

Kentucky Board of Social Work
Monthly Board Meeting
June 15, 2026

Board Members Present:

Hank Cecil, LCSW
Cowann Owens, LCSW
Genesia Kilgore-Bowling, CSW
Laura Guffey, LSW
Sydney Whitaker, LCSW
Whitney Cassity-Caywood, LCSW
Jill Seyfred, Citizen At Large

Staff Present:

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

Call to Order

Hank Cecil called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. ET. A motion was made by Genesia Kilgore-Bowling to change the agenda to move into a closed session at the end of the board meeting. Whitney Cassity-Caywood seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Hank Cecil introduced the newest citizen-at-large board member, Jill Seyfred. Jill introduced herself and shared her background. Hank provided the oath of office to Jill

Board Minutes:

May 18, 2026, minutes – a motion was made by Cowann Owens and seconded by Sydney Whitaker to approve the May minutes for the May 18th meeting. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Operations Report – May 2026 Data:

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

Applications-177

LSW licenses-2

CSW Licenses-68

LCSW Licenses-58

Renewals-136

Temporary permits-4 clinical and 0 non-clinical

Supervision contracts- 82 approved (received both paper contracts and electronic) 0 deferred

CEU providers and sponsors – 8 approved

Total number of active licenses – 9387

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

June Exam Prep Workshop – Vanessa Jones shared that the workshop went great. She reported 74 total participants, 6 BSW and the remainder CSW and LCSW. She shared Dr. D went over the new exam changes coming up in August. Discussion held on a potential survey. Vanessa Jones will follow up with Dr. D. and staff to determine how to share the data with board members.

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Hank Cecil stated the Board will host another workshop in January 2027 and again in June 2027. Vanessa Jones will follow up with Dr. D to get some dates for both months.

Financial Report – May 2026 Data:

Cowann Owens reported board expenditures and revenues for the month of May – May income: \$38,718.84; May expenses: \$46,006.46; May unexpended budget \$268,373.80; and May fund balance: \$496,264.71.

Board Members Travel and Per Diem

Board members' per diem and travel for today's (6/15/2026) meeting – a motion was made by committee to approve the Board's per diem and travel for the June 15th meeting. Genesis Kilgore-Bowling seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Chair per diem and travel for May 20, 2026 meeting – motion made by Cowann Owens to approve the Chair's per diem for the May 20th meeting. Whitney Cassity-Caywood seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Committees

Application Committee

Laura Guffey, LCSW

Applicant 1 – The committee will defer this applicant's application until the July meeting to speak with the supervisors for further information and will report back to the Board next month.

Applicants 2, 3, and 4 – The committee still needs completed probation documents for all three applicants and will approve them for the master exam once staff receives the documents. Motion to approve for exam upon receipt of the required documents carried by unanimous voice vote.

Applicant 5 – The committee received a request for further review of a previously denied application. Upon review, the application remains denied because restitution has not been paid in full to the state agency. Board policy requires all restitution be paid in full before an applicant may be approved for the exam or licensure.

Complaint Committee

Genesis Kilgore-Bowling, CSW

The committee recommended and moved to approve and enter an agreed order on Complaint 25-94, with settlement authority given to the attorney. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to approve and enter an agreed order on Complaint 26-47, with settlement authority given to the attorney. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to refer Complaint 26-53 to the investigator for further investigation. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to dismiss Complaint No. 22-71 for insufficient evidence. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

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The committee recommended and moved to dismiss Complaint No. 25-117 for insufficient evidence.
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to dismiss Complaint No. 26-36 for insufficient evidence.
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to dismiss Complaint No. 26-49 for insufficient evidence.
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to dismiss Complaint No. 26-51 for insufficient evidence.
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to dismiss Complaint No. 26-52 for insufficient evidence.
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to dismiss Complaint No. 26-54 for insufficient evidence.
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The committee recommended and moved to dismiss Complaint No. 26-55 for insufficient evidence.
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Old Business

ASWB updates- Hank Cecil reported.

Hank shared that KY will host the ASWB delegate assembly conference in Louisville in 2027.

Compact Licensing updates- Hank Cecil reported.

Hank shared the Board is on track to begin issuing the compact license beginning March 2027, noting background checks will be required and staff will be working on the applications, so they are in place before then.

Regulations update – Hank Cecil reported.

201 KAR 23:025 Applications – Hank shared the amended draft form, noting updates since the last meeting. Work continues, with application fees and background check requirements to be added. Hank shared the following regulations are being developed with Mike and should be ready for submission by 7/15/2026. Board members were asked to submit any additional changes as soon as possible:

201 KAR 23:051 renewals; termination; and reinstatement

201 KAR 23:160 temporary permits

201 KAR 23:080 Code of Ethics

201 KAR 23:070 qualifying experience and supervision

Student Supervision Work Group- Sydney Whitaker reported.

Sydney shared all required positions have been filled but they still need students as members in the group; however, they will go ahead and get started and then add the students when they join. She stated the group may be able to obtain students once school resumes in August, as many students are expected to want to join the group.

New Business Hank Cecil reported.

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Hank shared complaints have increased yearly, and this year the Board already has as many as in 2022. So he reached out to the Board's IT vendor to work on ways to assist with tasks within the system. He stated the Board currently has a manual setup in which staff search the system, use word documents for letters, and assign case numbers. He shared the Board will work with IT to develop a way for the system to search and generate letters and information automatically. It was asked how persons can submit a complaint anonymously. Hank explained the online complaint process, stating that a complainant who does not wish to share identifying information may enter "anonymous" in the name field and leave the remaining fields blank.

Warrant and Criminal Summons Application a motion was made by Whitney Cassity-Caywood to move into closed session per KRS 61.810(c) regulation to discuss the warrant and criminal summons against Robyn Synder. Sydney Whitaker seconded. All approved by unanimous voice vote.

Moved into closed session at 12:48 pm.

Cowann Owens made a motion to move out of closed session. Genesis Kilgore-Bowling seconded. All approved by unanimous voice vote. Left closed sessions at 1:14 pm with no actions taken.

Announcements

Hannah Ware introduced herself. She will be the KY representative for the NASW chapter and looks forward to working in KY.

Adjournment – Whitney Cassity-Caywood made a motion to adjourn. Cowann Owens seconded. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 1:16 pm.

Next meeting: Monday, July 20, 2026, at 11:30 ET at KY Board office, 125 Holmes Street, Suite 310, Frankfort, KY 40601

Respectfully submitted,



Board Secretary

Board Approved Date: 7/20/2024