Virginia Department of Health Professions
Board of Social Work

DRAFT
Virginia Board of Social Work
Quarterly Board Meeting Minutes
Friday, July 10, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.
9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, VA 23233
Board Room 2

PRESIDING OFFICER: Teresa Reynolds, MSW, LCSW, Board Chairperson

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Joan Landolt, MSW, LCSW
Victoria Mattis, MSW, LCSW *(arrived at 10:28am)*
Marshall Pattie, PhD, Citizen Member
Denise Purgold, MSW, LCSW
Sherwood Randolph Jr., MSW, LCSW

BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING VIRTUALLY: Elke Cox, LCSW (via Teams) – Ms. Reynolds approved Ms. Cox's virtual attendance at the meeting, via Teams, after Ms. Cox timely notified the board that she would be traveling out of state and unable to attend the meeting in person.

Kimberly Jackson, Citizen Member (via Teams) – Ms. Reynolds approved Ms. Jackson's virtual attendance at the meeting, via Teams, after Ms. Jackson timely notified the board that she could not attend in person due to medical reasons.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Denise Purgold, MSW, LCSW

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Krystal Blanton, Discipline & Compliance Case Specialist
Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director
Maria Stransky, LPC, CSAC, CSOTP, Executive Director
Sharniece Vaughan, Licensing & Operations Supervisor
Rebecca Walker, Licensing Specialist

DHP STAFF PRESENT: David E. Brown, D.C., Agency Director, Department of Health Professions
Matt Novak, Agency Regulatory Coordinator, Department of Health Professions

BOARD COUNSEL PRESENT: James Rutkowski, Assistant Attorney General

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: John Richardson-Lauve, LCSW, Senior Director of Community Outreach and Trauma-Informed Care Specialist**,** St. Joseph's Villa
Mark Smith, Greater Washington Society for Clinical Social Work (GWSCSW), Virginia Society of Clinical Social Work (VSCSW)
Ophelia Von Ludwig, LCSW, VSCSW
Cassidy Wright, Richmond Association of Black Social Workers (RABSW), National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSW)

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Reynolds called the Board Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM: All Board members and staff were introduced. With seven members of the Board being present at roll call, a quorum was established. At 10:28 a.m., Ms. Mattis joined the meeting, bringing the total board attendance to eight members.

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: The Board reviewed the proposed agenda for the July 10, 2026, meeting. The agenda was approved as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Board reviewed the minutes from the last board meeting held on March 6, 2026.

Motion: Mr. Randolph moved to approve the minutes from the March 6, 2026, meeting as presented. The motion was properly seconded by Ms. Landolt and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

AGENCY DIRECTOR REPORT: Dr. Brown provided an overview of the programs established through the $185.5 million awarded to Virginia under the Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP). He noted that Governor Youngkin's projects are now being implemented during Governor Spanberger's administration.

In partnership with collaborating organizations, four key initiatives were developed: CareIQ, Homegrown Health Heroes, Connected Care, and Closer to Home, all designed to expand outreach and strengthen community EMT support. In addition, the *Live Well Together* initiative aims to improve access to nutritious food and encourage children to be more physically active.

CHAIR REPORT: Ms. Reynolds reported no updates.

BOARD COUNSEL REPORT: Mr. Rutkowski announces that he has taken on a new position at the Office of Attorney General as a Section Chief in the Health Services Division, which will be more of a supervisory role. He will also be advising multiple state agencies including the Department of Health Professions (DHP). He is currently working on recruiting his replacement to serve as the Board's counsel and noted that he has enjoyed his time working with the Board and staff.

LEGISLATION & REGULATORY REPORT: Mr. Novak noted that there are three pieces of legislation currently at the Secretary's office. He also reported on House Bills that passed or failed since the General Assembly concluded.

- HB 451: Failed – Regarding Doctor of Social Work degrees
- HB 571: Passed – Regarding background checks for licensure applications
- HB 668: Failed – Regarding the use of AI
- HB 1282: Passed – Related to counseling; allowed an individual to obtain an LSATP license without an exam
- HB 210: Counseling Bill
- HB 796: Fee Bill – Regarding an increase in fees for administrative costs, up to $1500. Adding to the need for the HB 796 fee increases, Dr. Brown stated that some Boards require a fee increase because they do not receive funding through the state. He also mentioned that state employees received a 3.5% pay increase, which is one of the reasons fee adjustments are necessary.
- HB 1414: Changes to the requirement for mandatory report of child abuse and neglect

<u>2022 Periodic Review</u>

The Board reviewed and considered the proposed action.

Motion: Ms. Landolt motioned to adopt the final stage regulatory amendments to implement provision from the 2022 periodic review. The motion was properly seconded by Ms. Meadows and passed unanimously.

<u>Amendments to the Proposed Regulations Combining LMSW and LCSW Supervisees</u>

Mr. Novak presented the Regulatory Committees recommended changes to 18VAC140-20, to combine LMSW and Supervisee in Social Work. In its review, the Board suggested additional revisions, which included the following:

1. Page 150 – Updated definition of "Supervisee."
2. Page 152 – Change to the title of 18VAC140-20-40.
3. Page 153 – Clerical changes; the letter "e" was added.
4. Page 153 (D) – Correction to prevent applicants from being incorrectly required to take the LMSW exam.
5. Page 154 – 18VAC140-20-45(4): Added the term "registration."
6. Page 154 – 18VAC140-20-49: Added "licensed master social worker."\
7. New change from Page 160 – 18VAC140-20-5: Removed "LMSW" from the title.

Motion: Ms. Mattis motioned to adopt the proposed stage action, as amended. The motion was properly seconded by Ms. Jackson and passed 7-1-0.

COMPACT REPORT:

Ms. Mattis attended the Compact Commission meeting on June 10, 2026, during which they discussed delegate concerns, elections, and system updates. While most of the meeting focused on government transparency, many attendees expressed concerns that implementation was taking too long. She also noted that they will need to work on correcting amendments.

Ms. Mattis reported that state commissioners voiced concerns regarding the Commission's leadership. Following a discussion, an election was held; however, the motion to elect a new Chairperson did not receive the required votes, and the Commission's leadership remains unchanged.

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for September 2026.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Ms. Stransky informed the Board that Charlotte Lenart is no longer with the Department of Health Professions and that staff continues to do a great job in her absence. She also stated that several individuals have applied to be reappointed to the Board, but she has not yet received any information regarding who has been chosen. In addition, she reminded members that travel vouchers must be completed and submitted within 30 days or they will not be processed by the Finance Department. She also mentioned that she has been part of a legislative meeting with the Greater Washington Society for Clinical Social Work (GWSCSW) and the Virginia Society of Clinical Social Work (VSCSW).

Ms. Stransky added that the Nominations Committee met prior to today's Quarterly Board meeting. She posed the question of whether a nominations committee is still needed or if the language in the bylaws could be changed from "shall" to "may" to allow for more flexibility. She also suggested adjusting the timing of officer elections. The Board expressed openness to discussing potential changes, and Board staff will present proposed revisions at the next meeting for further discussion and consideration.

DISCIPLINE REPORT:

Ms. Lang reported that between January 24, 2026, and June 19, 2026, the Board received 95 new disciplinary cases, representing a 22.5% increase compared to the same period in 2025. Dr. Marshall asked why the number of complaints had increased. Ms. Lang stated that it is difficult to identify a single cause but noted that a contributing factor may be an overall increase in public awareness of the reporting process. She also noted that the number of complaints has increased across all Boards at DHP.

LICENSING REPORT: Ms. Vaughan provided an update on how Board staff are managing licensing operations amid a significant staff shortage. She stated that from April 1, 2026, through July 30, 2026, the Board received 1,174 applications. Of those, there were 11 Licensed Bachelor Social Worker (LBSW) applications, 165 Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW) applications, 28 Licensed Music Therapist applications, 641 Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) applications, and 329 Registration of Supervision (ROS) applications.

During that same period, the Board issued 878 LBSW exam and endorsement licenses, 117 LMSW exam, endorsement, and reinstatement licenses, 536 LCSW exam, endorsement, and reinstatement licenses, 29 Music Therapist licenses, and 192 ROS Initial and Add/Change registrations.

OLD BUSINESS: The Board addressed the letter received from Dr. Matthew DeCarlo regarding ASWB. After discussion, the Board decided to send Dr. DeCarlo a letter stating that they would not be forwarding his concerns to ASWB but would continue to consider his points during ongoing conversations about exam alternatives.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Randolph reported that the Nominations Committee met prior to the Board meeting and recommended that Ms. Reynolds and Ms. Cox retain their roles as Board Chair and Vice-Chair. There were no additional nominations from the floor. Mr. Randolph then opened the floor for a vote.

Motion: Mr. Randolph made a motion to recommend that Ms. Reynolds and Ms. Cox maintain their positions as Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively. The motion was properly seconded by Ms. Landolt. The motion passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING DATES: The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 2, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Reynolds adjourned the meeting at 11:32 a.m.

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Maria Stransky, LPC, CSAC, CSOTP, Executive Director