

DRAFT

THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK **REGULATORY COMMITTEE** MINUTES

FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 2006

The Regulatory Committee of the Virginia Board of Social Work convened at 10:15 a.m. on Friday, June 16, 2006 at the Department of Health Professions, 6603 West Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia. The meeting was called to order by Wayne A. Martin, Chair.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Wayne A. Martin, LCSW
Willie T. Greene, Sr., Citizen Member
Charles R. Chambers, Jr., Citizen Member
Jill Smeltzer, LCSW

STAFF PRESENT:

Evelyn B. Brown, Executive Director
Benjamin Foster, Deputy Executive Director
Arnice Covington, Administrative Assistant
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst

GUESTS PRESENT:

David Boehm, LCSW, Board Chair Elect
Debra Riggs, NASW Executive Director
Joseph Lynch, LCSW

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Ms. Smeltzer, and properly seconded by Mr. Chambers, the minutes of the March 3, 2006 meeting were unanimously approved.

PURPOSE:

Deputy Executive Director Foster explained that the purpose of the Committee meeting was to continue discussion on whether or not the Board should implement guidelines for those who wish to supervise perspective post master's degree applicants for licensure.

DISCUSSIONS:

Executive Director Evelyn Brown related to the Committee information from a presentation Agency Director Robert Nebiker made to the Board of Counseling on June 9, 2006. The Board of Counseling is also concerned about prelicensure supervision and had indicated that it might consider changes to regulation, possibly to include increased requirements to provide supervision. Ms. Brown to the Committee that Mr. Nebiker had related to the Board of Counseling that it did not have the statutory authority create an "approved supervisor." Further, that the Board would have to show cause to justify an increase in requirements for the provision of supervision. The rationale for doing this would have to include examples of harm to clients or disciplinary action occurring as a result of insufficient or poor quality supervision.

Mr. Foster reviewed the work done by the Committee at the March 3, 2006 meeting. This included draft language changes for Sections 18 VAC 140-20-10 (Definitions) and 18 VAC 140-20-50 (Education and experience requirements for licensed clinical social worker.) He suggested that the Committee review this work in light of Ms. Brown's information.

Mr. Boehm asked if the Committee could review the current supervision application package and the process one currently undergoes to become a supervisor. A review of the package was done by the Committee and changes were suggested to help facilitate the process for the time being. Mr. Martin asked what went into a review of the application for supervision. And inquired whether the Board should employ a person or organization to thoroughly review the qualifications of persons applying to supervise. Ms. Brown and Mr. Boehm explained that this could be quite costly and currently the requirements to be a supervisor only require that a person is licensed and be five years post Master's Degree.

On a motion by Ms. Smeltzer, properly seconded by Mr. Chambers the Committee unanimously voted to direct staff to re-do Registration of Supervision forms and present the new documents at the next Committee meeting.

Ms. Brown discussed including "group supervision" as a method of obtaining the required hours necessary for licensure. She stated that this had at one time been in the regulations of the Board. Further discussion by the Committee resulted in suggested limitations on the use of group supervision hours. It was decided that the Committee would recommend that there would be a limitation of 6 people maximum in the group; and that only 1/2 of the required hours could be gained through group supervision.

Mr. Foster stated that he would make every effort possible to have all of the suggestions from today's meeting combined with current regulations in a draft form so that the full Board could vote on a NOIRA at the July 11, 2006 meeting.

Next Meeting:

Committee Chair Martin said that a date for the next meeting will be decided after a report is made to the full Board at the July 14, 2006 meeting.

Adjournment:

There being no further business the Committee adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Wayne A. Martin, Chair

Benjamin Foster, Deputy Executive Director