

Kentucky Board of Social Work

Monthly Board Meeting

June 12, 2023

Board Members Present:

Hank Cecil, LCSW

Santosh Adhikary, LCSW

Whitney Cassity-Caywood, Ph.D., LCSW

Lori Vogel, LCSW

Laura Guffey, LSW

Staff Present:

Marc Kelly, Executive Director

Vanessa Jones, Executive Assistant

Mark Brengelman, Board Attorney

Call to Order

Whitney Cassity-Caywood called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m. ET.

Operations Report:

Marc Kelly, Executive Director reported the following for the operations report:

Applications-128

LSW licenses-6

CSW Licenses-83

LCSW Licenses-36

Renewals-122

Temp permits-18

Supervision Contracts- 57 approved; 4 deferred, but already corrected and approved.

CEUs- 8 providers and 2 sponsors

Hank Cecil made a motion to accept the Operations report. Lori Vogel seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Financial Report

Whitney Cassity-Caywood reported that we are finishing up our current fiscal year and it will end on 6/30/2023. She shared our revenues are good and we pulled money from the case account to cover our year end expenditures. She shared we currently have \$75,000 to spend this month and we plan to use all that is needed and the rest will go back into our case account. She reported our new year budget amount will be \$375,000 for 2024.

Board Members Travel and Per Diem:

Board members per diem and travel for today's (6/12/23) meeting – Hank Cecil made a motion to approve the Board's per diem and travel for today. Santosh Adhikary seconded. All approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Board Minutes:

May 8, 2023 board meeting minutes – a motion was made by Hank Cecil and seconded by Santosh Adhikary to approve the minutes from the May 8th meeting. All approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Committees

Application Committee

Laura Guffey, LSW & Lori Vogel, LCSW

Applicant 1 –The Committee recommends this applicant be approved to sit for the Master exam. All approved the committee's recommendation for applicant 1.

Applicant 2 –The Committee recommends this applicant be allowed to sit for the Master exam once the official transcript is received. All approved the Committee's recommendation for applicant 2.

Applicant 3 – The committee recommends this applicant be approved to take the Master exam. All approved the Committee's recommendation for applicant 3.

Applicant 4 – The committee recommends this applicant be approved to sit for the Clinical exam; however, applicant will not be allowed to have LCSW license issued until complaint case is closed. All approved the Committee's recommendation for applicant 4.

Complaint Committee

Hank Cecil, LCSW

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 23-05**. As there is insufficient evidence to support the initiating complaint. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 23-17** as there is insufficient evidence to support the initiating complaint. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to enter into an Agreed Order in **Complaint No. 23-18** due to a non-sexual dual relationship. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 23-19** as there is insufficient evidence to support the initiating complaint. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 23-20** as there is insufficient evidence to support the initiating complaint. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 23-21** as there is insufficient evidence to support the initiating complaint. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 23-22** as there is insufficient evidence to support the initiating complaint. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to enter into an Assurance of Voluntary Compliance in **Complaint No. 23-24** due to the disclosure of client information. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 23-25** as there is insufficient evidence to support the initiating complaint. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Operations Committee

Hank Cecil, LCSW

Operations Manual - Hank Cecil provided an update on the operations manual. The committee has a draft of Articles 3 and 4. These explain the Board committees, officers, and associations of the Board. He shared that the job descriptions will be in the appendixes of the manual along with the forms. He then shared that the complaints section is a big part of this article, and it explains the complaints process. He stated that this is a working manual/document and is a longer-term project that will change as things change within the Board office. Whitney Cassity-Caywood shared that she feels this manual is great and helps show staff, board members and etc., who does what.

Old Business

ASWB updates- Whitney Cassity-Caywood reported that she would be attending the regulatory research committee meeting later this week. They hope to have some applicants to review and discuss at the meeting and decide if they need to put this back out for more people to apply. She then shared that they will have the committee meeting in Colorado later this year.

Compact Licensing updates- Hank Cecil reported that 8 states have Pending legislation to pass the social work compact; only 7 states are needed to initiate the Commission for the Compact. The states are GA; MI; OH; NC; SC; NJ; NH; and VT. The compact will be proposed during the interim for the KY 2024 General Assembly, and passage next year is favorable.

IT updates – Hank Cecil updated all on the IT, and Facebook live streaming. He stated we will be looking at a YouTube channel where we could post meetings and other videos. The board will need to follow the open records act. He shared that we may need to look at buying equipment and microphones for each board member to ensure all can hear in person and via Zoom. He stated that the camera doesn't expand or move for all to be seen at the meeting. He and Marc Kelly will continue to research and work with the state COT.

Regulations update – Hank Cecil shared that the emergency and ordinary temporary permit to practice regulations, the telehealth regulation, and the inactive status regulation are ready to be filed. They will be sent to the regs compiler for the regulatory approval process. After the final formatting is completed, Marc Kelly will file each with the regulations office. Mark Brengelman shared that he still working on the exam regulation and once it is ready, he will follow the regulations filing process.

SB 150- Hank Cecil updated all on SB150. He shared that this bill was passed into law over the governor's veto and discussion was held on what impact it has for social workers in KY. Mark Brengelman pointed out that since social workers are not involved in medical decisions and prescribing, the law has minimal impact on social workers except school social workers employed by a school district and that school social workers may be restricted with discussions of gender issues. Social workers at schools will need to follow the protocols of the school. Lori Vogel, who works within the school system, shared that she has been receiving calls from parents about her role within schools. She shared KY Department of Education put out guidance for all the school districts to use, and they are working on creating policies on what to say and not say. She stated they provided blanket policies to all schools and suggested this be part of the consent. She shared that most districts normally adopt what the school board comes out with, but all are concerned about referrals because that area is so vague. She stated they are waiting for what comes out and will share more at the next board meeting. Hank Cecil shared that some have concerns about complaints coming into the board office due to this bill. He stated if so, then the complaint committee would handle as they do all other complaints received. He stated we have passed many laws that we must go by even if we do not agree with them. So we have to ensure we do our jobs well. Santosh Adhikary stated that all should be documenting everything and putting all in the client files. He shared that this is what we will review, so having supporting documentation will help with the complaint. Whitney Cassity-Caywood asked if there were any lawsuits at this time. Mark Brengelman stated not that he is aware and that they must have a legal standing before there would be.

New Business

1-hour free training on "the importance of licensure" – Whitney Cassity-Caywood discussed the importance of getting your license training. She stated this would be geared towards universities and upcoming graduates, so they know the processes and etc. of becoming licensed social workers before they graduate with their degrees. She stated we would want one training for LSW, one for CSW, and maybe one for out-of-state applicants. She suggested having it be on demand and possibly adding it to the YouTube channel, Facebook, and the board's website. She requested that an Ad Hoc Committee be formed to work on it. The Ad Hoc Committee will be herself, Marc Kelly, and Laura Guffey.

Q&A listening session on field placement – Whitney Cassity-Caywood discussed having a Q&A session on field placement. She stated we could invite anyone that wants to discuss placement, that it could be done online and then made available. She shared that Marc Kelly is going to KCSWE in October, so we could possibly do it in September. She suggested doing it on a Friday in the morning or during lunchtime for one hour, possibly 11:30-1:30, to ensure both time zones are near the designated lunch times. She suggested 9/15 as the date. She and Marc will work on this and keep all updated.

Artificial Intelligence- Hank Cecil shared information on artificial intelligence. He reported that the use of computers has been around since the 50s, and research has been going on since the 90s. He stated that if you use google maps, then you use artificial intelligence. He then shared that it builds an algorithm, and the machine adapts to it on its own and makes the decision but with a human checking it and overriding it, if needed. He shared that it will write notes and any other information it is given so be careful with confidential information and don't use chat without keeping all of this in mind. He stated we are sharing this because we need to stay ahead of it so we know how it works because it can mimic a person.

Board Secretary position – Hank Cecil stated that we need to nominate a new secretary since James Haggie is no longer on the Board. Hank Cecil nominated Laura Guffey. Santosh Adhikary seconded. Whitney asked for any other nominations from the floor. No other nominations were received. Whitney asked for a vote, and all approved that Laura Guffey be the new Secretary of the Board.

Announcements – none at this time

Adjournment - A motion was made by Hank Cecil to adjourn the meeting at 1:01 pm. Seconded by Santosh Adhikary. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: MONDAY, July 10th, 2023 at 11:30am at the Board of Social Work Office, 125 Holmes Street, 3rd Floor, Suite 310, Frankfort.

Whitney Cassidy-Caywood