

## TENNESSEE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKER LICENSURE MINUTES

**DATE:** October 29, 2015  
**TIME:** 9:28 a.m., CDT  
**LOCATION:** Iris Room, Ground Floor  
665 Mainstream Drive  
Nashville, TN 37243

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

**PRESENT:** Adrienne Newman, LAPSW, Chair  
Teresa Housteau, LCSW  
Vicki Gardine Williams, LAPSW  
Ann-Marie Buchanan, LMSW  
Tara Watson, LCSW  
Julia Axley, LBSW  
Robert Zylstra,  
Kenya Anderson, LMSW  
Karen A. Armstrong, Citizen Member

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

**ABSENT:** Michelle Horton, LAPSW  
Amy Smith, LBSW

**STAFF PRESENT:** Christi Stacey, Board Administrator  
Teddy Wilkins, Unit Director  
Todd Pinckley, Assistant General Counsel

Ms. Newman called the meeting to order at 9:28 a.m. A roll call was conducted and a quorum was present.

### **Minutes**

Ms. Housteau made a motion, seconded by Ms. Axley, to approve the July 30, 2015 minutes. The motion carried.

### **Office of General Counsel**

Mr. Pinkley stated there are eight (8) cases in OGC against the Board's licensees. Mr. Pinkley said the case against **Rebekah Staats** is scheduled to be resolved today by Consent Order.

Mr. Pinkley said the fee reduction rule amendments were signed by Attorney General Slatery September 16, 2015 and are scheduled to go into effect on December 22, 2015.

Ms. Wilkins said licensees are being notified that a fee decrease is effective December 22, 2015 and those who renew in December can wait until after that date to receive a lower renewal fee.

### **Consent Order**

Mr. Pinkley presented a Consent Order for **Rebekah Staats** for falsely documenting that she had completed sixty-two (62) client counseling sessions which she had not completed causing these incomplete sessions being billed to TennCare. Mr. Pinkley said Ms. Staats has completed the three (3) hours of continuing education in proper documentation and having her placed on probation for not less than one (1) year during which no complaints regarding her documentation can be filed against her. Mr. Pinkley stated that failure to maintain one-hundred percent (100%) compliance with the terms of probation will result in the immediate lifting of the stay of suspension of Ms. Staats license.

Mr. Pinkley said Ms. Staats must appear before the Board's Application Review Committee to demonstrate her ability to engage in the practice of master social work.

Ms. Buchanan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Housteau, to reject the Consent Order. The motion carried.

Ms. Housteau made a motion, seconded by Ms. Watson, to suspend Ms. Staats license for six (6) months with a one (1) year probation after the suspension date.

Mr. Zylstra amended Ms. Housteau's motion, seconded by Ms. Williams, to require Ms. Staats to submit a signed quarterly report by her supervisor regarding her job duties and billing while on probation.

A roll call vote was conducted and all Board members, with the exception of Ms. Williams who abstained, voted to amend the Consent Order to suspend Ms. Staats license for six (6) months and require her to submit a signed quarterly report by her supervisor regarding her job duties and billing while on a one (1) year probation after she returns from her suspension. The motion carried.

Mr. Pinkley said he would bring the amended Consent Order to the January 28, 2016 Board meeting.

### **Investigative Report**

Ms. Dorroh reviewed the Complaint Report stating there are nine (9) complaints against LCSWs; seven (7) against LMSWs; and two (2) against LAPSWs.

Ms. Dorroh reviewed the Currently Monitored Practitioners Report stating \$17,070 in fines have been collected with the help of the Attorney General's Office.

## **Administrative Report**

Ms. Stacey reviewed the Administrative Report with the Board stating that as of October 28, 2015 there are 718 LBSW's; 2566 LMSW's; 297 LAPSW's and 2487 LCSW's. Ms. Stacey said three (3) LBSW's; twenty-eight (28) LMSW's; three (3) LAPSW's and thirteen (13) LCSW's retired their licenses. Ms. Stacey said twenty (20) LBSW's, forty-seven (47) LMSW's; four (4) LAPSW's and eighteen (18) LCSW's licenses expired.

Ms. Stacey stated the following board meeting dates have been scheduled for 2016:

January 28, 29, 2016  
May 5-6, 2016  
July 28-29, 2016  
October 27-28, 2016

## **Applicant Interview**

The Board conducted an interview with **Deborah Eubanks**, LCSW applicant, who was required to provide information and an explanation regarding her clinical contact hours.

Ms. Eubanks stated she had been approved previously and didn't understand why her hours were being questioned. She also stated she had been employed for Metro Housing throughout that time period, and went on to explain that she was working additional other jobs in order to attain more hours. She talked extensively giving the full explanation, and presented the board with documentation of work.

Ms. Newman asked Ms. Eubanks to explain what the clinical hours consisted of and what she was doing during those hours. Ms. Newman said the definition of a clinical contact hour is a therapeutic hour of not less than forty-five (45) minutes in which a clinical social worker works with an individual, couple, family or group.

Mr. Zylstra asked Ms. Eubanks to describe the clinical activities she was performing during those family visits. Ms. Eubanks explained the settings, and that she had worked with the children in these homes and the nature of the visits.

Ms. Buchanan also had some additional questions and wanted her to explain how the thirty (30) hours could be continually throughout the logged period with all the variances that come into the day to day schedule of anyone. Ms. Housteau questioned the date application had been received, in relation to the hours being over (6) six years old, and what could and could not be counted. Ms. Anderson inquired what she has done differently this time to prepare better for the exam.

Upon discussion, Ms. Watson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Axley, to approve Ms. Eubanks to sit for the ASWB licensing exam.

A roll call vote was conducted and the motion carried with a vote of six (6) in the affirmative, two abstains and one (1) no. The motion carried.

Ms. Williams – Yes  
Ms. Watson – Yes  
Ms. Housteau – Abstain  
Ms. Buchanan – Abstain  
Mr. Zylstra – No

Ms. Newman - Yes  
Ms. Axley - Yes  
Ms. Armstrong - Yes  
Ms. Anderson – Yes

### **Continuing Education Agreed Citations**

Ms. Housteau made a motion, seconded by Ms. Buchanan, to approve the Agreed Citation for **Arlinda Baxter**. The motion carried.

Ms. Housteau made a motion, seconded by Ms. Buchanan, to approve the Agreed Citation for **Emily McCutcheon**. The motion carried.

Ms. Buchanan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Axley, to approve the Agreed Citation for **Jamie Webb**. The motion carried.

Ms. Housteau made a motion, seconded by Ms. Buchanan, to approve the Agreed Citation for **Katherine Sergeant**. The motion carried.

Ms. Housteau made a motion, seconded by Ms. Axley, to approve the Agreed Citation for **Michael Maurer**. The motion carried.

Ms. Housteau made a motion, seconded by Ms. Buchanan, to approve the Agreed Citation for **William Adcock**. The motion carried.

### **Newly Licensed**

Ms. Housteau made a motion, seconded by Ms. Buchanan, to approve the following LMSW's for licensure:

**Maryann Abdallah**  
**Jennifer H. Adams**  
**Brooke A. Allen**  
**Lindsay Anderson**  
**Brittany Barber**  
**Jean M. Barrs**  
**John L. Barsott**  
**Crista Bautzmann**  
**Janelle N. Billings**  
**John B. Boatner, Jr.**  
**Hargrove Bowles**

**Margaret A. Landry**  
**Chelsea M. Lanier**  
**Katherine E. Love-Pride**  
**Kimberly M. Ludwig**  
**Misty Maldonado**  
**Cinandra B. McCleery**  
**Leah K. McConoughey**  
**Adrienne McCroskey**  
**Jennifer McMahan**  
**Whitney McNeil**  
**Tammy R. Meyers**

**Kimberly J. Burrow  
Melissa A. Burton  
Emily Cail  
Julie L. Calvin  
Jennifer Campbell  
Brenda Cannon  
Meredith J. Casada  
Melinda L. Cavender  
Courtney Chockley  
Jennifer L. Christian  
April Collins  
Alyssa Connally Johnson  
Iris J. Conrad  
Hope N. Crowder  
Hollie Davenport  
Stefanie L. Dedman  
Antoinette S. Degruccio  
Hannah M. Demmitt  
Anna Denino  
Sara Drake  
Daniel B. Dumont  
Breisha K. Dupree  
Rebecca Fout  
Lindsey D. Franks  
Julia A. Gallegos  
Katherine L. Garanzini  
Jill A. Gernert  
Barbara V. Hessel  
Jennifer L. Jenkins  
Stephanie Lee Johnson  
Lashundria Jones  
Shyranda A. Jones  
Twyla King  
Meredith L. Wilson  
Tasia Winston  
Kathryn Yaffee  
Kendra Yates  
Courtney Yocum**

**Tabitna L. Moore  
Jennifer L. Murphy  
Katherine Murphy  
Amber C. Nichols  
Treshain A. Norfleet  
Kathleen E. O'Brien  
Michelle J. Palmer  
Crystal R. Parker  
Jenna S. Pemberton  
Ashley J. Petty  
Blair M. Pigg  
Elizabeth A. Porter  
Kara Potts  
Jessica Renae Prior  
Anne E. Rader  
Heather Richardson  
Ellen H. Ritchey  
Leah J. Sheldon  
Micah Sheppard  
Lantz A. Smith  
Nacole Smith  
Carolyn C. Spotts  
Shelley R. Steakley  
Marla Stout  
Sara M. Tanner  
Susan Taylor  
Jill M. Thomas  
Carissa L. Tripp  
Jerome T. Viltz  
Aubrey Hope Vunk  
Keshia Wade  
Morgan Wallace  
Maria Webb  
Stephanie Weinbeck  
Anna Bonner West  
Mallory C. Williams**

The motion carried.

Ms. Housteau made a motion, seconded by Mr. Zylstra, to approve the following LBSW's for licensure:

**Vashelia P. Bachus  
Tiffany Bare**

**Molly K. Parker  
Drew A. Peterson  
Sharla S. Teel**

The motion carried.

Ms. Housteau made a motion, seconded by Ms. Buchanan, to approve the following LCSW's for licensure:

**Annapoorna Ayyagari  
Elizabeth Bali  
Carissa K. Battle  
Sarah E. Bollinger  
Erin Brinks  
Kelvin Brown  
Tonya Lynn Brown  
Cathy A. Chambers  
Judeith A. Claybrook  
Anamaria Cordeo  
Lana Covington  
Tosha R. Cumbee  
Jeremy Cunningham-Albert  
Shannon N. Fain  
Dana L. Franklin  
Haley E. Geeslin  
Tobey W. Griffin  
Courtney L. Grimes  
Bethany P. Haley  
Stephanie Harness-Gambill  
Mary L. Held  
Greg P. Kirkham  
Daniel Laman**

**Rachel Murray  
Cara L. Nelsen  
Angelyn A. Nicholson  
Sarah J. O'Keefe  
Cara L. Parker  
Kristin Pearson  
Shelonda Phillips-McDonald  
Robyn K. Pruitt  
Jennifer D. Ray  
Julie Redding  
Margarita M. Rogers  
Laura A. Ruble  
Rachel L. Ruby  
Leticia Sanders  
Hiawatha F. Sanford  
Tammy T. Shanahan  
Tess G. Sikma  
Cherie M. Smith  
Meredith N. Starling  
Laura Tessler  
Deborah Ann Thibeault  
Andrea N. Westerfield  
June A. Mitchell**

The motion carried.

**LCSW's Initially Approved by Exam**

Ms. Buchanan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Zylstra, to approve the following LCSW's for licensure by exam:

**Rena Algood  
Christina Brian  
Elizabeth Bryson-Harts  
Deanna Doran  
Karen Dotson  
Richard Fridrick**

**Erica Ivey  
Lisa Jackson  
Cynthia Janke  
Gloria Mucino  
Joy Parrish  
Nancy Reed**

**Clifford Gambrell  
Katie Habegger  
Rachael Haney  
Pamela Hansen  
Kimberly Irby**

**Sarah Simulis  
Ramona Thomas  
Mary Voyles  
Annie Warren  
Jeanie Warren**

The motion carried.

**LCSW Approved By Reciprocity**

Ms. Axley made a motion, seconded by Ms. Housteau, to approve the following LCSW's for licensure by reciprocity:

**Annapoorna Ayyagari  
Carissa Battle  
Sarah Bollinger  
Judeith Claybrook  
Lana Covington  
Tosha Cumbee  
Mary Held  
June Mitchell**

**Rachel Murray  
Angelyn Nicholson  
Sarah O'Keefe  
Laura Ruble  
Leticia Sanders  
Hiawatha Sanford  
Tammy Shanahan  
Meridith Starling  
Deborah Thibeault**

The motion carried.

**File Review**

Ms. Housteau made a motion, seconded by Ms. Buchanan, to approve the LCSW application of **Aleana Young** to sit for the ASWB exam. The motion carried.

Ms. Axley made a motion, seconded by Ms. Armstrong, to approve the LCSW application of **Stephen Spigal** for licensure. The motion carried.

**Reinstatements**

Ms. Buchanan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Axley, to approve the following reinstated LMSW's:

**Bobby J. Williams  
Jeff Thompson  
Angela M. Taflinger  
Jennifer Smith  
Kimberly R. Rickerson  
Marius D. Patton**

**Kalli Nicks  
Carla Jackson  
Hannah Evans  
Christy M. Evans  
Bruce Davis**

The motion carried.

Ms. Buchanan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Zylstra, to approve the following reinstated LAPSW's:

**Jennifer Lea Williams**  
**Sherry D. Bougard**

The motion carried.

Ms. Buchanan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Housteau to approve the following reinstated LBSW's:

**Kelly D. Rutherford**  
**Pamela Renee Simmons**  
**Healthier N. White**

The motion carried.

Ms. Buchanan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Axley, to approve the following reinstated LCSW's:

**Lauren Pearl Dickson**  
**Alisa E. Jones**  
**Holly M. Klich**

**Anne M. Myers**  
**Carol Warren**

The motion carried.

### **Correspondence**

The Board reviewed correspondence from **Nancy Clark**, a licensed LBSW in Mississippi, regarding reciprocity requirements in Tennessee. The Board asked Ms. Stacey to request Ms. Clark to submit an application for licensure for review by a Board member.

The Board reviewed 2014 continuing education waiver requests from the following licensees who were licensed in 2014/2015:

**Rebecca Arrington, LBSW #1184 – Waive 2015**  
**Jennifer Jenkins, LMSW #10486 – Waive 2015**  
**Chris Barrett, LMSW #10087 – Waive 2014**  
**Karen E. Latus, LMSW #1-0088 – Waive 2014**  
**Stephanie Hynds, LMSW #10243 – Waive 2014**

The motion carried.

Upon review of correspondence from **Patricia L. Gallagher, LCSW**, asking for a waiver of the 2015 continuing education requirements due to illness, Ms. Williams made a motion, seconded

by Ms. Buchanan, to grant Ms. Gallagher's request for the waiver. Ms. Housteau recused herself. The motion carried.

**Discuss and take action if needed regarding rulemaking, hearings, rule amendments and policies**

The Board discussed the policy statement regarding non-clinical/clinical hours for applicants and deleting the requirements that LCSW applicants complete 2,000 clinical contact hours, the two year period being measured from the date of application and change the date the policy statement was amended.

Ms. Axley made a motion, seconded by Ms. Buchanan, to amend the policy as discussed. The motion carried.

Ms. Armstrong asked if the rule amendment regarding clinical practice was close to being approved.

Mr. Pinkley said the rules are still in internal review by the Chief Deputy General Counsel.

Ms. Armstrong said she spoke with **Karen Franklin, TN Chapter of NASW**, who indicated legislation regarding telehealth had been approved.

Ms. Franklin stated that Public Chapter 261 allowing anyone licensed under Chapter 63, Health Related Professions, to perform services through telehealth became effective July 1, 2015.

Ms. Franklin stated Frederick Remer chaired a panel of Associations for Social Worker Boards and has completed a model technology guideline for ASWB. Ms. Franklin said the ASWB Board will consider the technology guideline at its November 2015 meeting.

Ms. Franklin said the NASW Task Force completed a review of all fifty (50) states definition of clinical practice and how it relates to the 3,000 clinical hours. Ms. Franklin stated that Tennessee's requirements are more stringent than most states and the ASWB.

Ms. Wilkins stated that the Psychology Board is in the process of drafting telehealth rules which require a Tennessee licensee to obtain a license in each state in which they practice telehealth and requires those licensed in another state to obtain a Tennessee license to practice telehealth in Tennessee.

Upon discussion, Ms. Axley made a motion, seconded by Ms. Buchanan, to allow the current rule changes to go through the process. The motion carried.

Ms. Buchanan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Zylstra, to have the Board meet January 28, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. to discuss rule amendments, which is the day before the regularly scheduled meeting date of January 29, 2016. The motion carried.

The Board requested that Ms. Wilkins, Mr. Pinkley and Ms. Franklin draft language for a rule amendment and submit it to the Board members by January 1, 2016 for their review.

**Adjourn**

With no other Board business to conduct Ms. Buchanan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Zylstra, to adjourn at 12:21 p.m. The motion carried.