

Kentucky Board of Social Work
Monthly Board Meeting
July 14th, 2025

Board Members Present:

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

Staff Present:

Vanessa Jones, Executive Assistant
Mark Brengelman, Board Attorney
Mike Nickles, Board Attorney

Call to Order

Hank Cecil called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m. ET. He introduced two new board members, Sydney Whitaker, and Cowann Owens. They each shared some information about themselves. All welcomed them. Hank administered the oath of office for the new board members.

Board Minutes:

June 9, 2025, minutes – a motion was made by Laura Guffey and seconded by Whitney Cassity-Caywood to approve the June minutes for the June 9th meeting. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Operations Report – June 2025:

Vanessa Jones, Executive Assistant, made the report in the absence of Marc Kelly:

Applications-53
LSW licenses-1
CSW Licenses-23
LCSW Licenses-12
Renewals-175
Temporary permits-16 clinical and 0 non-clinical
Supervision contracts- 82 approved 0 deferred
CEU providers and sponsors – 3 approved
Total number of active licenses – 7,969

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

Financial Report – June 2025 State Fiscal Year End:

Whitney Cassity-Caywood reported board expenditures and revenues for the final month in the state fiscal year (June 2025) - income: \$34,954.12; expenses: \$56,091.36; fund balance: \$674,164.45. She shared that the board is ending the year in a positive way. She shared that the new year budget began July 1st and with a budget of \$838,600.00. Whitney Cassity-Caywood made a motion to accept the financial report. Sydney Whitaker seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Board Members Travel and Per Diem:

Board members per diem and travel for today's (7/14/25) meeting – Whitney Cassity-Caywood made a motion to approve the Board's per diem and travel for the July 14th meeting. Sydney Whitaker seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

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Hank Cecil, Board Chair, traveled for a legislation meeting on June 25, 2025. Whitney Cassity-Caywood made a motion to approve Hank's travel for the June 25th meeting. Cowann Owens seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Committees

Application Committee

Laura Guffey, LSW

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

Applicant 2 – The committee recommends that this applicant's application be deferred until the next meeting due to needing more information. Motion to defer was 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 was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Applicant 4 – The committee recommends that this applicant's application be approved to take the master exam. Motion to approve for exam carried by unanimous voice vote.

Complaint Committee

Whitney Cassity-Caywood, LCSW

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to enter an Assurance of Voluntary Compliance on Complaint No. 24-66. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to enter an Assurance of Voluntary Compliance on Complaint No. 24-84. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to enter an Agreed Order on Complaint 25-11 with settlement authority given to Board attorney for notice of administrative hearing. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to enter an Agreed Order on Complaint 25-13 with settlement authority given to Board attorney for notice of administrative hearing. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to refer Complaint No. 25-42 to the Board investigator for investigation. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss Complaint No. 25-47 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. 25-50 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. 25-51 as there was insufficient evidence to support the initiating complaint, however, will send a referral to the

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Colorado Board of Social Work because of potential violation in that state. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 25-55** as there was insufficient evidence to support the initiating complaint. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Old Business

ASWB updates- Hank Cecil reported.

Hank shared the ASWB upcoming meetings. The leadership weekend is scheduled for August; the new board member meeting in September; the Delegate Assembly meeting in November; and the education meeting in May 2026. Hank encouraged new board members to attend the new board member training in September if their schedules allowed. They both stated they will look into it.

Compact Licensing updates- Hank Cecil reported.

Hank shared that there are now 29 states in the compact. The commission is working on the data system, the budget, and the rules. There will be a special meeting in Sept and the annual meeting in November, the day before the ASWB delegate assembly.

Hank shared that each board must choose the license type(s) they want to be in the compact. As KY licenses three categories, he asked if the board wanted all three. All agreed. The applicant for a multistate license will need to have passed the ASWB exam and must have a background check and/or fingerprints.

IT Updates - Hank Cecil reported.

Hank shared that the new software system is continuing with the next phase for license renewals. The goal is November this year. License verifications online are not resolved yet. The supervision contracts section is being digitized for use online; submissions will have the CSW, supervisor, and employer online signing. Marc Kelly gets the notice so that he can review it online.

Regulations update – Hank Cecil reported.

Hank shared and the board attorney will attend the ARRS meeting today for 201 KAR 23: 012 and 025. He stated 201 KAR 23: 075 was deferred until August.

Hank shared the working draft of the code of ethics regulation 201 KAR 23:080 where changes have been made and the comments from licensees were added. He stated he received feedback from licensees that they appreciated the opportunity to provide input on this regulation. Discussion was held about the language on coaching information incorporated into it or whether there is a need for another regulation. Discussion was held about the duties to client and the duties to others being included. Hank shared they have been reviewing other boards regulations for what may help.

Hank shared the draft of 201 KAR23:020 regulation on fees and asked all to review for the next meeting.

2026 Legislation- Hank Cecil reported.

Hank shared that he met with some legislators, and they like the drafted changes for the 2026 legislative session. The recent changes integrate the compact more clearly. There was discussion about interns getting paid for their work.

Hank shared that he will present the draft to the Kentucky Association of Social Work Educators (KASWE) at their meeting in September.

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Contractor evaluations Hank reported.

Hank stated all have completed the legal and investigator evaluations. Attorneys, Mark Brengelman and Mike Nickles left the room during the Board's discussion of the evaluation.

Hank shared overall the Board Attorney's received an honest review with needing improvement in timeliness. The board appreciates having Mike Nickles assist with the regulations and the workload.

Hank shared overall the Board's investigator agency, Scanlan. Scanlan is thorough; timely; follow protocols; effective communication with the Board and professional during the investigation process.

New Business

Next Listening Session

Hank asked about our next listening session dates and topics. Discussion held. It was decided to have the next listening session on Friday, August 22, 2025, at 11:30/12:30. It will be a one-hour zoom session with the topic being Supervision - how to get into supervision and how to become a supervisor. Vanessa Jones will make a flyer and post it on Facebook page and website.

Genesia Kilgore-Bowling asked about the macro license. Discussion was held. Hank shared there was some pushback, so he suggested getting the educators involved and that we discuss this again later.

Announcements

Brenda Rosen shared that they have a mental health insurance reform task force that is booming, and they are adding more states daily. She shared they are having meetings across the state, and all are being offered on Zoom.

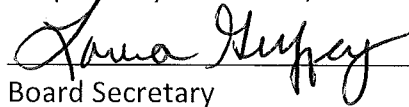
Brenda shared that child marriage was passed in KY in 2018 and is no longer allowed. She shared that NASW IL chapter had passed a bill to try to stop therapy bots.

Brenda shared that they would like to see paid practicums or see schools reduce a person's last semester tuition. She stated they are working with them to build resilience in social work.

Adjournment – Genesia Kilgore-Bowling made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:45 pm. Seconded by Cowann Owens. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: Monday, August 11th, 2025, 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: 8/14/25