

Kentucky Board of Social Work
Monthly Board Meeting
March 16, 2026

Board Members Present:

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

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 11:30 a.m. ET.

Board Minutes:

March 9, 2026, board meeting minutes— a motion was made by Genesia Kilgore-Bowling and seconded by Cowann Owens to approve the March 9th meeting. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Operations Report – March 2026:

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

Applications-106

LSW licenses-10

CSW Licenses-88

LCSW Licenses-142

Renewals-11

Temporary permits-14 clinical and 1 non-clinical

Supervision contracts- 61 approved (received both paper contracts and electronic) 0 deferred

CEU providers and sponsors – 7 approved (4 providers and 3 sponsors)

Total number of active licenses – 8955

Motion was made by Genesia Kilgore-Bowling and seconded by Cowann Owens to approve the March operations report. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Financial Report – March 2026:

Cowan Owens, LCSW reported board expenditures and revenues for the month of March: expenses: \$42,863.79; revenues: \$14,411.12; fund balance: \$577,085.80; and appropriation balance: \$458,572.89.

Motion was made by Genesia Kilgore-Bowling and seconded by Sydney Whitaker to approve the financial report. All approved by unanimous voice vote.

Board Members Travel and Per Diem

Board members per diem and travel for today's meeting (March 16, 2026) –motion made by Cowann Owens to approve the Board's per diem and travel for today's meeting. Laura Guffey seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

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Chair, Hank Cecil, per diem and travel to the L&O committee meetings on March 10, 2026 and March 17, 2026 – motion made by Genesis Kilgore-Bowing to approve Hank Cecil to the March 17, 2026 meeting and seconded by Sydney Whitaker. All approved by unanimous voice vote.

Committees

Application Committee

Laura Guffey, LSW

Applicant #1: Approved for reinstatement

Complaint Committee

Genesis Kilgore-Bowling, CSW

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to refer **Complaints No. 26-15 and 26-25** to the board investigator for further investigation. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to enter an Agreed Order and give board attorney settlement authority on **Complaints No. 25-02 and 26-01**. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to issue letters of admonishment on **Complaints No. 25-81 and 25-82**. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to accept the signed and entered Agreed Order on **Complaint No. 25-30** Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss **Complaints No. 26-11; 26-14; 26-16; 26-19; 26-21; 26-23; 26-24; 26-29 and 26-30** as there was insufficient evidence to support the initiating complaints. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Old Business

ASWB updates- Hank Cecil reported.

Hank shared that the exam is changing in August. He stated Dr. D should have information on this in the next workshop.

Hank shared that the education meeting will be in April in Rhode Island. He; Marc Kelly; Laura Guffey and Whitney Cassity-Caywood will be attending.

Social Work Compact updates- Hank Cecil reported.

Hank shared that the data system and legal agreements meeting will be held later this week to finalize things.

Hank shared that WI and WV passed the compact; SC and NM need to amend their law; PA and FL are considering joining; 32 states have passed legislation.

Regulations update – Hank Cecil reported.

Hank shared the updated draft of KAR 201 23:070 qualifying experience and clinical experience to all. He stated the highlighted yellow areas within the draft are the changes that were discussed and changed from the last meeting and the green areas are additional changes for all to review. He pointed out sections on suspending supervision and coming back; telehealth/virtual sections; and section 11 where the amendments were made due to the compact and how supervision works from another state

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because laws cannot contradict other laws. Discussion was held about suspending supervision and how to handle it and notify the board when suspending and then coming back. Discussion held and it was agreed that there will be no set length.

Hank shared another issue about requiring them to have at least one additional supervisor on the contract due to the supervisor of record being unavailable. When this happens if they do not have an additional supervisor then the CSW would have to stop providing services until the supervisor of record returns. Cowann Owens agreed with intent but sometimes it is hard to find more than one supervisor for the contract. Discussion held. Hank stated that there will be continued review of the regulation.

2026 Legislation Hank reported.

HB 424 - Social Work Bill is scheduled to have their hearing tomorrow March 17, 2026.

HB 455 – AI Bill has passed the House.

HB 458 – Universal Licensing, no new news to report.

Warrant and Criminal Summons Application: Mark Brengelman, Attorney reported.

Mark shared that for the Commonwealth Vs. Robyn Synder the summons was served and the first court date was held in March but Ms. Synder did not appear but rather her attorney did. The next hearing will be held in April. He shared that this taking place to stop the harassing communications from her to the Board. At this time no communication has been made by her. He stated he will keep all updated.

New Business Hank reported.

HB 657 – Hank shared this bill is for all licensing boards with compacts to require background checks and fingerprinting for new license applicants and reinstatements. He stated it is up for hearing tomorrow (3/17/2026). Discussion held on the cost to the applicant; how they will request it and how it will come to the board office. Hank stated the cost will be for the applicant; he believes KSP will be doing this and KSP will send the documents to the board office. If they do not then the applicant can add to the application themselves.

Cowann Owens asked out the new renewal process requiring a signed job description now. Marc Kelly stated it is now required when they submit their renewals. They can add it their renewal when they submit it online but if they are an independent or have own business then they can write a statement verifying that and add it.

Announcements

Danielle Smith, OH and KY Chapter Director encouraged all to support Brenda Rosen's organization. She shared that they have an article on coaching and wants to offer more CEUs for social workers. She shared they are having courses in March for social worker month for all social workers nationwide and then all NASW members can access trainings monthly.

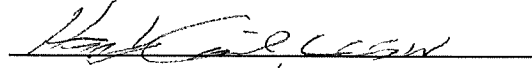
Brenda Rosen shared advocacy day was amazing and they had 200 people attend. She shared that the mental health task force has been reformed. She stated they are working with local groups across the state to help them understand how policy works and anyone can email them for help if needed.

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Adjournment – Genesis Kilgore-Bowling made a motion to adjourn. Cowann Owens seconded. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 12:39 pm.

Next meeting: Monday April 20, 2026 at 11:30ET at the board office in Frankfort, KY.

Respectfully submitted,



Board Secretary

Board Approved Date: 4-20-26