

Kentucky Board of Social Work
Monthly Board Meeting
March 11, 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 9:00 a.m. ET.

Board Minutes:

February 12, 2024, board meeting minutes – a motion was made by Laura Guffey and seconded by Whitney Cassity-Caywood to approve the minutes from the February 12th meeting. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Operations Report:

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

Applications-93
LSW licenses-5
CSW Licenses-31
LCSW Licenses-41
Renewals-114
Temporary permits-11 clinical and 0 non-clinical
Total number of licensees-7,521

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 – Feb income: \$41,491.05.00; Feb expenses: \$35,314.78; Fund balance: \$670,669.02. Budget balance remaining for the year: \$118,794.56. Additional funding of \$80,000 will be needed due to spending about 69% of the budget and an anticipated increase in the COT expenses; as well as an increase in investigator expenses. Marc Kelly has requested additional monies, but the allocation may not occur until the 3rd quarter of the year. Once that is approved the board will receive a notice.

Board Members Travel and Per Diem:

Board members per diem and travel for the retreat travel (3/9/24-3/10/24) and today's (3/11/24) meeting – Santosh Adhikary made a motion to approve the Board's per diem and travel for the March meeting dates. Whitney Cassity-Caywood seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Hank

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Cecil let all know he traveled to Frankfort to attend a Senate Committee meeting on SB 255 and the KASWE meeting at UK since in March. Santosh Adhikary made a motion to approve his travel for the two meetings. Whitney Cassity-Caywood seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Committees

Application Committee

Laura Guffey, LSW & Lori Vogel, LCSW

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 this applicant’s application be approved to take the Master exam once the official transcript is received. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Applicant 3 –The Committee recommends deferral of this applicant’s application to be deferred to the April Board meeting. More information from applicant needed. No motion or vote needed.

Applicant 4- The Committee recommends deferral of this applicant’s application to be deferred to the June or July Board meeting or until their probation is completed.

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. 23-37 and 23-40**. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 23-57** 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 a settlement agreement on **Complaint No. 24-02**. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 24-07** 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. 24-10** 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. 24-11** as there is no violation under the law. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to enter a settlement agreement on **Complaint No. 24-15**. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Mark Brengelman, Board attorney reported on the following cases:

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to adopt a settlement agreement on **Complaint 22-29**. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

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A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to adopt a settlement agreement on **Complaint 22-34**. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to adopt an assurance of voluntary compliance on **Complaint 22-66**. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to adopt a settlement agreement on **Complaint 22-79**. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Operations Committee

Hank Cecil, LCSW

Operations Manual - Hank Cecil shared that all reviewed the draft manual during the weekend retreat. It is in the final draft. Staff will continue to update sections as they change. Motion to approve and adopt the manual was made by Santosh Adhikary. Seconded by Whitney Cassity-Caywood. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Whitney Cassity-Caywood thanked Hank for all his work on this project. She stated other boards do not have one at this time, so it will be great for Kentucky to have one in place.

Old Business

ASWB updates- Hank Cecil and Whitney Cassity-Caywood reported

Hank Cecil shared that the education meeting will be May 2nd and 3rd this year. Whitney Cassity-Caywood, Marc Kelly and he will be attending. Whitney Cassity-Caywood stated she supports the Board financing any board member that would like to attend. She is on the education committee and Hank Cecil is presenting so both their expenses will be paid by ASWB. All board members stated they will check their schedules to see if they can attend.

Whitney Cassity-Caywood shared that the PSI testing seems to be going well. She encouraged testers to request accommodation if needed in order to retest prior to the 3 months. She stated ASWB allows waivers to test prior to the three months, but testers must request them. However, KY law requires a three month wait, so a waiver cannot be requested at this time.

Compact Licensing updates- Hank Cecil reported

Hank Cecil shared HB 56 is on the legislative committee's agenda at tomorrow's meeting. He stated it should pass and KY could be #5 or #6 in the initial seven to pass the compact. Missouri, Utah, South Dakota, and Washington have passed the compact.

IT Updates - Hank Cecil reported

The application software is moving forward. The board is waiting for the statement of work Tyler Technologies.

Regulations update – Hank Cecil reported.

201 KAR 23:160 temporary permits – Hank Cecil shared this went into effect on February 20, 2024.

201 KAR 23:170 Telehealth– Hank Cecil shared that this regulation is on the committee's agenda for today at 1:00 pm. He and Marc Kelly will attend. He stated that changes were made in section 2 regarding consent as appropriate to the service; per LRC's suggestion the section on page 3 and 4 was

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split. He then shared a comparison to the regulations for all to review. Mark Brengelman stated the language was “borrowed” from other regulations. Hank Cecil shared that the board would look at the supervision regulation; the fees regulation; and the testing regulation in the future.

Communication with licensees’ research project – Whitney Cassity-Caywood reported

Whitney stated there is no new information to share, except that she has an intern to assist her now. She stated that there were 1700 responses. Now the data needs to be cleaned and continue working through the spring and summer. She stated the 1st printing are the responses and codes and then to distribute to the social work schools and associates, so they know the common areas to work on. The 2nd print will be the recommendations. Hank Cecil suggested using the board’s YouTube channel for training.

Behavioral Health Medicaid regulation- Hank Cecil reported

Hank shared that this regulation was deferred, and they are having another meeting on March 22, 2024, and he will join the concerns.

New Business

KASWE- Hank Cecil and Marc Kelly reported

Marc Kelly stated there was a good turnout. Students provided very diverse presentations and self-care was the keynote. Hank Cecil provided a board update to the KASWE business meeting. They both stated they met more educators from outside of UK, who were from many universities around KY. Marc stated they had 6 educators from Morehead State.

KY General Assembly Legislative Update- Lori Vogel and Hank Cecil reported

Lori shared that SB304 has been sent to education but has not been heard yet.

Hank shared that the information on SB255 is in the board’s packet. He stated this restricts the board’s ability to create telehealth regulations and whatever is written in statute is the set. It may impact temporary permits and the compact. There would not be a written informed consent and licensees would have to confirm the location of the client but not the identity of the client.

Hank shared that HB525 is in the House with the exact same language. SB255 passed the Senate committee last Thursday but no one was allowed to speak against the bill. He stated it needs to be watched for the committee meeting in the KY House so the board can share objections.

Announcements – Brenda Rosen shared that KASWE wrote a statement for the need of DEI in schools; they are working to ensure HB56 comes through and requests all to call daily on HB258 which makes intentional torture of dogs illegal. She also shared that social work lobby day was last week and they were able to discuss bills. Lobby day was a wonderful day. Next year’s lobby day will be 2-25-25.

Adjournment - Santosh Adhikary made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 am and seconded by Lori Vogel. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: **MONDAY**, April 8th, 2024, at 11:30 am ET at the Board Office, 125 Holmes Street, Suite 310, Frankfort, KY 40601 or via our YouTube Channel.

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Respectfully submitted,

Lana Hopper
Board Secretary

Board Approved: 4/8/24
Date