

MINUTES

UTAH SOCIAL WORKER LICENSING BOARD MEETING

August 7, 2014
Room 474 – 4th Floor – 9:00 A.M.
Heber M. Wells Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

CONVENED: 9:02 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 2:02 P.M.

Bureau Manager:

Richard J. Oborn

Board Secretary:

Lee Avery

Board Members Present:

Doran Williams, Chairperson
Susan Egbert, Vice Chairperson
Kathleen Anderson
Donna Didas
Mandy Donovan
Nathan Strait
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 June 5, 2014. Mr. Strait made a motion to approve the minutes with changes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Donovan and carried unanimously.

Consideration of option to elect a new Board Chairperson

The Board opted to not make a change in the Chairperson.

COMPLIANCE REPORT:

Ms. Higgs reviewed the compliance report with the Board.

#1. Charles Andrews is in compliance with his probation. He submits employer reports indicating he is not working in the field. If he is not working he does not need to submit therapy reports.

#2. Jerry Meade is in compliance with his probation. He submitted his quarterly supervisor report on 7/23/14.

#3. Ron Jensen is in compliance with his probation. He submitted quarterly supervisor and employer reports.

Discussion:

At 9:16 A.M. Ms. Didas made a motion to close the Board meeting to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental of an individual. The motion was seconded by Ms. Egbert and carried unanimously. There was no recording. Written notes were not taken. The Board meeting opened at 9:40 A.M.

#4 David (Jason) Steed is in compliance with his probation. He submitted supervisor reports for June, July and August. He has not yet submitted his psychological evaluation.

#5. Cynthia Tangren is in compliance with her probation. She submitted quarterly supervisor reports for 7/1/14. She submitted a request for early termination of probation. She submitted a letter of support from her supervisor for early termination.

Not on the agenda:

Mr. Sullivan, public reprimand. The Board reviewed the changes he made to his essay. The Board was satisfied with the changes he made. Mr. Sullivan completed the requirements of his public reprimand.

APPOINTMENTS:

Charles Andrews, probation interview

Mr. Andrews met with the Board. Ms. Didas conducted the interview. Mr. Andrews stated things are going well. He continues looking for employment in the field. He continues to volunteer at the Utah Food Bank and he applied to be a mentor to refugees and is waiting for their reply. He has joined a couple of discussion groups. He applied for employment at Catholic Community Services and hopes to hear from them soon. The Board advised Mr. Andrews that he

does not need to meet with the Board until he starts working in the field. The Board encouraged him to continue keeping in touch with Ms. Higgs and submit his a report every three months.

Jerry Meade, probation interview

Mr. Meade met with the Board for his probation interview. Ms. Donovan conducted the interview. Mr. Meade stated that things have been going well. He gave the Board certificates verifying completion of his CE courses. Mr. Meade stated he looked for live dual relationship seminars in Utah and has not been able to find any. The Board advised Mr. Meade that the CEs for his stipulation are not due until 2015 and encouraged him to keep looking. The Board may consider an interactive webinar for the final three CEs needed for his stipulation. He needs to get the course description to Ms. Higgs for the Board to review. The Board noted that he has submitted five positive supervisory reports. After the next Board meeting, the Board may consider moving his reports to quarterly. Mr. Meade stated his health is well. The Board asked to see Mr. Meade October 2, 2014.

Mr. Meade is in compliance with is stipulation.

Ron Jensen, probation interview

Mr. Jensen met with the Board for his probation interview. Mr. Strait conducted the interview. Mr. Jensen was advised the Board is requesting an investigation regarding the topic of concern his supervisor noted in her report. Once the Board has all of the information, they will review it with him. Mr. Jensen stated he is not supervising anyone clinically. He is providing only administrative supervision. There are many LCSWs in the facility who are providing supervision to the CSWs earning their hours. Mr. Jensen stated they are only licensed to serve adults. With the changes in the insurance laws, they keep children on their parents insurance until the age of 26. Mr. Jensen stated his supervision with Ms. Stevens has been positive for him. He is trying to do a better job in keeping a balance between work and his personal life. Mr. Jensen stated he enjoys traveling, reading and spending time with his daughter. The Board requested Mr. Jensen submit a written wellness plan regarding what he has done in his life and what he will do and include his support system outside of the work environment. The Board reminded Mr. Jensen that he

needs to have his reports submitted by the 20th of the month. The Board asked to see Mr. Jensen on December 4, 2014. **Mr. Jensen is in compliance with his stipulation.**

Jason Steed, probation interview

Mr. Steed met with the Board for his probation interview. Ms. Anderson conducted the interview. Mr. Steed stated that he is trying to attend the conference in St. George. He has looked at online and webinar CE courses and prefers to attend the live courses. The Board reminded him that he has until February 2015 to complete the CE requirement of his stipulation. Mr. Steed stated he continues working for Brighton Home Health and Hospice. He works 40 hours a week and feels that things are going well. Mr. Steed stated that he likes having a supervisor. He is receiving very positive feedback and suggestions. The Board noted that it is important for everyone to have family and other community network for support and socializing. The Board asked to see Mr. Steed on October 2, 2014. **Mr. Steed is in compliance with this stipulation.**

Cynthia Tangren, probation interview

Ms. Tangren met with the Board for her probation interview. Ms. Nagahiro conducted the interview. Ms. Tangren stated she is still in private practice and doing custody evaluations. She is no longer involved in hospice. The Board advised Ms. Tangren the Board received her letter requesting early termination of her probation and a letter from her supervisor supporting early release from probation. Ms. Tangren stated she is more organized now and more conscious about keeping appropriate notes and maintaining an organized filing system. She is more aware of what her limitations are now. The Board noted how much Ms. Tangren has grown since she first started her probation. **Ms. Egbert made a motion to recommend early release from probation for Ms. Tangren. The motion was seconded by Mr. Strait and carried unanimously.**

Keith Benn, future applicant for LCSW

Mr. Benn met with the Board regarding his application for a LCSW license. Ms. Egbert conducted the interview. Mr. Oborn stated that Mr. Benn has not yet submitted an application for an LCSW license. The Board noted that Mr. Benn surrendered his license in 2013. By signing the surrender, he agreed to not

reapply for a license for three years. After talking with Mr. Benn, the Board advised Mr. Benn that he needs to wait the full three years before he reapplies. The Board is not making any promises to approve a license if he chooses to reapply in 2016. The Board would consider his application if he does the following:

1. Continue to take care of his legal issues and have no further criminal violations.
2. Submit documentation of his ongoing recovery. He may want to contact Ms. Higgs and sign up to do random UA with DOPL provider.
3. Show evidence of continuing rehabilitation.

The Board emphasized to Mr. Benn that the Board is not making any promises. The above are things he would need to show the Board to demonstrate that he is moving forward in a positive trajectory. The Board advised Mr. Benn that he could work as an unlicensed personnel in some of the facilities. He may want to check with the associations to see if they could assist him with maintaining connections in the industry.

Michael Lamon, applicant for LCSW

Discussion:

At 10:22 A.M. Mr. Strait made a motion to close the Board meeting to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental of an individual. The motion was seconded by Ms. Egbert and carried unanimously. There was no recording. Written notes were not taken. The Board meeting opened at 10:35 A.M.

Mr. Lamon met with the Board regarding his application for a LCSW license. Mr. Williams conducted the interview. Mr. Lamon stated that he is requesting to meet with the Board to determine what he needs to do to get his LCSW license back. Mr. Lamon stated that he is off parole as of July 1, 2014. At 1:03 P.M. Mr. Strait made a motion to close the Board meeting to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual. The motion was seconded by Ms. Anderson and carried unanimously. There was no recording. Written notes were not taken. The Board meeting opened at 1:40 P.M. Mr. Oborn will provide Mr. Lamon a list of therapists that the Division has used.

Ms. Didas made a motion to deny Mr. Lamon's application with the following recommendations:

1. He wait at least one year before applying again.
2. He obtain a psychological evaluation by a DOPL approved psychologist.
3. Follow the recommendations of the evaluation.
4. Complete on-going therapy
5. Gather documentation to demonstrate rehabilitation,
6. Sign up with the DOPL contracted provider of drug screening, Affinity, for six months of drug screening prior to applying for a license.
7. Document self-care and create a wellness plan.

The Board wanted it noted that taking these steps will not guarantee the Division will approve him a license in the future. The motion was seconded by Ms. Anderson and carried unanimously. Mr. Oborn will send him a denial letter with information regarding psychologists that the Division has used in the past.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

#1. Proposed amendment to LCSW experience requirement to allow hours gathered outside of UT or while active duty military

Taken out of order on the agenda

The Board reviewed the proposed amendment to LCSW experience requirement to allow hours gathered outside of UT or while active duty military. Mr. Oborn advised the Board that current rule indicates that an individual must be licensed as a CSW to gain supervised hours. Many other states do not have this same requirement and this is putting individuals wanting licensure in Utah at a disadvantage. The proposal is to change the requirement to be licensed as a CSW while gathering hours towards the LCSW license. The proposed change would read:

7. Notwithstanding paragraph (3), a LCSW license applicant may, if approved by the Division:

(a) be an individual for license exemption under

Subsection 58-1-307, (1)(a) or

(b) if training was completed in a jurisdiction outside of Utah:

(i) be licensed as the equivalent of a CSW; or

(ii) trained without a license under the laws of that jurisdiction.

Mr. Strait made a motion to accept the proposed amendment to the license requirements with the added

changes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Anderson and carried unanimously.

Not on the agenda:

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that the Division is looking for a Board member to attend the ASWB convention in Idaho, November 13-15, 2014. The travel expenses, meals and registration fees are paid by ASWB. Ms. Nagahiro expressed interest in attending and will contact Mr. Oborn with a confirmation.

Not on the agenda:

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that the SW renewal notices were sent out. The notices were first emailed to all licensees for whom the Division had email addresses and now the post cards have been mailed to those who have not renewed online. Mr. Oborn noted that online renewal is going well.

Not on the agenda:

The Board noted that this is Ms. Donovan's last meeting as the SSW representative on the Board. Ms. Donovan is moving forward to apply for her CSW license. The Board thanked Ms. Donovan for her dedication to the profession and her hard work on the Board. The Board encouraged her to apply for the CSW position once she receives her CSW license and this position on the Board opens up.

#2. Identification of items to appear on next meeting's agenda.

None.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:

October 2, 2014

2014 Board meetings scheduled:

October 2, December 4

2015 Board meetings tentatively scheduled:

February 5, April 9, August 6, October 1, December 3

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn at 2:02 P.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.

10/2/14
Date Approved

(ss) Dean Williams
Chairperson, Utah Social Worker Licensing Board

10/2/14
Date Approved

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