

APPROVED

**THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK
MINUTES
FRIDAY, JULY 25, 2003**

The Virginia Board of Social Work ("Board") meeting was convened at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 25, 2003 at the Department of Health Professions, 6603 West Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia. Sharon Ekleberry, Chair, called the meeting to order.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sharon C. Ekleberry
George Offerman
David R. Boehm
Valerie Carter-Williams
Fredrick D. Weston

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Nandini N. Assar
Anne Keast

STAFF PRESENT: Evelyn B. Brown, Executive Director
Benjamin Foster, Deputy Executive Director
Arnice N. Covington, Administrative Assistant
Howard Casway, Senior Assistant Attorney General
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst

OTHERS PRESENT: Grace Turner, Legislative Affairs Representative,
National Association Social Workers

ORDERING OF AGENDA

Ms. Ekleberry opened the floor to any changes in the agenda order. The agenda was accepted as submitted.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBER:

Ms. Ekleberry introduced David Boehm who is a licensed clinical social worker and a new Board member.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Ekleberry opened the floor to comment from the public. Ms. Turner gave an overview of her responsibilities at NASW.

APPROVAL OF MAY 9, 2003 MINUTES:

It was noted that Howard Casway's name was not listed on the roster of staff members. A motion was made by Mr. Weston and properly seconded to accept the minutes of May 9, 2003 with the addition of Mr. Casway's name as Staff present. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Chair's Report

Ms. Ekleberry appointed the following Committees:

- Continuing Education: George Offerman, Chair; Valerie Carter-Williams
- Credentials Committee: George Offerman, Chair; Nandini Assar
- Discipline Committee: Sharon Ekleberry, Chair; Fredrick Weston and David Boehm
- Newsletter Committee: Anne Keast, Chair; Nandini Assar
- Regulatory Committee: Valerie Carter-Williams, Chair; Anne Keast

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Brown and Mr. Casway discussed HB 1441, a Confidential Consent Agreement that became effective July 1, 2003. Ms. Brown explained that this Agreement was for minor infractions that do not harm the public. No public record will be available on a Confidential Consent Agreement.

Discipline Committee

Ms. Ekleberry reported that the Board currently has 21 complaints in Investigations; five (5) cases at Board level; and one (1) case has been returned to Enforcement for additional information.

Ms. Brown reviewed a Consent Order signed by Marcha Ortiz, L.C.S.W., whereby her license was indefinitely suspended. Following discussion Mr. Weston moved to approve the Consent Order. Mr. Offerman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Regulatory Committee – Benjamin Foster/George Offerman

Mr. Foster discussed the changes proposed at the meeting on May 9, 2003 regarding 18 VAC 140-20-150 Professional Conduct.

Following review of the changes Mr. Weston moved to adopt the changes. Mr. Offerman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Ms. Carter-Williams was not in attendance.)

Newsletter Committee

Ms. Brown reported that a draft of the Newsletter is ready and has been forwarded to Ms. Keast. It is expected that the Newsletter will be mailed prior to the September 10th Board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

The Board reviewed the scheduled Meeting dates: September 19, 2003; February 20; May 14; and September 10, 2004.

Mr. Offerman reported on his contacts with other Board offices regarding the requirements for continuing education. Following discussion it was determined that the issue would be on the Agenda for full discussion at the September 19, 2003 meeting.

Joseph G. Lynch sent a letter to Ms. Ekleberry, Chair, requesting that the Board consider regulatory changes that would allow Bachelor of Social Work students to sit for the License Social Work Examination in their final semester of school. The Chair requested a copy of the letter be sent to the Board for discussion at the September 19th meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Sharon Ekleberry, Chair

Evelyn B. Brown, Executive Director