

TENNESSEE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKER LICENSURE MINUTES

DATE: October 25, 2018
TIME: 9:00 a.m. CDT
LOCATION: Iris Room, Ground Floor
665 Mainstream Drive
Nashville, TN 37243

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Kenya Anderson, LMSW
BJ Nesler, LBSW
Tara Watson, LCSW
Kenneth J. White, LAPSW
Karen A. Armstrong, Citizen Member
Rachel Horton, LBSW

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT: Kimberly Mallory, LAPSW
Robert Zylstra, LCSW
Ann-Marie Buchanan, LMSW
Elizabeth Randall, LCSW
Jennifer Williams, LAPSW

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

Ms. Wilkins, Unit Director called the meeting to order at 9:06. Ms. Anderson, board secretary as acting chair conducted a roll call and a quorum was present, as Mr. Zylstra was absent. The board staff introduced themselves: Christi Stacey, board Administrator, Teddy Wilkins, Unit Director, and Nathaniel Flinchbaugh, Advisory Attorney.

The board began by welcoming new board member Rachel Horton, LBSW to the board.

Minutes

The minutes from the May 10, 2018 meeting were reviewed and motion to approve was made by Ms. Watson, seconded by Mr. White. No corrections were made. The motion carried.

Assistant US Attorney Presentation

Christopher Sabis, Assistant US Attorney for the middle Tennessee district, along with Caroline Tippens, Assistant General Counsel on the Elder Justice Initiative for the Middle Tennessee Elder Justice Task Force made a presentation to the board on the mission of the EJI to support and coordinate the department's enforcement and programmatic efforts to combat elder abuse, neglect, and financial fraud and scams that target our nation's seniors. He covered what the Elder Justice Task Force does; the recent activities they have been involved in, why they are making this presentation and what can be done to work together to report potential abuse, neglect, and financial fraud in protecting our seniors. How they can be a resource for communities to reach out to a number of federal and state agencies to seek help for themselves or family members.

*Healthcare and other service providers are mandatory reporters under T.C. A. 71-6-103.

*Pursuant to T.C.A. 68-11-211, all licensed healthcare facilities have a duty to report abuse, neglect, misappropriation, and financial exploitation to the Department of Health.

*Except for those facilities required to report pursuant to 42 CFR 483.13, each facility shall report incidents of abuse, neglect and misappropriation that occur at the facility to the department within seven (7) business days from the facility's identification of the incident.

*Pursuant to 71-6-103(b)(1), any person having reasonable cause to suspect that an adult has suffered abuse, neglect, or exploitation, shall report or cause reports to be made in accordance with this part.

*Mandatory reporting aside, you care about your clients and their families, and so does the Elderly Justice task Force.

Investigative Report

Ms. Lori Leonard, Disciplinary Coordinator for the board, gave the summary of currently monitored practitioners. Currently the report showed that two (2) had been suspended, four (4) licensees have been placed on probation, one (1) license was revoked, and three (3) are under a board order reprimand.

Ms. Leonard stated in the year 2018 thus far for the Licensed Masters Social Worker (LMSW) there were six (6) new complaints; one of which involved criminal charges, four (4) were for unprofessional conduct, and one (1) was for practicing beyond the scope of practice. Investigations closed five (5) cases. One was closed and sent to the Office of General Counsel for discipline, two (2) were closed with no action, and two (2) were closed with a letter of warning. These were all discipline that is not reported to the data bank; currently investigating six (6) cases. The Licensed Advanced Practice Social Worker (LAPSW) received no (0) new complaints, none closed, and one (1) currently open and under investigation and or review. Licensed Baccalaureate Social Worker (LBSW) had two (2) new complaints; one of which was for falsification; one was for unprofessional conduct. One of the complaints was closed with no action. One (1) is currently open for investigation and or review. For the year 2018, to date for the Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) there were sixteen (16) new complaints; one (1) for sexual misconduct, one (1) for action in another state, one (1) for criminal charges, eleven (11) for unprofessional conduct, and one (1) for failing to supervise. Investigations closed twenty-six (26) complaints; two (2) were closed with insufficient evidence to discipline, two (2) were sent the Office of General Counsel

for discipline, ten (10) were closed with no action, and twelve (12) were closed with a letter of warning. Currently there are twelve (12) open complaints that are being investigated and or reviewed.

Financial Report

Ms. French presented the financial report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, stating salary and wages ended at \$57,186.47; employee benefits \$36,247.16 , travel \$9,171.54, communications \$5,394.12, professional services and dues \$8,379.95, supplies and materials \$460.60, rentals and insurance \$1,857.57, computer related items \$26.91, and state professional services \$13,092.40. Allocated expenditures portions for administration was \$43,961.73, investigations \$36,743.78, legal \$15,521.66, and the cash office closed at \$4,266.30. This gave the board a total of allocated expenditures in the amount of \$231,310.19 for fiscal year 2018. The board also generated revenues in the amount of \$388,225.00, giving the board a current year net of \$156,914.81. The licensing and regulation system (LARS) which externally allows licensees to apply and renew online, internally more efficient data entry and extraction of information per licensee; the board's portion of this improvement closed at \$35,529.08. The board's cumulative carryover balance \$1,487,524.42.

Ms. French covered the boards administrative policy and procedure as it applied to the board of social work which states; "If a Board, Committee or Council's financial report reveals that it's cumulative carryover balance for two consecutive years is twice the amount of the three year average of such entity's annual operational expenditures, this review shall include a discussion concerning the modification of its current fee structures."

Office of General Counsel

Mr. Flinchbaugh reminded the board of the conflict of interest policy and its purpose, as they will be voting on license approvals and agreed citations during the meeting today. If a conflict of interest were to arise they should inform the board, and recuse themselves. Also the Open Meetings Act stating any discussion, whether it be through text message, email, or in person of two board members referring to business, must be properly "sunshined" for public notice. If one use a personal cell phone, or electronic devises one may be subject to subpoena if you conduct board business on that device.

Consent Orders

Mr. Flinchbaugh currently reported five (5) open cases, which involved four (4) licensees. Two of the cases were against the same person. Two of which was set for a trial at the board's next hearing, or if settled before the next board meeting he would present her order of compliance, or contested case hearing. The other three had just been received in his office and were currently being worked.

The chapter rewrite administration has finished their review of the full chapter rewrite on the rule changes to include the changes that they had made, and should now move fairly quickly. Progress is also being made to approve the suicide, telehealth and ethics portions of the pending rule changes.

Mr. Flinchbaugh informed the board of the upcoming FARB (Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards) Annual Forum; January 24-27 including the forum's purpose, approximate cost and its educational benefits, requesting the board's approval to attend. Ms. Wilkins, Unit Director, also requested to attend. Motion was made by Ms. Olivas for approval to send Mr. Flinchbaugh, Ms. Wilkins and up to two other board members. The motion was seconded by Mr. White, motion passed. Ms. Stacey would send an email to the non-attending board members to inquire their interest in attending.

Administrative Report

Ms. Stacey stated that as of October 22, 2018, there were 602 Licensed Baccalaureate Social Workers; 2,870 Licensed Master Social Workers; 272 Licensed Advanced Practice Social Workers; and 2,736 Licensed Clinical Social Workers.

Ms. Stacy said from July 24, 2018 thru October 22, 2018 that one (1) LBSW, thirty-one (31) LMSWs, three (3) LAPSW's and twenty-one (21) LCSWs had retired their licenses.

Ms. Stacey said from July 24, 2018 thru October 22, 2018 that twenty (20) LBSWs, thirty-eight (38) LMSWs, two (2) LAPSW and twenty-two (22) LCSWs license were expired.

Ms. Stacey stated from July 24, 2018 thru October 22, 2018 there were no (0) LBSWs licensed; one hundred, and sixteen (116) LMSWs were licensed; one (1) LAPSWs were licensed; and forty seven (47) LCSW's were licensed.

The dates for 2019 Board of Social Work meetings:

02/07/2019

04/25/2019

08/01/2019

10/24/2019

Agreed Citation

The board reviewed an Agreed Citation for **Karen S. Ratliff LCSW #5690** who was audited and found to be deficient on her continuing education hours. Ms. Ratliff was fined one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per board policy. She paid the fine and completed the deficient continuing education credit hours. Motion to accept the agreement was made by Ms. Olivas, seconded by Ms. Watson. The motion carried.

The board reviewed an Agreed Citation for **Lauren R. Stiles LAPSW #321** who was audited and found to be deficient on her continuing education hours. Ms. Stiles was fined one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per board policy. She paid the fine and completed the deficient continuing education credit hours. Motion to accept the agreement was made by Ms. Watson, seconded by Ms. Olivas. The motion carried.

The board reviewed an Agreed Citation for **Abby Lynn Johnson LBSW #79** who was audited and found to be deficient on her continuing education hours. Ms. Johnson was fined one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per board policy. She paid the fine and completed the deficient continuing education credit hours. Motion to accept the agreement was made by Ms. Olivas, seconded by Ms. Watson. The motion carried.

Review, approve/deny and ratify new licensure files

Upon review, Ms. Armstrong made a motion, seconded by Ms. Olivas, to approve the following LMSW applicants for licensure:

Sylvia Akins	Andrew M. Akridge
Micha Perry Arfons	Alona Armour
Jesse R. Ayres	Emily Marie Badger
Victoria Baez	Jessica Leanne Balzer
Elizabeth V. Barry	Adren Lynette Boyd
Laura E. Brittan	Marriott A. Brown
Ivy Buerkle	Clarice R. Burnett
Jennifer Campbell	Torri Noel Carver
Lindsey Casabella	Lydia Cole
Lindsay Cooney	Jessica Michelle Cox
Brianna Darby	Sarah Dill
David Dodd	Ashley Dortch
Thecle Ebanks	Dana L. Ebstein
Katie Estes	Brittany Farr
Megan K. Finkentey	Alison Owen Forehand
Jennifer Marie Fulcher-Thompson	Kara Shea Gagnon
Florence Maria Gibbs	Thomas Edward Graham
Olivia Karene Griffith	Lindsay Ann Grisanti
Keri Lee Halbert	Mari Hanchar
Jami Lynn Hargrove	Mendy Harmon
Andre Hitchcock	Lisa Hoyle
Allison Rae Henley Hurst	Rachel Adena Iroff
Robert Boyd Jackson IV	Sarah Janes
Brittany Jewett	Katherine Suzanne Jones
Kionna Jenise Jones	Celia Barley Joyce
Alyssa Kamens	Suzanne Noelle Kilzer
April Denise King	Laura Rose King
Madison Brooke Kuykendall	Rachel Marie Lang
Katherine Priscilla Larson	Christina Lawless
Mary T. Lawrence	Ian C. Lincoln
Jessica Christina Knowles Lon	Lindsay Marie Lorson
Jennifer Maloy	Marcea M. Marble Moore
Kelly C. Marcy	Rian Massie

**Jacqueline Tremblay Matthews
Rachael K. Maynard
Sarah Julia McDaniel
Emily Menke
Dustin Scott Mock
Eugenia Marie Moses
Tracy Neidert
Rosemary Park
Timothy Bonner Patton
Deborah Hope Pitt
William Peter Rayburn
Kelly Sullivan Ridge
Elizabeth Russell
Lain Anghus Scott
Donna D. Smith
Kelly Bradley Stewart
Ann Rebecca Teaster
Caitlin Rose Torkel
Breanne Vailes
Brianna Kathleen Wachter
Monica Faye Walton
Verkita Sha Washington
Amanda Caroline Whitehurst
Grant Alexander Winter**

**Maria Matty
Caitlin Mary McCollister
Keely Kathleen McInturf
Brent Metcalf
Cristina Moorehead
Johnna R. Neel
Florence Paquet
Vandra Parks
Kristen Hoffman Pevahouse
Meredith Powell
Hannah Reed
Genessa Roberts
Jane Carol Saffles-Granville
Clark Holman Simmons
Sara Weir Smith
Bob Stover
Kevin Robert Thomas
Emily Trentham
Heather Nicole Vernon
Thomas Jordan Walley
Lisa Yvette Warren
Heather Watson
Leonard Williams
Lillian Arriona Yates**

The motion carried.

Upon review Ms. Watson made a motion, seconded by Mr. White, to approve the following LAPSW applicant for licensure:

Jessica K. Cowick

The motion carried.

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

**Faranak D. Alviri
Matthew Andres
Brittany Barber
Hargrove Bowles
Nina V. Bratcher
Melissa A. Burton
Linda S. Coeburn
Leslie Culbertson**

**Samantha Ammann
Jennifer Nicole Avila
Jill Blount-Clark
Shaaron Boyles
Victoria Busey Burdeshaw
Jennifer Campbell
Deborah G. Cox
Aline B. Defiglia**

**Rebecca A. DeLong
Leslie K. Goddard
Rachael N. Hanson
Julie A. Hartung
Courtney Elizabeth Hegadorn
Tiffany M. Hetrick
Corrine Yandell Lewis
Patricia Marsh
Shelly S. O'Connor
Kathy M. Phillips
Denise Ridente
Kimberly Jo Whipple Sargent
Kimberly Lynn Simerly
Lantz A. Smith
Amber Williams
Cheryl Worzala-Grogin**

**Meredith Fram
Melissa M. Hall
Liza Haroldson
Connie L. Haxby
Rodney Helton
Brianna Evelyn Johnson
Katherine List
Steven McGaffigan
Kelly Diane Perrel
Chelsea Rahbar
Jordan N. Roberts
Charles Shivley
Jennifer Nicole Smith
Ramona J. Thomas
Rebekkah Witten**

The motion carried

Approve LCSW applicants to sit for written exam

Upon review of the initially approved, Ms. Olivas made a motion, seconded by Mr. White, to approve the following LCSW applicants, and one *LAPSW applicant to sit for the written exam:

**Wendy Anderson
Hayley Barnes
Beth Brown
Terese Coleman-Moore
Kendall Elsass
Lakesha Gomes
Tiffany Hillsman
Jill J. Howlette
Doretha Johnson
Andria Jordan
Christen Long
Tammy Meyers
Mary Mullinix
Adrian Osborn
Ceola Price
Ashley Rose
Jessica Sain
Brian Schultz
Louanna Seely
Jennifer Trail*
Sarah Wise**

**Kaitlyn Armstrong
James Bennett
Olivia Brown
Rebecca Deardorff
Jennifer Gervin
Megan Hay
Amanda Howell
Ruthie James
Abby Jones
Elizabeth Lamberson
Leah McConoughey
Leah Moseley
Tracy Nalory
Ashley Petty
Diana Puckett
Natalie Rothwell
Julian Sanborn
Stacie A. Scott
Valerie L. Smith
Jerome Viltz
Emily Zimmerman**

The motion carried.

Approve/deny reinstatement applications

Upon review Ms. Watson made a motion, seconded by Mr. White, to approve the following **LBSW** reinstated license:

Samantha C. Bowman

Sheree M. Goldsmith

The motion carried.

Upon review Ms. Watson a motion, seconded by Mr. White, to approve the following **LMSW** reinstated license:

**Jennifer Campbell
Kimberly N. Hawkins
Bethany L. Roden**

**Ginger Rachel Adams
Rachel M. Loveday
Alicia M. Zuger**

The motion carried.

Upon review Ms. Watson a motion, seconded by Ms. Olivas, to approve the following **LCSW** reinstated license:

Monica D. Krulewitz

The motion carried.

Correspondence

Catherine Smith, LMSW - Ms. Smith appeared before the board to request that accrued non-clinical hours completed during the time her licensed lapsed count in working toward her LAPSW licensure. Ms. Smith presented her letter of request stating her reason in the lapse of license, her work requirements, work credentials, and the specifics of her situation. Ms. Smith stated that she would lose eight hundred, seventy one hours (871) of non-clinical supervision hours if this time period cannot be counted. The board took into consideration that though the hours were not of clinical nature, the rules do require an active LMSW license in order to practice under the supervision of an LAPSW in counting logged hours. Board attorney Mr. Flinchbaugh advised against allowing any of the hours accrued while the license was expired to count as it is against the practice act in the statutes. Motion was made to deny the hours during the time period in which the license was expired made by Ms. Olivas, and seconded by Mr. White.

The decision denying the hours to count was decided by a roll call vote:

Ms. Armstrong – Yes

Mr. White – Yes

Ms. Anderson – Yes
Ms. Watson – No

Ms. Horton – No
Ms. Olivas – Yes

The vote was four (4) agreed, two (2) opposed. The motion to deny the hours passed.

Victoria Fisher, LMSW submitted correspondence to the board requesting that her CE requirements for 2018 be waived due to medical issues that had confined her to bedrest. She had scheduled to attend a fall conference but had to cancel due to pregnancy-related complications. After consideration of the request and review of her documentation the board concluded that Ms. Fisher is allowed an extension in time in which to complete the 2018 requirements. The board agreed to allow her to complete the twelve (12) hours required for 2018 in combination with her 2019 hours. Motion was made by Ms. Armstrong, and seconded by Ms. Olivas.

The motion carried.

Other board business

With no other board business to conduct motion to adjourn at 10:55am was made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Olivas. The motion carried.

Minutes ratified by the board on February 7, 2019