

Kentucky Board of Social Work
Monthly Board Meeting
May 18, 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
Mike Nickels, Board Attorney

Call to Order

Hank Cecil called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m. ET.

Board Minutes:

April 20, 2026, minutes – a motion was made by Laura Guffey and seconded by Genesia Kilgore-Bowling to approve the April minutes for the April 20th meeting. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Operations Report – April 2026 Data:

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

Applications-263

LSW licenses-4

CSW Licenses-30

LCSW Licenses-59

Renewals-129

Temporary permits-7 clinical and 1 non-clinical

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

CEU providers and sponsors – 6 approved

Total number of active licenses – 9255

Genesia Kilgore-Bowling made a motion to accept the Operations Report. Sydney Whitaker seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Financial Report – April 2026 Data:

Cowann Owens reported board expenditures and revenues for the month of April – April income: \$35,716.48; April expenses: \$105,781.15; April fund balance: \$507,067.63. He reported that the new year budget for 2027 will be \$654,300.00 and that will begin on July 1, 2026.

Board Members Travel and Per Diem

Board members per diem and travel for today's (5/18/2026) meeting – a motion was made by Cowann Owens to approve the Board's per diem and travel for the May 18th meeting. Genesia Kilgore-Bowling seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

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Committees

Application Committee

Laura Guffey, LSW

Applicant 1 – The committee received the needed additional documents and now 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 asked for discussion related to this applicant's application and probation documents. Discussion held and the committee recommends that this applicant's application be denied until they complete their probation and all conditions of the probation are completed. Motion to deny carried by unanimous voice vote.

Complaint Committee

Genesisia Kilgore-Bowling, CSW

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to approve and enter an agreed order on Complaint 25-84 with settlement authority given to attorney. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to approve and enter an agreed order on Complaint 25-97 with settlement authority given to attorney. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to approve and enter an agreed order on Complaint 26-43 with settlement authority given to attorney. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion were made by the committee to dismiss Complaint No. 26-45 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. 26-50 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. 26-57 and refer to appropriate agency 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. 26-58 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. 26-59 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 issue orders of the boards to complaints 25-73; 25-75; 25-76; 25-80; 25-88; 25-98; 25-99; 25-100; 25-107; 25-117; 26-05; 26-12; 26-13; 26-20; and 26-27. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Old Business

ASWB updates- Hank Cecil reported.

Hank shared ASWB has a call for research proposals and shared that the new board member training will be held in person in November and online in June.

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Compact Licensing updates– Hank Cecil reported.

Hank shared that the software agreement is complete, but it will take 9 months to complete the system. He shared that the compact now has 34 states, including WV and WI. He shared that, due to this, not all states will be included at the same time, but they will have a plan because it will need to be tested. He stated he is advocating for the first 7 states to start in the beginning.

Hank shared they have a special meeting on June 10 to make some elections and to discuss new language to be involved. They are hoping it will be ready by March of 2027.

Regulations update – Hank Cecil reported.

Hank shared 4 draft regulations that need to be discussed and adopted:

201 KAR 23:020 fees: the set fees for the compact are included. LSW \$75; CSW \$125 and LCSW \$200.

201 KAR 23:120 equivalency standard – No changes from last month

201 KAR 23:140 per diem for board members – No changes from last month

201 KAR 23:XXX National Examination Took out the remediation section and put in the passing score

Genesia Kilgore-Bowling made a motion to adopt the above regulations. Cowann Owens seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Hank shared drafts of the following regulations for review and discussion.

201: KAR23:025 Applications predetermination of criminal background is included in this one now, which will help people going through the program know if they can obtain a license or not. They will create a form for them to complete and send to the board for review. The draft form is being worked on, and they will share with all at the next meeting. This one needs to be completed by January 1, 2027.

201 KAR 23:051 renewals; termination; and reinstatement This one has added that the job description is now needed when submitting renewals and this is due to the law stating this in it. If not employed, then they must provide a reason and add that statement to the renewal. Discussion held on the ADA section 2 (6)(b). Mike Nickles will work on this section and check on the NPI number requirement because not all social workers have this number. And in the reinstatement section, all must now have a criminal background check prior to reinstatement of license. They will work on the draft and bring back for board review.

201 KAR 23:160 temporary permits Changes include that they will need background checks now; the board is allowed to revoke this license type; and the board can do an emergency order now.

201 KAR 23:080 Code of Ethics now includes definition of client and what the 5 year rule of being a client means.

201 KAR 23:070 qualifying experience and supervision Section 7(8) was added to include supervisor fees and provide clear advance written notice of the fees and expectations between supervisor and supervisee. Also, it is added that the supervisor of record needs to ensure arrangements to ensure continuity of supervision in case they are out due to illness or other absence. Section 6(5) was added to include not holding documents based on non-payment of the fees. The supervisor must send them to the board because the fees are between the supervisor and the supervisee. They will work on these and bring back them for further review.

HB 424- Sydney Whitaker reported.

Sydney shared they have 5 members in the group. She thanked Genesia Kilgore-Bowling and Whitney Cassity-Caywood for assisting with obtaining BA and MA level students. Laura Guffey stated she will join the group to assist with LSW students to show her work and what an LSW licensee does and what career options they have available for them.

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Sydney stated she will share the schedule with all Board members in case they want to attend any of the meetings. Marc Kelly suggested having this topic as a listening session this year as well.

Warrant and Criminal Summons Application Mark Brengelman, Board Attorney, stated there are no new updates at this time, but they will be going to court on June 9th.

New Business No new business currently.

Announcements – other discussion

Danielle from NASW-KY and OH Chapter shared they are seeing things that impact the workforce and they are watching long-term things they can talk to the legislature about. And they are looking to have some stakeholder meetings.

Brenda Rosen shared they are working with animal and abuse groups. She shared the mental health taskforce now has 44 states and they are looking at other schools to get them engaged in doing clinical work. She shared their plan to have a kickoff for students in the summer and fall.

Adjournment – Genesia Kilgore-Bowling made a motion to adjourn. Sydney Whitaker seconded. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 12:44 p.m. ET.

Next meeting: Monday, June 15, 2026, at 11:30 a.m. ET at KY Board office, 125 Holmes Street, Suite 310, Frankfort, KY 40601

Respectfully submitted,



Board Secretary

Board Approved Date: 6-15-2026