



Virginia Department of
Health Professions
Board of Social Work

FINAL-APPROVED
Virginia Board of Social Work
Quarterly Board Meeting Minutes
Friday, August 18, 2023, at 10:30 a.m.
9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, VA 23233
Board Room 2

PRESIDING OFFICER: Canek Aguirre, Citizen Member, Board Chairperson

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Elke Cox, MSW, LCSW
Martha Meadows, MSW, LCSW (*New Board Member*)
Sherwood Randolph, MSW, LCSW
Teresa Reynolds, MSW, LCSW

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Angelia Allen, Citizen Member
Eboni Bugg, MSW, LCSW
Gloria Manns, MSW, LCSW
Denise Purgold, MSW, LCSW

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Latasha Austin, Licensing & Operations Manager
Jaime Hoyle, JD, Executive Director
Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director- Discipline
Charlotte Lenart, Deputy Executive Director- Licensing
Sharniece Vaughan, Licensing Specialist

DHP STAFF PRESENT: Erin Barrett, JD, Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs, Department of Health Professions
James Jenkins, RN, Agency Deputy Director, Special Advisor to the Governor on Workforce
Matt Novak, Policy & Economic Analyst, Department of Health Professions
Arne Owens, Agency Director, Department of Health Professions

BOARD COUNSEL PRESENT: James Rutkowski, Assistant Attorney General

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Debbie Oswalt, Virginia Healthcare Foundation
Debra Riggs, National Association of Social Workers (NASW)- Virginia Chapter
Mark Smith, Virginia Society for Clinical Social Work

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Aguirre called the Board Meeting to order at 10:36 a.m.

ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM: An introduction was done of all Board members and staff. Five members of the Board were present at roll call; therefore, a quorum was established.

MISSION STATEMENT: Mr. Aguirre read the mission statement of the Department of Health Professions, which was also the mission statement of the Board.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: The agenda was adopted as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment was provided.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Board reviewed the minutes from the last meeting held on June 16, 2023.

Motion: Ms. Reynolds made a motion, which Mr. Randolph properly seconded to approve the minutes from the June 16, 2023 meeting as presented.

AGENCY REPORT:

Mr. Owens welcomed Ms. Meadows to the Board. Mr. Owens reported on several accomplishments for the agency. He indicated that staff vacancies have decreased, and the current rate is 3.4%. He reported that the agency had an overall satisfaction rating from applicants of 99%. Mr. Owens reported that a compensation study was conducted, and adjustments were made to compensate staff appropriately.

Mr. Owens also informed the Board of the updates to technology and the use of BOTs by the agency. He also informed the Board that the agency is in process of digitizing case files.

Mr. Owens reported that workforce continues to be the main focus of the Agency and behavioral health is the top focus of the Governor. Mr. Owens also informed the Board about Governor Youngkin's Right Help Right Now initiative to reform the current behavioral health system in Virginia and support individuals in crisis. He informed the Board that both Mr. Jenkins and Ms. Hoyle are part of the workgroup for this initiative.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT:

No report

LEGISLATION & REGULATORY REPORT:

- **Chart of Regulatory Actions**

Ms. Barrett reviewed with the Board the current regulatory actions for the Board of Social work as of August 2, 2023. A copy of the chart was included in the agenda packet.

- **Adoption of Revised Policy on Meetings Held with Electronic Participation Based on Statutory Change**

Ms. Barrett reviewed and discussed the proposed revised electronic participation policy with the Board.

Motion: Ms. Cox made a motion, which Mr. Randolph properly seconded, to revise the policy on meetings held with electronic participation as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Initiation of Periodic Review of Public Participation Guidelines Contained in 18VAC140-11**

Ms. Barrett reviewed the Public Participation Guidelines with the Board and indicated the Agency is required to conduct a periodic review of regulatory chapters every four years. Even though there have been no changes to the chapter, the Board is still required to conduct a periodic review.

Motion: Mr. Randolph made a motion, which Ms. Reynolds properly seconded, to initiate periodic review of 18VAC140-11. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Consideration of Candidate Status for Educational Programs under 18VAC140-30-49**

The Board reviewed the documents included in the agenda packet. Ms. Cox provided an overview of the accreditation process for the Board.

Motion: Ms. Reynolds made a motion, which Ms. Cox properly seconded, to accept initial applicants for supervision who have graduated with a Master's degree from an institution that is in candidacy status with the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). In addition, the applicant cannot be approved to sit for

the exam until their institution has been granted accredited status by CSWE. The motion passed unanimously.

Board staff are to come back to next meeting with steps that have been taken regarding this matter.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Ms. Hoyle welcomed Ms. Meadows to the Board. Ms. Hoyle reported that Ms. Allen's second term with the Board expired as of June 30, 2023, but she has not heard if her seat will be replaced. Ms. Allen will remain on the Board until her seat has been replaced.

Ms. Hoyle informed the Board that the ASWB Annual meeting would be held in Memphis, Tennessee the first weekend in November and that any Board members interested in attending should inform Board staff.

Ms. Hoyle informed the Board that she has received no update on a Social Work Board Member being appointed to the Board of Health Professions. Ms. Hoyle indicated she would inquiry to see if Mr. Randolph needs to re-apply.

DISCIPLINE REPORT:

Ms. Lang informed the Board there was no formal discipline report as there has not been enough time from the last meeting in June to the current meeting for enough data to be reported. Ms. Lang did inform the Board that she is currently looking to fill a part-time C.E. auditing position and is looking for an Agency Subordinate for the Board of Social Work.

LICENSING REPORT:

Ms. Lenart report on the licensure statistics and satisfaction survey results for the Board of Social Work. A copy of the report given was included in the agenda packet. In addition, she indicated that over 866 supervisors are currently listed on the supervisor registry. She indicated that staff continue to work hard which is reflective of the 97% satisfaction survey and applications are currently being processed within 7- 10 business days.

Ms. Lenart reported that we would be interviewing for another full-time licensing specialist position in 2 weeks but would be losing Darlene Graham who is a part-time employee at the end of September. Ms. Graham will be retiring for the second time from DHP after having worked for the Board of Nursing for many years before coming to Social Work.

Ms. Lenart report that staff is continuing to use BOT technology to keep applicants informed of their application status and that the online application upload feature continues to be a success.

Lastly, Ms. Lenart reported that a QR code will now appear on all new licenses issued by the Board that will enable clients to directly verify a licensee's credential and disciplinary actions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Regulatory Committee**

Mr. Aguirre reported that more Board members are needed to volunteer to join the Regulatory Committee.

- **Ad Hoc Committee**

Mr. Randolph reported that one school has expressed interest in outreach with the Board. Mr. Randolph will develop guidelines and goals for the Committee and bring it back to the Board, as the initial focus was on exams. It will include the target area of the dialogue, what's to be discussed, a plan to invited ASWB and

potentially having Board members volunteer to do outreach at schools in their geological area.

• **Election of Officers**

The Board reviewed the slate of candidates presented by the Nominations Committee at the last Board meeting held on June 16, 2023. No new nominations were presented from the floor.

Motion: Ms. Cox made a motion, which Ms. Reynolds properly seconded, to re-elect Mr. Aguirre as chair. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Ms. Reynolds made a motion, which Mr. Randolph properly seconded, to elect Ms. Bugg as vice-chair. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board reviewed and discussed House Bill 2231, Code of Virginia 54.1-2400.02, and Code of Virginia 54.1-2506.1, that were included in the agenda packet, as Board staff requested clarification as to what contact information should be provided on the supervisory registry. Major concerns were raised by the Board about licensees’ personal information being on the registry. It was suggested that persons could use google and other professional resources to search for personal contact information for supervisors listed on the registry. No changes were recommended by the Board to the registry.

Ms. Hoyle informed the Board to save the date for October 13, 2023, for the Department of Health Professions Board Member Training. The training is for both new and old board members. The training will take place at the Department of Health Professions headquarters. More information about the training to come.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

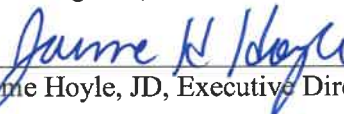
The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 3, 2023

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Aguirre adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.



Canek Aguirre, Citizen Member, Chair



Jaime Hoyle, JD, Executive Director