

Kentucky Board of Social Work
Monthly Board Meeting
December 8th, 2025

Board Members Present:

Hank Cecil, LCSW
Cowann Owens, LCSW
Genesia Kilgore-Bowling, CSW
Laura Guffey, LSW
Sydney Whitaker, LCSW
Whitney Cassity-Caywood, LCSW

Staff Present:

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

Call to Order

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

Board Minutes:

November 17th, 2025, minutes – a motion was made by Genesia Kilgore-Bowling and seconded by Sydney Whitaker to approve the November minutes for the November 17th meeting. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Operations Report – November 2025:

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

Applications-111

LSW licenses-1

CSW Licenses-6

LCSW Licenses-5

Temporary permits-4 clinical and 0 non-clinical

Supervision contracts- 72 approved 0 deferred

CEU providers and sponsors – 7 approved

Total number of active licenses – 8,477

Genesia Kilgore-Bowling made a motion to accept the Operations report. Cowann Owens seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Marc reminded all that the exam prep workshop is scheduled for January 9 and 10, 2026 and registrations are open on the board website. He shared we have around 22 right now registered. Hank Cecil shared that we must have at least 30 participants so he encouraged anyone that needs to attend the workshop get registered. He shared that Brooke Jones is sending out emails to persons who have not passed the exam the past few months so we hope some of those persons can attend. He shared the survey was sent to persons from the June 2025 workshop and 6 took the exam and passed. All stated it was very helpful. Genesia Kilgore-Bowling requested the notice be made to stand out more so persons can find it. She said she will also share the flyer to her associations and UPike students and staff. Vanessa Jones stated she will send the flyer to her to share.

Hank stated we are still transitioning to the new system and we are having many issues but we are working with IT persons to help resolve the issues. He stated staff is also working as quickly as they can

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to get all done and fixed on their side; they are finding things as they are working in it. He shared that we met with IT persons to go over all the issues and they are committed to fixing them, especially the license verification section and the files that did not migrate to the new system.

Financial Report – November 2025:

Cowann Owens and Whitney Cassity-Caywood reported board expenditures and revenues for the month of November 2025 – November income: \$29,279.12; November expenses: \$73,142.31; November fund balance: \$629,609.56.

Board Members Travel and Per Diem:

Board members per diem and travel for the today's (12/8/25) meeting – we have a committee of two now so the motion is coming from the committee. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Committees

Application Committee **Genesia Kilgore-Bowling, CSW**

Applicant 1 – The committee recommends that this applicant's application be approved for them to sit for the exam. Motion to approve carried by unanimous voice vote.

Applicant 2 – After much discussion and review of all applicant's documents, the committee recommends that this applicant's application be denied. Motion to deny carried by unanimous voice vote.

Applicant 3 - The committee recommends that this applicant's application be deferred until the next meeting due to needing more information. Motion to defer carried by unanimous voice vote.

Applicant 4 - The committee recommends that this applicant's application be deferred until the next meeting due to needing more information. Motion to defer carried by unanimous voice vote.

Complaint Committee **Whitney Cassity-Caywood, LCSW**

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to issue a formal complaint and provide notice of hearing against the respondent on Complaint 24-72 with settlement authority given to Board attorney. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to issue a formal complaint and provide notice of hearing against the respondent on Complaint 25-30 with settlement authority given to Board attorney. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to issue a formal complaint and provide notice of hearing against the respondent on Complaint 25-33 with settlement authority given to Board attorney. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to issue a formal complaint and provide notice of hearing against the respondent on Complaint 25-59 and 25-60 with settlement authority given to Board attorney. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote

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A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to enter an Assurance of Voluntary Compliance on Complaint 25-67 Motion carried by unanimous voice vote

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss Complaint No. 25-105 as there was 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. 25-106 as there was 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. 25-109 as there was 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. 25-110 as there was insufficient evidence to support the initiating complaint. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to refer Complaint No. 25-93 and 25-108 to the board investigator for investigation. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Old Business

ASWB updates– Hank Cecil reported.

Hank shared no new updates but wanted to let all that ASWB has a new registration portal and it is working well. Whitney Cassity-Caywood shared that the Education meeting is scheduled for April 16-18 in Rhode Island. She encouraged all to attend. She stated is a good opportunity for networking.

Compact Licensing updates– Hank Cecil reported.

Hank shared the committee is negotiating an MOU for payment with ASWB. They will be the funder of the compact. He shared they need to pay for the data system and the administrative functioning and they are looking at the office being located at the ASWB office.

Hank shared they must have things in place before any license can be issued because we must have authorization from the legislation for that and for obtaining background checks. He stated the timeframe is unknown at this time but more than likely it will be later in 2026 or early 2027. He stated it is a process and they must follow everything before it goes into effect.

Regulations update – Hank Cecil reported.

Hank shared the regulation for 201 KAR 23:060 for LSW/CSW and LCSW. He asked all to review but stated that we will only have to change it if the law passes.

Hank shared that all our regulations are in order.

2026 Legislation– Hank Cecil reported.

Hank shared the updated draft with the second changed with all. All reviewed the exemption piece related to students providing clinical social work. He shared that he feels we have gotten all the language and it has been agreed upon by all parties involved. He stated it will only affect programs with clinical practice such as UK and UPike and that is may not apply to programs with general degree depending on how the language is written. He states it takes a hands on approach with students working on the clinical piece. He stated we need to be very clear on what they can and cannot do.

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Hank asked for update on the Board retreat. Vanessa Jones is working on arrangements and will send the information to all members. The retreat may be at U of L so students and staff can attend the board meeting on February 9, 2026.

New Business

Title Protection Hank reported.

Hank stated he attended the meeting to discuss title protection. He stated the issues have been raised but it was interesting that only four people attended the meeting. He shared that education is a requirement for licensure nationwide however the federal government is moving to have social work not considered a profession for loans which can impact students. The board can show support students and educational institutions for future licensees.

Announcements

None at this time.

Adjournment – Genesia Kilgore-Bowling made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:59 pm. Seconded by Whitney Cassity-Caywood. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: Monday, January 12, 2026 at 10:30 am CT/11:30 am ET at the Board office, 125 Holmes Street, Suite 310, Frankfort, KY 40601.

Respectfully submitted,



Board Secretary

Board Approved Date: 11/2/2025