

Due to the COVID-19 declared state of emergency and consistent with Amendment 28 to HB29 (Budget Bill for 2018-2020) and the applicable provisions of § 2.2-3708.2 in the provisions of Freedom of Information Act, the Board convened a virtual meeting to consider such regulatory and business matters as presented on the agenda necessary for the board to discharge its lawful purposes, duties and responsibilities.

PRESIDING OFFICER: Dolores Paulson, PhD, LCSW, Chair

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Canek Aguirre, Citizen Member
Angelia Allen, Citizen Member
Jamie Clancey, MSW, LCSW
Maria Eugenia del Villar, MSW, LCSW
Michael Hayter, MSW, LCSW, CSAC
Gloria Manns, MSW, LCSW
Teresa Reynolds, MSW, LCSW
John Salay, MSW, LCSW

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Latasha Austin, Licensing & Operations Manager
Christy Evans, Discipline Case Specialist
Jaime Hoyle, J.D., Executive Director
Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director- Discipline
Charlotte Lenart, Deputy Executive Director- Licensing
Sharniece Vaughan, Licensing Specialist

DHP STAFF PRESENT: Barbara Allison-Bryan, M.D. Agency Chief Deputy Director
David Brown, D.C., Director, Department of Health Professions
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst, Department of Health Professions

BOARD COUNSEL PRESENT: James Rutkowski, Assistant Attorney General

VIRTUAL PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Joseph G. Lynch, LCSW, Virginia Society for Clinical Social Work

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Paulson called the virtual board meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM: Dr. Paulson requested a roll call. Ms. Austin announced that nine members of the Board were present at roll call; therefore, a quorum was established. Ms. Austin also conducted a roll call of Board and agency staff.

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Ms. Allen made a motion, which Ms. Clancey properly seconded, to adopt the agenda as presented. Ms. Austin conducted a roll call vote. With nine members present at the time of roll call, the motion passed with nine unanimous votes in favor of the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) provided public comment related to a Petition for Rulemaking. The Board would later address the comment under recommendations from the Regulatory Committee on the agenda. No other public comment was provided.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ms. Manns made a motion, which Ms. Allen properly seconded, to approve the meeting minutes from the Virtual Board Meeting held on December 4, 2020.

Ms. Austin conducted a roll call vote. With nine members present at the time of roll call, the motion passed with nine unanimous votes in favor of the motion.

AGENCY REPORT:

Dr. Brown informed the Board about the current scam alert where licensees have been receiving threatening scam calls and bogus written communications that are designed to appear to be from the Board. Some of the calls appear to be coming from a Department of Health Profession phone number but are not. Information about the scam alert has been placed on the Board's website.

Dr. Brown also updated the Board on the legislative session that the General Assembly held virtually this year.

Dr. Allison-Bryan provided an update on vaccines and indicated that three vaccines have now been approved. Currently about 19% of Virginias have received the first dose.

Dr. Allison-Bryan also provided an update to the Board regarding Resolution 49 that pass in 2020 that asked the Department of Health Professions to look at the practice of social work in the Commonwealth. In addition, to looking especially at the profession and assessment of the need for additional social workers in the Commonwealth and analysis how compensation levels might influence the current and future practice of social work in the state. DHP has been tasked with presenting a final report by January 2022.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT:

Dr. Paulson provided a year recap of the work the Board has accomplished. She welcomed new Board member Teresa Reynolds and congratulated to Mr. Canek and Ms. Manns for their reappointments on the Board. Dr. Paulson informed everyone that Mr. Salay would be rotating off the Board this year and for any Board member interested in filling his position as Chair of the Regulatory Committee to inform herself or Board staff.

LEGISLATION & REGULATORY ACTIONS:

Ms. Yeatts provided a report on the 2021 General Assembly and a status report on the current regulatory actions for the Board. The regulations on conversion therapy would become effective on March 16, 2021 and the changes to supervision requirements would become effective on March 18, 2021. Ms. Yeatts also informed the Board that public comment period for the amendments to the regulations related to endorsement, reinstatement and the standards of practice ends on March 31, 2021.

Ms. Yeatts discussed with the Board the recommendation made by the Advisory Board on Music Therapy at their first meeting held on February 19, 2021.

Motion: Mr. Salay made a motion, which Ms. Clancey properly seconded, to approve the adoption of the Bylaws for the Advisory Board on Music Therapy.

BOARD COUNSEL REPORT:

There was no report from Board Counsel.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Ms. Hoyle reported on the finances of the Board. A copy of the report provided was included in the agenda packet. Ms. Hoyle added that the Board has been saving money with their being restrictions on traveling and holding meetings virtually.

Additionally, Ms. Hoyle reported that she met with new Board member Teresa Reynolds and conducted a virtual new orientation session. She also indicated that ASWB would be holding a new board member training virtually. Ms. Hoyle informed the Board that ASWB will hold its Administrative Forum virtually next and their Education Meeting April 30-May 1st. Any Board members interested in attending should let Ms. Hoyle know.

Ms. Hoyle also informed the Board that she would be following up on the status of Senate Bill 431.

DISCIPLINE REPORT:

Ms. Lang reported on the disciplinary statistics for the Board of Social Work from November 27, 2020 – February 25, 2021. A copy of the report given was included in the agenda packet.

BOARD OFFICE REPORT:

Ms. Austin reported on licensure and examination statistics for the Board for the year 2020 and statistics for January 1, 2021- February 28, 2021. A copy of the report given was included in the agenda packet.

LICENSING UNIT REPORT:

Ms. Lenart reported on the satisfaction survey results, renewal, supervisory registry, changes to supervision requirements and staffing updates. A copy of the full report given was included in the agenda packet.

REGULATORY COMMITTEE REPORT:

Recommendation: Mr. Salay informed the Board that the regulatory committee met yesterday and discussed a Petition for Rulemaking submitted to the Board by Florine Edmunds. The Petition requests the Board extend the requirement for passage of the licensing examination and allow an additional one to three years for remediation, training and equitable opportunities and to reduce the passing score by 10 points and provide study sheets for retaking examination. The recommendation from the Regulatory Committee was to decline to initiate rulemaking in response to the petition and to decline to initiate rulemaking in response to the petition to extend further the period during which the Board can approve someone to sit for the examination.

Ms. Austin conducted a roll call vote. With nine members present at the time of roll call, the recommendation from the Regulatory Committee passed with nine unanimous votes in favor of the recommendation.

Recommendation: The Regulatory Committee also discussed the recommendation made by the Advisory Board on Music Therapy to adopt a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) for Chapter 30, Regulations Governing the Licensure of Music Therapist. The Regulatory Committee approved a motion to adopt the NOIRA.

Ms. Austin conducted a roll call vote. With nine members present at the time of roll call, the recommendation from the Regulatory Committee passed with nine

unanimous votes in favor of the recommendation.

Recommendation: The Regulatory Committee reviewed and discussed the Virginia Board of Social Work Bylaws. The Regulatory Committee approved a motion to amend Article IV (5) under the General Delegation of Authority section of the bylaws as follows:

The Board delegates to the Executive Director authority to grant an extension for good cause of up to one (1) ~~year~~ renewal cycle for the completion of continuing education requirements upon written request from the licensee prior to the renewal date.

Ms. Austin conducted a roll call vote. With nine members present at the time of roll call, the recommendation from the Regulatory Committee passed with nine unanimous votes in favor of the recommendation.

Recommendation: The Regulatory Committee reviewed and discussed the training requirements for supervisors. The Regulatory Committee approved a motion to adopt a NOIRA to reduce the amount of professional training hours in supervision that a supervisor must completed every 5 years from 14 hours to 7 hours. 14 hours would still be required for initial approval.

Ms. Austin conducted a roll call vote. With nine members present at the time of roll call, the recommendation from the Regulatory Committee passed with nine unanimous votes in favor of the recommendation.

Mr. Salay also informed the Board that the Regulatory Committee discussed aligning the LMSW to the LCSW track. After much discussion, the Committee decided that it needed more research on the matter for clarity. It was proposed that research be done to see if there is another state (s) that has regulations similar to what alignments are being suggested and to bring back what changes would have to be made.

BOARD OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS REPORT:

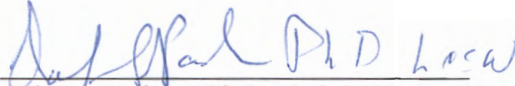
Mr. Salay report from the Board of Health Professions. A copy of the report given was included in the agenda packet.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

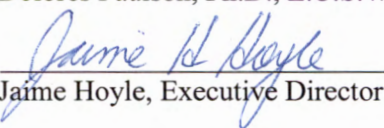
Dr. Paulson announced that the Regulatory Committee would hold its next meeting on Thursday, July 22, 2021 and the Board would hold its next meeting on Friday, July 23, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT:

Dr. Paulson adjourned the March 12, 2021 virtual Board meeting at 11:32 a.m.



Dolores Paulson, Ph.D., L.C.S.W., Chair



Jaime Hoyle, Executive Director