

Kentucky Board of Social Work
Monthly Board Meeting
April 8, 2024

Board Members Present:

Hank Cecil, LCSW
Santosh Adhikary, LCSW
Whitney Cassity-Caywood, Ph.D., LCSW
Lori Vogel, LCSW
Laura Guffey, LSW
Tiffany Payton, Citizen At Large

Staff Present:

Marc Kelly, Executive Director
Vanessa Jones, Executive Assistant
Mark Brengelman, Board Attorney

Call to Order

Hank Cecil called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. ET.

Board Minutes:

March 11, 2024, board meeting minutes – a motion was made by Laura Guffey and seconded by Whitney Cassity-Caywood to approve the minutes from the March 11th meeting. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Operations Report:

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

Applications-88
LSW licenses-2
CSW Licenses-45
LCSW Licenses-28
Renewals-138
Temporary permits-11 clinical and 0 non-clinical
Supervision contracts- 53 approved 0 deferred
CEU providers-2 approved
Total number of licensees-7,536

Marc Kelly shared that both the board's legal and investigator contracts are being renewed for 2 more years.

Santosh Adhikary made a motion to accept the Operations report. Whitney Cassity-Caywood seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Financial Report

Whitney Cassity-Caywood reported board expenditures and revenues for month – March income: \$39,872.56; March expenses: \$34,749.58; Fund balance: \$675,792.00. Budget balance remaining for the year: \$83,569.98. Additional funding of \$80,000 has been requested by Marc Kelly. It will be needed due to spending about 80.3% of the budget. Once the request is approved the board will receive notice from budget personnel.

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Board Members Travel and Per Diem:

Board members per diem and travel for the today's (4/8/24) meeting – Whitney Cassity-Caywood made a motion to approve the Board's per diem and travel for the April 8th meeting. Lori Vogel seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Committees

Application Committee

Laura Guffey, LSW

Applicant 1 –The Committee recommends this applicant's application be approved to take the Master exam. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Applicant 2 –The Committee recommends deferral of this applicant's application to be deferred to the May Board meeting. More information from applicant needed. No motion or vote needed.

Applicant 3 – The Committee recommends this applicant's application be approved to take the Master exam. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Applicant 4- The Committee recommends deferral of this applicant's application to be deferred to the May Board meeting. More information from the applicant is needed. No motion or vote needed.

Applicant 5- The Committee recommends deferral of this applicant's application to be deferred to the May Board meeting. They want to have a conference call with applicant prior to the next Board meeting. No motion or vote needed.

Complaint Committee

Santosh Adhikary, LCSW

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to enter an Assurance of Voluntary Compliance (AVC) on **Complaint No. 22-30**. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to enter an Assurance of Voluntary Compliance (AVC) on **Complaint No. 22-31**. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to enter a settlement agreement on **Complaint No. 22-37 and 22-40**. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to enter an Assurance of Voluntary Compliance (AVC) on **Complaint No. 24-01**. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 24-06** 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. 24-12** as there is no violation under the law. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 24-13** as there is insufficient evidence to support the initiating complaint. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

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A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 24-14** 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. 24-16** 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. 24-17** as there is insufficient evidence to support the initiating complaint. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote of 5 members. Hank Cecil recused himself from the meeting during this complaint.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 24-19** as there is no violation under the law. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Old Business

ASWB updates- Hank Cecil reported

Hank Cecil shared that the KY Board will be well represented at the education meeting in May. He shared Whitney Cassity-Caywood, Santosh Adhikary, Marc Kelly, Laura Guffey, and he will be attending. He requested a motion for Laura Guffey to attend. Whitney Cassity-Caywood made a motion for Laura Guffey to attend the education meeting in May. Santosh Adhikary seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Hank Cecil shared that he will be a presenter and requested all attend his training while there. He then asked Tiffany Payton about attending the new Board member training this year. The Board needs her to attend as a new member. Tiffany Payton requested Vanessa Jones send her the information along with the dates of the training.

Hank Cecil shared that the new testing seems to be going well and the board has not received any negative feedback.

Compact Licensing updates- Hank Cecil reported

Hank Cecil shared HB 56 has passed and was signed on 4/5/2024, making KY the 5th state to pass in the compact. Other states with pending compacts include VA, IA, KS, and NB. He stated IN withdrew their proposal, but KS, VA, and IA have compacts on the Governor's desk for review and NB should be passing it soon..

IT Updates - Hank Cecil reported

The application software is moving forward. After review of the contract with Tyler technologies, however, it was discovered that the temporary permit applications were not part of the contract proposal so these need to be added with a cost of \$14,000. Hank asked for a motion to accept the additional fee. Whitney Cassity-Caywood made a motion to approve the additional \$14,000 for adding the temporary permit applications. Santosh Adhikary seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Marc Kelly let all know that the financial part will be spread out over time, so the board will pay a monthly amount rather than a large amount upfront. He shared that the applicants would receive

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notices/updates about their application status and notices of things needed after the Board reviews their application and they will be able to upload any additional documents that the board requests.

Regulations update – Hank Cecil reported.

201 KAR 23:170 Telehealth– Hank Cecil shared that this regulation was replaced by SB 255. The board asked for a few amendments to the senate bill. He asked all to review the amendment suggestions that are in today’s meeting packet and let him know their thoughts. He stated it mainly suggests removing the 3 months wait time to re-take an exam and to allow the board emergency authority to suspend a license in accordance with other licensure board.

201 KAR 23:075 Continued Education – Hank Cecil shared that a certification letter to provide an amendment to this regulation was submitted and the board now has until October 2025 to revise the regulation and submitted it to LRC.

201 KAR 23:020 Fees – Hank Cecil shared that the board needs to add the \$25 application fee to this regulation even though the board has been charging an application fee for over 30 years. He stated this was discovered as is not current, amendment is necessary to include all the applications.

201 KAR 23:070 Supervision – Hank Cecil shared that this regulation needs to be amended due to the telehealth bill and also to allow for any gaps in direct client care needing supervision. Lori Vogel shared that she works within the school system, and they do not do it if they are not seeing clients during that time and do use the time for education time with supervisees. He shared that the board needs to look at Section 7 to decide about the language as 60% of time or change to 3000 hours of direct supervision. He stated either way it is worded, they must still be in a supervision contract for 2 years and obtain 150 hours. He asked that the board consider adding a new section on training of trainers and update the supervision contract form and the supervised experience documentation form.

Hank Cecil stated he has received a number of calls regarding what supervisors are charging for supervision. They all charge different fees, and some are a lot more than others. He stated the board may to look into a need a minimum and a maximum amount. Whitney Cassity-Caywood suggested a training guide to assist with this and anything else related to supervision.

Examination regulation – Hank shared that this will be a new regulation and submitted by the board’s legal counsel. He asked all to review the draft for future discussion and he will request a regulation number.

Code of Ethical Conduct Research Project – Whitney Cassity-Caywood reported

Whitney shared that she will be moving to WKU over the next few months, but stated the relationships with the universities involved and project will continue to move forward. She shared that there will not be any issues with obtaining and reviewing the data and they will continue to work on it over the summer. All congratulated her for her new opportunity at WKU and all her work on this project.

Behavioral Health Medicaid regulation- Hank Cecil reported

Hank shared that he attended a meeting with KY Medicaid about the revision of the regulation on behavioral health associates. He stated at this time it changes the scope of services as in not diagnosing and removes social work as a qualifying program. He shared Medicaid deferred for this month and wants to make it effective July 1, 2025. They feel this will give them time to work with providers and get feedback from them so they can ensure this regulation is what it needs to be for all. Hank stated that this could open the door for non-licensed persons to practice without a license so the

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board may need to look at how the statutes that say a person cannot practice social work until they obtain their degree and license. He stated he will continue to meet with them and keep all updated at each board meeting.

New Business

2024 Listening Session- Hank Cecil reported

Hank Cecil stated there was a good discussion and turnout at last year's listening session so he would like to have one this year. He suggested having it in September. After all reviewed calendar, the listening session date will be Friday September 20, 2024, at 11:30 CT/12:30 ET for one hour. Vanessa Jones stated they have received many calls from students about the process for taking their exams and obtaining their licenses, so she suggested the topic be graduate student processes. All agreed with the suggestion. Whitney Cassity-Caywood suggested advertising the session on the board's website and Facebook pages and the newsletter. She stated there are 15 universities in KY so notices can be sent to them as well. Vanessa Jones and Marc Kelly will work on sending out notices..

Announcements – No announcements at this time. However, a discussion was held with visitors from the University of Louisville Kent School of Social Work and Seven Counties on what graduates can and cannot do while they are working on their internships without being fully licensed as a social worker.

Adjournment - Santosh Adhikary made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:07 pm. Seconded by Tiffany Payton. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: **MONDAY, May 13th**, 2024, at 11:30 am ET at the Board Office, 125 Holmes Street, Suite 310, Frankfort, KY 40601 or via the YouTube Channel, @KBSW.

Respectfully submitted,



Board Secretary

Board Approved: _____



Date