

TENNESSEE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKER LICENSURE MINUTES

DATE: February 1, 2018
TIME: 9:00 a.m. CDT
LOCATION: Iris Room, Ground Floor
665 Mainstream Drive
Nashville, TN 37243

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Vicki Gardine Williams, LAPSW, Secretary
Robert Zylstra, LCSW
Tara Watson, LCSW
Kenya Anderson, LMSW
Ann-Marie Buchanan, LMSW
BJ Olivas, (formerly Nesler) LBSW
Karen A. Armstrong, Citizen Member

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT: Julia Axley, LBSW, Chair
Kimberly Mallory, LAPSW
Jennifer Williams, LAPSW
Elizabeth Randall, LCSW

STAFF PRESENT: Christi Stacey, Board Administrator
Teddy Wilkins, Unit Director
Nathaniel Flinchbaugh, Assistant General Counsel

Ms. Vicki Williams, board secretary acting as chair in Ms. Axley's absence, called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. A roll call was conducted and a quorum was present. The Board staff introduced themselves: Christi Stacey, Board Administrator, Teddy Wilkins, Unit Director, and Nathaniel Flinchbaugh, Advisory Attorney.

Minutes

The minutes from the October 27, 2017 meeting were reviewed and motion to approve was made by Ms. Buchanan seconded by Mr. Zylstra. The motion carried.

Office of General Counsel

Mr. Flinchbaugh reported that as of January 29th the Office of General Counsel has four (4) cases against licensees, two (2) of which will be resolved today by consent order; Hubert Coombs and Pete Vernon.

Mr. Flinchbaugh gave an update on the chapter rewrite. It had passed the review by the deputy general counsel and was now with the chief deputy. The telehealth rules were now in internal review. There was one policy statement for the board to review. The policy on non-clinical/clinical applicants needed to be updated for clarification; Mr. Flinchbaugh passed out the draft with updates to the board for review. Motion to approve the revised updated policy statement with language included in the draft was made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Zylstra. The motion carried.

Mr. Flinchbaugh presented an email to the board from Valerie Hayden in regards to a consent order previously signed that required her to complete continuing education requirements with a live course requirement and the problem she was encountering in locating such course. Mr. Flinchbaugh was inquiring from the board a possible modification to the order to be compliant for live courses. The board agreed that live ethics courses weren't offered as frequently and quite often very limited locations. After discussion on the acceptance of live online courses being allowed, the board concluded if the online course was an interactive interaction livestream it would suffice. Mr. Flinchbaugh would contact Ms. Hayden with their decision. That if it was impossible for her to do that he would give her the statue on a modification petition to the order.

Consent Orders

Mr. Flinchbaugh presented the Consent Order for **Hubert Coombs, LMSW #8836**. Mr. Coombs practiced outside of his scope of practice. He was administering medications to the patient at their home. He has been reprimanded and is assessed one (1) type A Civil Penalty in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00), to be paid in full within twelve (12) months of the effective date of the order. The cost assessment shall not exceed \$500.00 also to be paid within twelve (12) months. Mr. Flinchbaugh also informed the board the reason this action was not a revocation of the license was because the license was currently expired. The disciplinary conduct was during the time that his license was still active. Ms. Buchanan made a motion to accept the Consent Order for **Hubert Coombs, LMSW** seconded by Ms. BJ Nesler. The motion carried.

Mr. Flinchbaugh presented the Consent Order for **Pete R. Vernon, LAPSW #76**. Mr. Vernon was practicing on an expired license for approximately twenty-two (22) months. Mr. Vernon will be reprimanded and assessed twenty two Type Civil Penalties of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) each, for a total of twenty-two hundred dollars (\$2,200) to be paid in full within twenty-four (24) months for the effective date of the order. He will also have cost not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) also to be paid within twenty-four (24) months. Ms. Nesler made a motion to accept the Consent Order for **Pete R. Vernon, LAPSW** seconded by Ms. Buchanan. The motion carried.

Investigative Report

Ms. Lori Leonard, newly appointed disciplinary coordinator for the board gave the summary of currently monitored practitioners. Currently the report showed that four (4) had been suspended, four licensees that have been placed on probation, one license had been revoked, four (4) under a board order reprimand, and one (1) under a TSAC (Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation) suspension. Ms. Leonard stated there are no new complaints against LMSW's thus far for the year 2018, with five (5) currently open and being monitored. LAPSW's had no new complaints, none closed, and one (1) open that was currently being monitored. LBSW's had no new complaints, none open and none currently being monitored. LCSW's had one (1) new complaint this year, none closed, and currently monitoring twenty-four (24) open cases.

TDMHSAS -Suicide Prevention training and Substance Abuse Training

Ms. Morenike Murphy along with Ms. Diana Kirby with the Tennessee Mental Health and Substances Abuse services presented information of the upcoming training programs that will be an additional part of the requirements for social workers. They presented a model list of training programs that stemmed from the recent Public Chapter 396 suicide training act. Per legislation requirements the department of mental health and substance abuse has provided the established model list of training programs in collaboration with Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network (TSPN). This legislation requires the professionals licensed under several occupational boards, including the board for professional counselors, marital and family therapists, and clinical pastoral therapists to complete a suicide prevention training program that is approved by rule by the respective board. Beginning January 1, 2020, this training must be completed once every five years and before initial licensure for those applying for initial licensure on or after that date. Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (TDMHSAS) must develop a model list of training programs that cover suicide prevention, assessment, screening, treatment, management, and post-vention. The licensing board may approve a program that excludes one of these elements if the element is inappropriate for the profession in question. The hours spent in the training program shall count towards meeting any continuing education requirements and the Board may promulgate rules to effectuate the purposes of this act. This act took effect on May 18, 2017.

Administrative Report

Ms. Stacey stated that as of January 29, 2018, there were 636 Licensed Baccalaureate Social Workers; 2,718 Licensed Master Social Workers; 277 Licensed Advanced Practice Social Workers; and 2,697 Licensed Clinical Social Workers.

Ms. Stacy said from October 25, 2017 thru January 29, 2018 that one (1) LBSW, thirty three (33) LMSWs, one (1) LAPSW's and ten (10) LCSWs had retired their licenses.

Ms. Stacey said from October 25, 2017 thru January 29, 2018 that fourteen (14) LBSWs, fifty two (52) LMSWs, two (2) LAPSW and seventeen (17) LCSWs license were expired.

Ms. Stacey stated from October 25, 2017 thru January 29, 2018 there were five (5) LBSWs licensed; one hundred, eighteen (118) LMSWs were licensed; two (2) LAPSWs were licensed; and forty seven (47) LCSW's were licensed.

Ms. Buchanan reported she had attended the Fall ASWB Meeting at which time she was elected to the nominating committee to choose board members. She also shared that she had been chosen to as one of the steering committee members of a group of nine in collaboration with CSWE, ASWB and NASW to create a licensing and regulations curriculum guide for the 2015 ePASS.

Review, approve/deny and ratify new licensure files

Upon review Ms. Buchanan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Nesler, to approve the following LBSW applicants for licensure:

**Melody K. Pafford
Anna Kristen Smith**

**Kayla Parra-Flores
Cheryl Jean Steinmetz**

The motion carried.

Upon review Mr. Zylstra made a motion, seconded by Ms. Buchanan, to approve the following LMSW applicants for licensure:

**Regina D. Abston
Jessica N. Alsup
Melanie Arias
Jessica Leann Barry
Stevie Biffle
Isabel C. Bolanos
Brittany Bousquet
Ashia I. Bridges
Brittany M Buchanan
Katie L. Carter
David A. Cleary
Genise R. Coleman
Danzi L. Cutter
Steffi E. Draper
Melinda Louise Finch
Jordan Paige Frye
Lindsay M. George
Hallie Catherine Graves**

**Eliza Ale-Finks
Pat A. Anderson
Valerie J. Baker
Tara M. Becker
Tiffany Shavae Blair
Lisa Marie Bolton
Frankie Anne Bovette
Karen Michelle Broadway
Mary J. Bufford
Kimberly E. Claypool
Lauren Ashley Cobb
Catherine Melanie Corlew
Jessica Diienzo Crossan
Delenny Lapatrack Dubose
Natasha Foltynewicz
Molly E. Gammon
Scott E. Gorka
Joennell Hardyway**

**Julia Hartman
Megan Marie Henegar
Elizabeth Anne Holihan
Selma R. Houston
Kristina S. Jarquin
Ceraya C. Johnson
Jamshid Khoshnoodi
Taylor M. Kirk
Rachelle Lynette Long
Ellion P. Mangel
Charity Danielle Mattingly
Melissa McCoy
Jennifer Lynn Mizov
Elizabeth A. Mountz
Erica S. Neal
Leea Renea Parks
Heather Rose-McGovern Peterson
Latoya R. Pringle
Katelin E. Rankin
Jennifer N. Rayle
Misty Reinecke
Norman Lincoln Shaffer
Rachel C. Simmons
Lisa Stillion
Jessica Strong
Patrisha Faye Tatum
Rikki Lynn Treesh
Anna Underdown
Kendra Wagener
Natalie E. Webb
Demetria A. West
Claudia E. Wilder
Vann Kennedy Wood
Santasha T. Wright-Comer**

**Mackenzie C. Hayes
Lorie Hirsh
Kellie N. Holloway
Janine Leigh Ilsley
Tandra T. Jennings
Wanda M. Keath
Abby Kirby
Marisa T. Lagrange
Richard William Lutey II
Diana Marr
Tiffany R. May
Christi W. McLeod
Lori Bruce Morrow
Paymun Najmi
Stephen Wayne Osborn
Kaitlyn Hobbs Parrish
Taylor L. Pierce
Todd Raley
Elizabeth Mary Rathjen
Rebecca Tyler Reddick
Brittany Sain
Jamie Shelton
Shantel M. Standerfer
Alice Stover
Laura M. Tanenbaum
Lauren L. Thomas
Marion Ann Turner
Virginia Underwood
Christina M. Watson
Joel Dawson Wells
Madelyn A. Whitley
Marie Elise Williams
Teshene Woods**

The motion carried.

Upon review Ms. Nesler made a motion, seconded by Ms. Buchanan, to approve the following LCSW applicants for licensure:

**Amanda Aguirre
Tyler Banks
Judith Merai Buckholz
Anna Ezell
Adina Fuller
Jana Marie Guither**

**Sara Cadden Amos
Jessica R. Brown
Shannon Evans
Michelle Fleming
Penny M. Genous
Joma K. Harris**

**Amy R. Herron
Stefanie M. Hynds
Joan Marie Lodge
Lorrie L. Lundquist
Kimberly L. Miller
Shivaun Marie Nafsu
Ashliegh Michelle Rakestraw
Anne M. Ross
Meredith Sacks
Katy Whitney Shuck
Kimberly Slown
Joy Steorts
Ashley R. Truman
Remington Vandergriff
Kim L. Warner-Hudy
Emily Wilson**

**Laura Dawn Hodges
Laura Kaplan
Vakendell Long
Donald McClasland
Monique Montgomery
Danielle Renee Polier
Barbara Ann Rimer
Darla R. Roundtree
Piper Schouten
Estelle E. Sierra
Charles Smith
Curtisha Renee Taylor
Vicky D. Valentine-Phillips
Kellie Lynn Vandermeer
Catharine Whiting Taliaferro
Raelonda M. Wynn**

The motion carried.

Approve LCSW applicants to sit for written exam

Upon review Ms. Buchanan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Zylstra, to approve the following LCSW applicants to sit for the written exam. Ms. Watson recused herself.

**Nora Allen
Laura Brown
Elaine Dadarria
Hannah Falls
Rodney Helton
Winzetta Jenkins
Cherie Long
Hinda Osina
Ingrid Ransom
Romona Thomas
Bertha Wright**

**Christopher Barrett
Ashley Cofield
Shannon Doss
Mary Gabbert
Nora Honeyman
Anna Juneau
Debra McCullough
Chelsea Ranbar
Lisa Rome
Vicky Lisa Winkle**

The motion carried.

Approve/deny reinstatement applications

Upon review Ms. Buchanan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Watson, to approve the following LBSW reinstated licensees:

Lictoria M. Woods
The motion carried.

Upon review Ms. Buchanan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Nesler, to approve the following LMSW reinstated license:

Tiffany Katrina Blake
Nicole D. Fifer
Danielle M. McDonough
Teresa Price-Cartwright
Ellen H. Ritchey
Anne Sherman
Angela P. Walford-Maragh
Aubrey N. McMillian

Donna R. Dancy
Beverly D. Gibson
Mary Moulder
Carole Randolph
Kandice Robinson
Latoya Thomas-Cason
Meredith L. Wilson

The motion carried.

Upon review Ms. Nesler made a motion, seconded by Ms. Buchanan, to approve the following LAPSW reinstated license:

Kimberly S. Morris
The motion carried.

Kristi Pierce

Upon review Mr. Zylstra made a motion, seconded by Ms. Buchanan, to approve the following LCSW reinstated license:

Betty N. Burns
Susan Kam Mah

Diane Humphreys-Barlow

The motion carried.

Correspondence

Several weeks before the board meeting, **Jocelyn Barton** came to the board office in response to an emailed deficiency letter she had received from Ms. Stacey. Ms. Barton did not agree with Ms. Stacey's explanation of the board's policy on the expiration of clinical hours and requested verbally that her clinical application be taken before the board. At the appropriate time during the meeting, Ms. Stacey gave an overview of the dates in which her clinical logs were completed in relation to the date the application was received. After much discussion on the dates the hours were logged in relation to the date the application was received, the board agreed that Ms. Stacey had made the correct determination that the majority of her hours had expired per the board's policy statement regarding clinical hours. Mr. Zylstra made a motion, seconded by Ms. Buchanan to inform the applicant that the hours in question had expired and could not be counted. The motion carried.

Continuing Education Waiver Request

The following licensee met all the requirements set by the Board for a waiver of the continuing education requirements for 2017. Pursuant to Rule 1365-01.-09

LMSW – Brittany Buchanan
LBSW – Conchetta Johnson

Motion was made to approve the licensee for 2017 waiver of continuing education requirements by Ms. Buchanan, and seconded by Ms. Watson. Ms. Anderson recused herself.
The motion carried.

Discuss legislation and take action if needed:

Public Chapter 396

Named the “Kenneth and Madge Tullis, MD, Suicide Prevention Training Act,” this legislation requires the professionals licensed under several occupational boards, including the board of social worker licensure, to complete a suicide prevention training program that is approved by rule by the respective board. Beginning January 1, 2020, this training must be completed once every five years and before initial licensure for those applying for initial licensure on or after that date. TDMHSAS must develop a model list of training programs that cover suicide prevention, assessment, screening, treatment, management, and post-vention. The licensing board may approve a program that excludes one of these elements if the element is inappropriate for the profession in question. The hours spent in the training program shall count towards meeting any continuing education requirements and the Board may promulgate rules to effectuate the purposes of this act. This act took effect on May 18, 2017.

Mr. Flinchbaugh gave the board copies of the training act with the suggested language for consideration of his noted changes based on the rule changes that had already been submitted for approval. The decision to leave the wording “board approved” continuing education training programs was made with the suggestion to add a policy clarifying that the approved CE would be from the model list through the department of mental health and substance abuse for that licensure level. Much discussion was made in the wording details. Ms. Karen Franklin spoke to the board on the creation of the model list and gave some explanation on how the list included several health boards that legislation had passed in relation to the approved model list.

Motion to approve the wording Mr. Flinchbaugh suggested with minor word corrections was made by Ms. Buchanan, seconded by Ms. Nesler.

Public Chapter 215

This will require state governmental entities that establish or adopt guides to practice to do so through the promulgation of rules, rather than policy. The rules so promulgated must specify all provisions included in and relating to the guide to practice. Any changes to guides to practice made after the guides are adopted must also be promulgated by rule in order to be effective. For purposes of this part, guides to practice includes codes of ethics and other quality standards, but does not include tests, examinations, building codes, safety codes, or drug standards. This legislation took effect on April 28, 2017.

A motion was made to adopt the 2017 version on the Code of Ethics 1365-01.-10 Ethics/Standards of Conduct rule amendment by Ms. Buchanan, and seconded by Mr. Zylstra.
Motion carried.

Mr. Flinchbaugh presented the board with House Bill 1510 for informational purposes. Proposed legislation that full time public employees would be given 10 treatment sessions for PTSD, in addition to other benefits they may be receiving. This bill would allow them to have these sessions through their insurance at their normal rate, and to be covered by their employer. Social Workers are one of the professions that can provide those sessions. It will have a trauma training that will require an additional course one will have to take to provide those services. Two years of post-licensure work with trauma patients and the trauma therapy training. To include Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW) this bill has been filed and is currently pending.

Other board business

Ms. Karen Franklin of NASW TN Chapter inquired of the board if they would be interested in being a sponsor for the NASW Day on the Hill conference again this year. The date of the conference would be Tuesday March 20, 2018 at the War Memorial Auditorium in Nashville. Motion was made by Mr. Zylstra to sponsor at the same level and amount of \$600.00 as the previous year (2017) Seconded by Ms. Buchanan. Motion passed.

Ms. Franklin informed the board that NASW would be pursuing legislation to increase the number of social workers in public schools across the state. Currently 88% of public schools districts do not meet the guideline of one social worker to every 1500 students, 44% of the school districts do not have a school social worker at all. Sponsorship for the bill has been filed.

With no other Board business to conduct Ms. Buchanan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Nesler to adjourn at 12:35 pm. The motion carried.