he learned from the CE classes and how to apply this knowledge so he does not violate the code of ethics again.

#3. Ron Jensen is in compliance with his stipulation. He submitted his quarterly supervisor and employer report. Both reports are positive. He submitted his wellness plan as requested by the Board.

#4. Enrique Velasquez advised Mr. Oborn that he needs to gather additional information and will not be able to keep this appointment. He would like to meet with the Board in February 2015.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

Jason Steed, probation interview

Mr. Steed met with the Board for his probation interview. Ms. Anderson conducted the interview. Mr. Steed stated things are going well. Business has slowed down in hospice work. Mr. Steed advised the Board that he now covers all Utah County. He found a CE course titled "Dual Relationships: The Ethical Way" for six CE credits. This course is online and was developed by Ofer Zur PhD. This course is approved by ASWB, NBCC, NAADAC, APA. He hopes to take this class and have his essay completed before the February 2015 Board meeting. The Board reviewed the CE information submitted by Mr. Steed. The Board would like him to address in his essay how his actions harmed his practice, the patient, and others around him, and what he learned from the CE course. The Board asked him to include how he is going to apply what he learned to keep him from making the same mistakes in the future. Ms. Didas made a motion to approve the CE course that Mr. Steed proposed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Strait and carried unanimously. Ms. Anderson made a motion to move Mr. Steed's supervisor reports to quarterly. The frequency of supervision will continue to be what it has been in the

past. The next supervisor report is due January 20th for the February Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Didas and carried unanimously. The Board advised Mr. Steed that the February 5th Board meeting may be changed to a hearing. The Board will advise him of an alternative date once it has been set. **Mr. Steed is in compliance with his stipulation.**

Gerald Meade, probation interview

Mr. Meade was unable to keep his appointment with the Board due to illness.

Ron Jensen, probation interview

**Out of order on the agenda:**

Mr. Jensen met with the Board for his probation interview. Ms. Didas conducted the interview. Mr. Jensen stated that things are going well, both professionally and personally. He hired additional staff and is working on communicating better and asking for help when needed. He is out of the office more and is working on repairing strained relationships with family. The Board reviewed the wellness plan that Mr. Jensen submitted. The Board noted that his wellness plan is very aggressive. He may be trying to make too many changes at once. The Board suggested that Mr. Jensen focus on just one or two items in his wellness plan. It is okay to make the changes, but do them in a way that sustains balance. The Board encouraged Mr. Jensen to take the top two items for the next 60 or 90 days. The Board noted that Mr. Jensen has a great supervisor. Her notes are good, in detail and she appears to keep him grounded, noting that Mr. Jensen and his supervisor reviewed a complaint against Mr. Jensen and made appropriate changes to keep this from happening again. Mr. Jensen's reports are quarterly. The Board asked to see Mr. Jensen on April 2, 2015. **Mr. Jensen is in compliance with his stipulation.**

Chelsea Benetz request for approval to complete 100 hours of supervision needed for LCSW license via remote methods of supervision for LCSW license via remote methods.

The Board reviewed Ms. Benetz's request for approval to complete 100 hours of supervision that are needed for her LCSW license via remote methods. Ms. Benetz's supervisor would be located in Washington, D.C. Her supervision would be via Skype. The Board expressed concern for Ms. Benetz to have a supervisor located in another state when there are other licensed LCSWs in Utah who could supervise her. She works in a domestic violence agency. She works in what is often

a high stress environment. A supervisor located in another state may be unable to adequately support Ms. Benetz in an emergency situation. The Board feels that a supervisor needs to physically visit the supervisee's office at least twice a year. The Board noted that Skype is not a secure line and the supervisor would need to know the Utah laws and the resources available to help a supervisee in an emergency situation. The Board advised Ms. Benetz that she could contact NASW or a local MSW program and request help with getting in contact with a qualified LCSW in Utah who could supervise her. Ms. Anderson made a motion to deny Ms. Benetz request for approval to complete the 100 hours of supervision required for the LCSW license via remote methods. The motion was seconded by Ms. Didas and carried unanimously.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

#1. Update regarding proposed amendments to Social Worker Licensing Act Rule

**Out of order on the agenda:**

Mr. Oborn reviewed the proposed rule change with the Board. A rule hearing was scheduled for January 7, 2015. The rule will become effective on January 21, 2015 at the earliest. The Division has not received any comments opposing the rule change.

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that a bill to protect the term social worker has been filed and will be introduced during the 2015 General Legislative Session. This bill did not pass during the 2014 Session.

Mr. Oborn stated that there is a proposal to create a license for behavioral analysis that may be considered during the 2015 Session.

#2. Report from ASWB Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly

Ms. Didas reported on the ASWB Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly. Ms. Didas reviewed topics covered at the meeting. A draft of the model regulatory standards for technology and social work practice was discussed. These standards will likely be adopted by ASWB in the Spring 2015. Other topics such as continuing education and the effectiveness of CE courses were discussed.

Ms. Didas advised the Board that the emphasis on the spring conference is going to be license mobility.

**#3. ASWB Model Regulatory Standards for Technology and Social Work Practice**

The Board reviewed the ASWB Model Regulatory Standards for Technology and Social Work Practice. Mr. Oborn noted they need to ensure the profession is not being overly regulated. Once ASWB adopts the standards, the Board may want to consider incorporating them into the rule.

**#4. SSW license education requirement**

**Taken out of order on the agenda:**

The Board contacted Ms. Emily Bleyl with ASWB, Utah Chapter. Ms. Bleyl participated via telephone. The Board reviewed S.B. 90 that was passed in 2010. Ms. Bleyl stated this bill was a compromise for those seeking an SSW license. The education requirement was opened up to accept any bachelor's degree as long as the applicant completes three additional courses: social worker practice methods, social welfare policy, and human growth and development across the life span. The social work practice methods course must be completed at a CSWE accredited program. She noted that there is a bill to protect the title of social worker. It is the same bill that was filed in 2014 and did not pass. The Board questioned if there could be a separate license for individuals with a BSW degree and those with non-social work bachelor's degrees. Ms. Bleyl stated she is not sure how the scope of practice would be different.

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that an assistant attorney general will meet with the Psychologist Licensing Board on January 6, 2015 to share an informal opinion about whether non-psychologists, such as LCSWs, may conduct and use of psychological tests.

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:**

There will likely be formal hearing on February 5, 2015. The hearing may take two days. For this reason, the Board scheduled their next Board meeting for February 19.

**2015 Board meetings tentatively scheduled:**

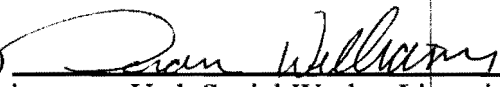
April 2, August 6, October 1, December 3

**ADJOURN:**

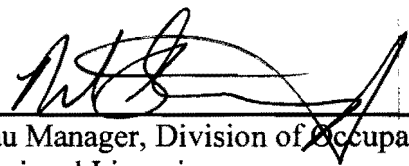
Motion to adjourn at 11:15 A.M.

*Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.*

2/19/15  
Date Approved

(ss)   
Chairperson, Utah Social Worker Licensing Board

2/19/2015  
Date Approved

(ss)   
Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational &  
Professional Licensing