

MINUTES

UTAH SOCIAL WORKER LICENSING BOARD MEETING

OCTOBER 3, 2019 9:00 A.M.

ROOM 474 – 4TH FLOOR

Heber M. Wells Building
160 E. 300 S. Salt Lake City, Utah

MEETING OPEN: 9:00 A.M.

MEETING CLOSED: 11:38 A.M.

DOPL STAFF PRESENT:

Bureau Manager: Jennifer Zaelit

Board Secretary: Jennifer Johnson

Compliance Officer: Neena Bowen

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Emily Aikins, Vice Chair

Kathleen Andersen

Rachel Stoddard

Jamie Navarrete

Marette Monson

BOARD NOT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Donna Didas, Chairperson

Jenafer Newman

GUESTS:

Emily Blyle, Executive Director - NASW Utah Chapter

Madison Morris, Professional Development Engagement Coordinator - NASW Utah Chapter

D

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Ms. Aikins called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

REVIEW AND APPROVE AUGUST 1, 2019 MINUTES (00:02)

Ms. Stoddard made a motion to approve the minutes as written.

Ms. Navarrete seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed.

COMPLIANCE REPORT (00:03)

Ms. Bowen reviewed the compliance report as provided.

APPOINTMENTS:

KEVIN KIRSCHENMANN, Continuing Education Review (00:08)

Mr. Kirschenmann was not required to appear before the Board.

The Board reviewed the continuing education courses Mr. Kirschenmann proposed.

Ms. Monson made a motion to approve the course Social Work Ethics and Risk Ethics course and stated the Board would like Mr. Kirschenmann to complete in person courses on topics that brought him before the Board.

Ms. Anderson seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed.

BEN HARDING, PROBATION REVIEW - TELEPHONIC (00:20)

Ms. Navarrete conducted the interview with Mr. Harding and stated the Board reviewed the transcripts from the Ethics course Mr. Harding completed and asked if Mr. Harding had any concerns.

Mr. Harding stated he enjoyed the course and stated he really benefited from it. Mr. Harding stated he did not have any concerns and looks forward to completing his probation process.

Ms. Zaelit stated Mr. Harding's probation ends in February.

The Board found Mr. Harding in compliance.

An appointment was made for Mr. Harding to meet with the Board on December 5, 2019, via telephonic interview.

EMILY MULLENAX, PROBATION REVIEW (00:28)

Ms. Stoddard conducted the interview with Ms. Mullenax and asked about her new employment.

Ms. Mullenax stated she is working at Fellar Behavioral Health and stated she feels more support than what she had previously been provided at her previous employer.

Ms. Stoddard stated she is happy with the supervisor reports the Board has received. The Board found Ms. Mullenax in compliance.

Ms. Mullenax asked if the Board wanted her to continue with monthly reports.

The Board stated since Ms. Mullenax started new employment the Board would like her to continue to provide monthly reports.

An appointment was made for Ms. Mullenax to meet with the Board on December 5, 2019.

ROY HOGAN, PROBATION REVIEW (00:43)

Ms. Anderson conducted the interview with Mr. Hogan.

Mr. Hogan submitted proposed continuing education courses for Board review.

The Board stated the proposed courses did not provide complete information for the Board to provide approval and based on the information provided Mr. Hogan would not meet the December deadline for his continuing education courses to be completed.

Mr. Hogan stated he has been unable to locate qualified in person courses within the required timeframe and considered asking for another extension.

The Board stated an additional extension would not be considered and stated Mr. Hogan will need to find something as soon as possible to meet his deadline.

Mr. Hogan stated he is interested in attending a conference presented by the Utah Mental Health Counselors Association that is offering four credits including two in ethics.

Ms. Anderson made a motion to approve the 23rd Annual Conference Critical Issues Facing Children and Adolescence conference with focus on the courses “Creating Inclusive and Ethical Communities and Practices,” Supervisor be Mindful part 1 & 2” that Mr. Hogan proposed.

Ms. Monson seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed.

The Board found Mr. Hogan in compliance.

An appointment was made for Mr. Hogan to meet with the Board on December 5, 2019.

RICHARD GARCIA, PROBATION REVIEW (1:06)

Ms. Monson conducted the interview with Mr. Garcia.

Ms. Monson stated the Board has received all the reports and asked if Mr. Garcia’s supervisor could add more detail regarding Mr. Garcia’s performance.

Mr. Garcia stated things have been going well with his supervision and employment.

Ms. Stoddard made a motion to approve the course September on Legal and Ethical Ms. Anderson seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed.

The Board found Mr. Garcia in compliance.

An appointment was made for Mr. Garcia to meet with the Board December 5, 2019.

BRITTANY TITENSOR, REMOTE SUPERVISION REQUEST (1:15)

Ms. Titensor met with the Board regarding her request for remote supervision.

Ms. Titensor stated there is a LCSW on site at her place of employment but they are not a qualified supervisor since they have not had their license for two years. Ms. Titensor stated they are available to consult.

Ms. Monson stated Ms. Titensor would need to use a HIPPA Compliant program.

Ms. Zaelit asked how many people the supervisor is currently supervising.

Ms. Titensor stated the proposed supervisor is only supervising Ms. Titensor and one other individual.

Ms. Monson made a motion to approve Ms. Titensor's request for remote supervision with Ms. Aymee Condie using a HIPPA compliant software and meet face to face with her supervisor quarterly.

Ms. Stoddard seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed.

HEATHER DRAUGHAN, NEW PROBATION INTERVIEW (1:20)

Ms. Aikins conducted the interview with Ms. Draughan.

Ms. Draughan asked to close the meeting.

Ms. Stoddard made a motion to close the meeting in accordance with the Open and Public Meetings Act, 52-4-250(1) (a) to discuss the character, professional competence or physical or mental health of an individual.

Ms. Monson seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed.

The meeting closed at 10:29 A.M

A recording was not made and written minutes were not taken.

Ms. Anderson made a motion to open the meeting.

Ms. Navarrete seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed.

The meeting opened at 10:53 A.M.

Ms. Aikins reviewed Ms. Draughan's Order and requirements.

Ms. Monson stated the work that Ms. Draughan has done on her own, that is not captured in her Order, be acknowledged and requested that Ms. Draughan provide a written essay.

Ms. Stoddard made a motion to approve Ms. Draughan's written plan with the addition of a written essay to be provided.

Ms. Navarrete seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed.

An appointment was made Ms. Draughan to meet with the Board December 5, 2019.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

EXTEND CSWI LICENSE, EMILY BLEYL, NASW – UT CHAPTER (1:31)

Ms. Bleyl met with the Board to discuss the possibility of extending the time-frame of the Certified Social Worker Intern (CSWI) license from six months to twelve months. Ms. Bleyl stated the license is for recent graduates of an MSW program as well as graduates who have been unable to take or pass their social work exam required for licensure. Ms. Bleyl stated the license allows these individuals to practice but they are unable to count the hours towards licensure.

Ms. Bleyl stated she has received pushback regarding the difficulty of passing the exam within the six month time frame of the license and those that are impacted the most are those second language is English.

Ms. Stoddard stated the exam is set to test for minimal knowledge and there is a concern if individuals are practicing and seeing clients who are unable to pass an exam that tests minimal knowledge.

Ms. Bleyl stated the way the exam is written in certain areas is what causes problems especially where English is their second language. Ms. Bleyl stated it is not that the individual is not capable it's the way the information is provided in the exam.

Ms. Monson stated the Board's role is to protect the public and the current request protects the profession. Ms. Monson stated the only measure currently protecting the public is the exam. An individual that passes the exam verifies they are competent to practice in their profession. Ms. Monson stated another measure would need to be in place to an individual is competent and able to safely practice without having passed the exam.

The Board stated they would be willing to consider changes with additional information that would support the statute and rules are being followed, the therapist is competent and capable to practice, and the public is protected.

1099 DISCUSSION (2:00) Out of Order

Ms. Zaelit stated she was contacted by Representative Duckworth regarding a proposed Bill for legislation that would allow all mental health therapists to work as 1099 instead of W2 employees. Ms. Zaelit asked what the Boards thoughts were regarding this.

The Board stated individuals required to work under supervised practice do not meet the requirements to act as an independent contractor or 1099 and allowing them to practice as 1099 when they are not qualified violates Utah employment requirements as well as IRS tax codes.

HB 90 & HB 226 (1:53) & (2:04) Out of Order

Ms. Zaelit reviewed HB 90 and HB 226 with the Board.

For HB 90 Ms. Zaelit stated the matrix that has been provided has been presented to all professions. This Board is able to make suggestions for areas they feel may impact their profession. The Division in collaboration with the Board may tailor areas for review.

Ms. Zaelit stated this applies to those who would like to know if their criminal history would prevent them from licensure prior to them investing in education and training.

The Board stated there are some areas that the Board would like to be consulted on before a decision is made.

For HB 226 Board stated they would not feel comfortable with competency based licensing over time based competency for Social Work licensure.

ASWB EXAMS (1:36) & (1:49) Out of Order

Ms. Zaelit stated the State of Utah is on an exam waiver with ASWB since our applicants test in a manner that is inconsistent with ASWB's exam policy. Ms. Zaelit stated Utah would need to reapply for another waiver by June 30, 2021.

Ms. Monson stated there is a concern of the impact this would have on Utah. Utah is not prepared at this time to shift to two examinations. Ms. Monson stated there needs to be more preparation, more discussion, and more information made public about this transition.

The Board stated this will continue to be discussed and they also plan to submit another waiver in the meantime.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: DECEMBER 5, 2019

ADJOURN:

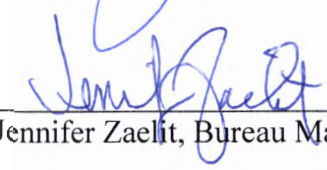
Meeting adjourned at 11:38 A.M

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.

12/5/19
Date Approved

(ss) 
Chairperson, Social Work Licensing Board

5 Dec 2019
Date Approved

(ss) 
Jennifer Zaelit, Bureau Manager, DOPL