

THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK
MINUTES
Friday, July 1, 2016

The Virginia Board of Social Work ("Board") meeting convened at 10:13 a.m. on Friday, July 1, 2016, at the Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia. Yvonne Haynes, Chair called the meeting to order.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Angelia Allen, Citizen Member
Jamie Clancy, L.C.S.W.
Maria Eugenia del Villar, L.C.S.W.
Yvonne Haynes, L.C.S.W.
Dolores Paulson, L.C.S.W., Ph.D.
John Salay, L.C.S.W.
Joseph Walsh, L.C.S.W., Ph.D.
Bernadette Winters, L.C.S.W., Ph.D.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Kristi Wooten, Citizen Member

STAFF PRESENT: Sarah Georgen, Licensing Manager
Lisa Hahn, Chief Deputy Director of DHP
Jaime Hoyle, Executive Director
Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director
Charlotte Lenart, Licensing Specialist
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst

BOARD COUNSEL: Erin Barrett, Assistant Attorney General

MISSION STATEMENT:

Ms. Haynes read the mission statement of the Department of Health Professions, which was also the mission statement of the Board.

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Haynes requested a roll call. Ms. Lenart announced that seven members of the Board were present; therefore a quorum was established. At 10:40 a.m., Ms. Allen arrived changing the quorum to eight members of the Board present.

EMERGENCY EGRESS:

Ms. Haynes announced the Emergency Egress Procedures.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Ms. Hoyle asked the Board to amend the agenda to allow for Elizabeth Carter, Ph.D., Director of Health Workforce Data Center to provide her presentation following the approval of the minutes. In addition, she asked that the Regulatory/Legislative Update by Ms. Yeatts be presented following staff and committee

reports. Mr. Salay made a motion to approve the amended agenda as presented by Ms. Hoyle. The motion was seconded and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Debra Riggs, Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers, Virginia Chapter (“NASWVA”) provided public written and spoken comment. The NASWVA Board of Directors has approved the chapter to move forward with proposed legislation for the upcoming 2017 General Assembly session to support the multi-level licensure using the Association of Social Work Boards (“ASWB”) model law as the best practice model.

Joseph G. Lynch, LCSW, CSOTP provided public written comment. Mr. Lynch stated that the Board’s primary role is to protect the public and urged caution during the mid-level process.

Rick Goodling, Co-President of the Virginia Society of Clinical Social Work and former Legislative Vice President and representative for the Greater Washington Society for Clinical Social Work (“GWSCSW”) provided public written and spoken comment. Mr. Goodling stated that GWSCSW is in support of mid-level licensure.

Ms. Hoyle responded to the public comment and explained that the discussion regarding multi-level licensure was an important issue that requires a full Board vote in order to make statutory changes to the Code of Virginia. Ms. Hoyle stated that the statutory changes must be completed by mid-July; therefore the Board is on a strict time frame for a decision. Ms. Hoyle also commented that the changes to the meeting were in compliance with § 2.2-3707 of the Code of Virginia.

Sue Roland, of the Virginia Society of Clinical Social Work provided public comment in response to a question from the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ms. Clancy made a motion to approve the March 25, 2016 meeting minutes as written. The motion was seconded and carried.

HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE DATA CENTER REPORT:

Dr. Carter presented the latest findings on Virginia’s Licensed Clinical Social Worker Workforce report developed from responses to the 2015 online renewal. The report provided baseline information on the working population of Licensed Clinical Social Workers (“LCSW”), including Profession Reports, Virginia CareForce Snapshots, Regional CareForce Snapshots, Student Choice, and Virginia Health Workforce Briefs.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Ms. Hahn presented the Director’s report stating that the Department of Health Professions (“DHP”) is focusing on the call volume and is considering a central call center for the agency in the future. She noted that DHP is reviewing Board websites for accuracy and will examine the possibility of a more interactive or mobile website service.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Ms. Hoyle commented that she included a copy of the budget in the agenda packet for the Board's review. Ms. Hoyle attended the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration ("SAMHSA") Conference in June which focused on regional portability workforce issues. Ms. Hoyle stated that board staff continues to work hard and provides coverage for other Behavioral Sciences Boards. Ms. Hoyle stated that Ms. Lang and Ms. Georgen are both participating in discipline and licensing workgroups, respectively, to help continuity between Boards.

Ms. Hoyle announced that the Board of Counseling Licensing Manager position was recently posted and she hopes to have this position filled in the near future.

Ms. Hoyle stated that the Board has several members whose terms ended on June 30, 2016. Ms. Hoyle stated that the Secretary's Office is currently working on re-appointments and will be in contact with the Board following the announcement.

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Ms. Lang referred to the agency's statistics for discipline cases and noted that the Board has only closed ten cases since the last Board meeting. Ms. Lang thanked Board members for their time in reviewing disciplinary matters, but acknowledged that the backlog of cases for review continues to increase and asked for volunteers in reviewing cases. Currently the Board has 104 cases that need probable cause review.

LICENSING MANAGER'S REPORT:

Ms. Georgen state that as of the end of Quarter 3 for the 2016 Fiscal Year, the Board of Social Work regulated 6,828 licensees and licensed 131 individuals. Ms. Georgen stated that staff is working hard to update the application processes, such as fillable PDF forms, approval templates, instructions and frequently asked questions. Ms. Georgen stated that staff is working to streamline and clarify the website and process as much as possible. She requested input from the Board members or public regarding these processes. Ms. Georgen announced that if the fast-track regulations take effect on August 12, 2016, then staff will have the applications and forms updated prior to that date.

Ms. Haynes recognized Board Staff for their hard work and dedication. In addition, Mr. Salay commented on the improvement of the application process and thanked Ms. Georgen and Ms. Lenart for their continued support to licensee, applicants and the public.

BREAK:

At 10:28 a.m., the Board took a break. At 11:44 a.m., the Board reconvened.

REGULATORY COMMITTEE REPORT:

Dr. Winters stated that the Regulatory Committee discussed the scope of practice for Licensed Bachelor Social Worker ("LBSW") and began working on the scope for Licensed Master Social Workers ("LMSW"). Dr. Winters urged the Board to come to an agreement today regarding multi-tiered licensure.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT:

Mr. Salay had nothing to report.

SPECIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Ms. Haynes had nothing to report.

BOARD OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS REPORT:

Ms. Haynes stated that she was unable to attend the last Board of Health Professions meeting but included a draft of the meeting minutes in the agenda packet.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ms. Hoyle reviewed the Sanction Reference Point (“SRP”) Guidance Document which was a result of the recent changes to the Sanctioning Reference Point worksheet.

Ms. Clancy made a motion to approve the Sanction Reference Point (“SRP”) Guidance Document as written. The motion was seconded and carried.

REGULATORY/LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

Ms. Yeatts provided regulatory action information on House Bill (“HB”) 319 mandated by the 2016 General Assembly which allows volunteer services time to count towards meeting continuing education requirements.

Mr. Salay made a motion to table the discussion on HB 319 to the next Full Board or Regulatory meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

Ms. Yeatts suggested that Board members send their recommendations regarding volunteer service to count towards continuing education, as outlined in HB 319, to Ms. Hoyle by September 16, 2016 to allow staff time to provide the Board with a summary of recommendations.

Ms. Yeatts provided information on the Public Participation Guidelines (“PPG”) to conform to the regulations as written in the Code of Virginia which allows counsel or other representatives the opportunity to provide online public comment.

Ms. Clancy made a motion to adopt the amendments to PPG Regulations of the Board of Social Work 18VAC140-11-50(A) to confirm changes in Regulation by fast-track action be approved as written. The motion was seconded and carried.

Ms. Yeatts asked for clarification regarding the draft of Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (“NOIRA”) amendments to amend and broaden the current definition of clinical social work services to include the addition of psychosocial interventions as recommended by the Regulatory Committee. Dr. Winters commented that the Regulatory Board had a lengthy discussion and agreed that psychosocial interventions needed to be added to broaden the definition of clinical social work services as social workers are currently providing these services to the public.

Ms. Yeatts reviewed the revision of regulations for reinstatement and reactivation to require one hour of supervision per 40 hours of work experience in providing social work services appropriate to the license being reinstated or reactivated as recommended by the Regulatory Committee.

LUNCH BREAK:

At 12:21 a.m., the Board took a break and reconvened at 12:37pm for a working lunch.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS CONTINUED:

After a lengthy discussion, Dr. Paulson made a motion in concept for Ms. Yeatts to draft legislation to add two additional licenses, definitions and registration persons under supervision obtaining practice experience required for a LCSW to be added to § 54.1-3705 of the Code of Virginia and that the Board be provided the authority to license a Licensed Bachelor Social Worker (“LBSW”), Licensed Master Social Worker (“LMSW”), and a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (“LCSW”) in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Board. The motion was seconded and carried.

Ms. Yeatts stated that she will draft the updated language to § 54.1-3705 of the Code of Virginia and Ms. Georgen will circulate the draft to be reviewed by Board members. Board members should make recommendations or changes and respond directly to Ms. Georgen or Ms. Hoyle as soon as possible thereafter.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Haynes noted that three Board members will be rotating off of the Board. Dr. Walsh has requested to be re-appointed by the Governor; however Dr. Winters and Ms. Wooten decided not to seek re-appointment. Ms. Haynes thanked the Board members for their dedication and services to the Board.

NEXT MEETING:

Ms. Haynes announced that the next full Board is scheduled for on October 14, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Yvonne Haynes, Chair

Jaime Hoyle, Executive Director