

Kentucky Board of Social Work
Monthly Board Meeting
July 20, 2026

Board Members Present:

Hank Cecil, LCSW
Cowann Owens, LCSW
Laura Guffey, LSW
Whitney Cassity-Caywood, LCSW
Jill Seyfred, Citizen At Large

Staff Present:

Marc Kelly, Executive Director
Mark Brengelman, Board Attorney
Mike Nickels, Board Attorney

Call to Order

Hank Cecil called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. ET. The agenda was amended to address the Financial Report and the Complaint Committee report earlier in the meeting to ensure a quorum was present for all required motions.

Board Minutes:

June 15, 2026, minutes – a motion was made by Laura Guffey and seconded by Whitney Cassity-Caywood to approve the June minutes for the June 15th meeting. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Operations Report – June 2026 Data:

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

Applications-

LSW licenses-14

CSW Licenses-107

LCSW Licenses-57

Total # 178

Renewals- LSW-13; CSW-53; LCSW-106 Total: 172

Temporary permits-17 clinical and 0 non-clinical. Total 17

Supervision contracts- 74 approved

CEU providers and sponsors – 4 providers and 3 sponsors approved

Total number of active licenses – 9554

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

June Exam Prep Workshop – Staff are exploring a follow-up survey of exam participants, as discussed at the June meeting. [CONFIRM]

Financial Report – June 2026:

Cowann Owens reported board expenditures and revenues. The report was run on July 7, 2026, with data through July 6, 2026, completing all 12 months of fiscal year 2026 – year-to-date revenue: \$421,655.04; June income: \$29,328.58; year-to-date expenditures: \$619,635.84; June expenses: \$49,409.64; current cash balance: \$476,183.65; yearly appropriation: \$838,600.00; and unexpended, unobligated balance: \$218,764.16, leaving approximately 25 percent of the budget unexpended for the fiscal year.

Board Members' Travel and Per Diem

Board members' per diem and travel for today's (7/20/2026) meeting – a motion was made by committee to approve per diem and travel expenses for board members attending the meeting in

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person. As the motion came from a committee of two or more members, no second was required.
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Committees

The Complaint Committee report was presented before the Application Committee report under the amended agenda.

Complaint Committee

Hank Cecil, LCSW

The committee recommended and moved to dismiss Complaint No. 25-19 for insufficient evidence.
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to dismiss Complaint No. 26-65 for insufficient evidence.
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to dismiss Complaint No. 26-67 for insufficient evidence.
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to dismiss Complaint No. 26-68 for insufficient evidence.
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to dismiss Complaint No. 26-69 for insufficient evidence.
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to dismiss Complaint No. 26-70 for insufficient evidence.
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to file a notice of administrative hearing and formal complaint on Complaints 26-26 and 26-27, involving the same licensee, with settlement authority given to the attorney. Whitney Cassity-Caywood seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to file a notice of administrative hearing and formal complaint on Complaint 25-42, with settlement authority given to the attorney. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to dismiss Complaint No. 25-36 for insufficient evidence.
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Mark Brengelman, Board Attorney, presented three settlement agreements for approval:

The committee recommended and moved to approve and enter the settlement agreement on Complaints 24-25 and 24-34, involving the same licensee, including a reprimand, an admitted violation of law, a fine, a one-year active suspension, and board-approved clinical supervision upon any return to practice. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to approve and enter the settlement agreement on Complaints 25-11 and 25-13, involving the same licensee, including a reprimand, an admitted violation of law, a \$2,000 fine with \$1,000 paid and \$1,000 probated, and four hours of board-approved

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continuing education on confidentiality. Cowann Owens made the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to approve and enter the settlement agreement on Complaint 25-102, including a reprimand, an admitted violation of law, a fifteen-month active suspension from October 1, 2025, through January 1, 2027, a probated fine payable at the end of the suspension, and four years of board-appointed clinical supervision upon any return to practice. If reinstatement is not sought by December 31, 2027, the license is deemed revoked. Cowann Owens made the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Application Committee

Laura Guffey, LSW

Applicant 1 – The committee previously deferred this applicant pending documentation of completed court-ordered activities. The committee received the required documentation and recommends the applicant be approved to test. Motion to approve for exam carried by unanimous voice vote.

Applicant 2 – The committee will defer this applicant and direct the applicant to request a records summary from the Department of Corrections. Motion to defer carried by unanimous voice vote.

Applicant 3 – The committee will defer this out-of-state applicant to obtain a clearer summary of the applicant's records and possibly schedule a call with the applicant. Motion to defer carried by unanimous voice vote.

Warrant and Criminal Summons Application Mark Brengelman, Board Attorney, reminded the Board that the criminal trial remains scheduled for October 9, 2026, with board staff and counsel to appear as witnesses. No new information at this time.

Old Business

ASWB updates- Hank Cecil reported.

ASWB is preparing for the transition to the new examination framework beginning in August 2026, which includes three domains instead of four and 112 questions. The ASWB Delegate Assembly will be held in November in Salt Lake City. The new board member training will be offered in person in early October; ASWB covers travel expenses, and in-person attendance is recommended. Jill Seyfred will review the dates for the training.

Compact Licensing updates– Hank Cecil reported.

The compact vendor provided the first demonstration of the data system at the July Executive Committee meeting, and the project remains on track for launch in March 2027. The Board has initiated work with its licensing system vendor to prepare for issuing compact licenses; coordination with Arkansas and West Virginia, which use the same licensing system, will be required. The fee rate is set, and background check requirements are being set up so the Board is prepared to issue licenses in the spring of 2027.

Student Supervision Work Group- Hank Cecil and Marc Kelly reported on behalf of Sydney Whitaker. Sydney Whitaker submitted a report noting the work group has held its first meeting and scheduled its next meeting for August 6, 2026.

Regulations update – Hank Cecil reported.

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201 KAR 23:070 qualifying experience and supervision – Drafting continues. A new provision under consideration would require live observation of the supervisee by the supervisor, or supervisor review of a recorded session, consistent with the practice in a growing number of states; Utah requires 25 of 125 supervised hours by direct observation. The Children's Alliance supports the addition. Discussion held. The Board requested input from the student supervision work group and community supervisors before deciding whether to include the requirement. A public comment period will apply when the regulation is filed.

201 KAR 23:080 Code of Ethics – Feedback is being gathered, and drafting continues to keep the regulation consistent with the amendments made to the statute.

Complaint regulation – Copies were provided to board members for review. Review of this regulation will begin after the current regulations are filed.

Complaint System Software – Hank Cecil reported.

Tyler Technologies, the Board's licensing system vendor, offers a complaint tracking component that may be available as part of the Board's current system at no additional cost. The Board will review the component, which would reduce the manual tracking burden on staff as complaint volume increases.

New Business No new business currently.

Announcements – other discussion

Hannah Ware, NASW Kentucky, asked clarifying questions regarding supervision. All supervision forms have been drafted and updated to reflect virtual supervision. The regulation currently incorporates two forms while six are in use; the regulation will be amended to incorporate the forms in use.

Hannah Ware, NASW Kentucky, asked clarifying questions regarding the assignment of supervisors under settlement agreements, the proposed live observation requirement, and the compact timeline.

Brenda Rosen shared updates on the Kentucky human-animal welfare coalition's legislative efforts, noted that all 50 states are now represented on the mental health insurance reform task force, and announced the Social Work Action Coalition summer series held Friday afternoons.

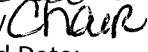
Adjournment – Cowann Owens made a motion to adjourn. Laura Guffey seconded. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m. ET.

Next meeting: Monday, August 17, 2026, at 11:30 a.m. ET at KY Board office, 125 Holmes Street, Suite 310, Frankfort, KY 40601

Respectfully submitted,



Board Secretary

Chair 
Board Approved Date: 8/17/2024