

Kentucky Board of Social Work
Monthly Board Meeting

December 13, 2022

Board Members Present:

Hank Cecil, LCSW

Santosh Adhikary, LCSW

Whitney Cassity-Caywood, Ph.D., LCSW

Lori Vogel, LCSW

Laura Farris, Citizen At Large

Staff Present:

Marc Kelly, Executive Director

Vanessa Jones, Executive Assistant

Nicole Bearse, Board Attorney

Call to Order

Whitney Cassity-Caywood called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m. ET.

Operations Report:

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

Applications-73

LSW licenses-3

CSW Licenses-33

LCSW Licenses-34

Reinstatements-3

Renewals-114

Temp permits-5

Supervision Contracts -31 approved; 2 deferred. He noted the main reason for the deferments this month are due to the supervisor of record not taking the 6 hour LCSW supervision training course. He reminded everyone that is now required for all LCSW that want to provide supervision even if you have taken the 3 hour course previously. The 6 hour is now the required supervision course that needs to be completed every 3 years.

CEUs-5 new sponsors

Hank Cecil made a motion to accept the Operations report. Santosh Adhikary seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Financial Report

Laura Farris reported that expenditures and revenues look good. Two expenditures to note: salaries increased and the temporary man power decreased. This was due to Vanessa Jones becoming a full time state employee. The other, is our legal services increased, but that was due to additional work performed on the Board’s regulations. She stated Vanessa Jones researched our rental expenditure due to our request. Vanessa Jones found that we pay our building rental 4x per year. Our revenues are strong and we can access them if and when needed.

Board Minutes: - A motion was made by Hank Cecil and seconded by Santosh Adhikary to approve the November 8, 2022, minutes. All approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Board Members Travel and Per Diem:

Laura Farris made a motion to approve per diem and travel for today’s (12/13/22) board meeting. Hank Cecil seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Committees

Application Committee

Lori Vogel, LCSW

Applicant 1 – Lori Vogel reported that the applicant is seeking license here and approval to take the ASWB exam. The education was in question for this applicant. Committee reviewed their education and the administrative equivalency regulation and found that the applicant’s education does not meet the requirements under this regulation. Therefore, the committee is not approving this applicant to take their LSW, Bachelor’s exam. Lori Vogel stated the applicant is currently in school working on their Master degree, so once they graduate with that they can apply for their CSW license. The committee is recommending not to approve applicant 1. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Complaint Committee

Hank Cecil, LCSW

A recommendation and motion was made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 22-63** as the conduct complained of does not warrant disciplinary or other remedial action. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion was made by the committee to enter into an Agreed Order with a 5 year suspension on **Complaint No. 22-64**. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion was made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 22-65** as the conduct complained of does not warrant disciplinary or other remedial action. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion was made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 22-66** as there are no violations of laws, rules, or administrative regulations governing the practice of social work. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion was made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 22-67** as the conduct complained of does not warrant disciplinary or other remedial action. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A recommendation and motion was made by the committee to dismiss **Complaint No. 22-69** as there are no violations of laws, rules, or administrative regulations governing the practice of social work. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Operations Committee

Hank Cecil, LCSW

Operations Manual - Hank Cecil reported they things are moving forward with the operations manual. Staff is getting things together and gathering information. Hank Cecil is reaching out to other Boards for advice and examples. He stated we need to add operation's descriptions and have a formalized process in place.

Old Business

ASWB delegate assembly update- Whitney Cassity-Caywood reported that she, Marc Kelly, and Hank Cecil attended the meeting in November. She stated DEI training and processes were shared and a lot of information was received. She shared that Texas complaint committee has a standardized rubric on complaints that they shared with all in attendance, so we are going to pilot the new documents and processes in the complaint committee. Whitney Cassity-Caywood shared that she would like our Board to attend and get involved as much as possible with ASWB. She stated that maybe we can have the finance committee assist with a budget in order for people to go to the trainings. This is will let us have a seat at the table. She stated ASWB recommended having the ASWB updates added to the monthly meeting again, but no resolution was finalized by them. Until then we will keep this topic on our agenda and she will update us each month. Hank Cecil then encouraged new Board members to take the new board member training that ASWB provides. He and Lori Vogel have taken it and both agreed it was very educational.

Compact Licensing updates- Whitney Cassity-Caywood reported that nothing was shared at the conference on this subject. Hank Cecil stated he attended one meeting at the conference where they shared that all states have different ideas and etc., so no formal draft has been published yet. He stated cost is a potential issue. So, he did some research on other compacts and found that some stated that the bylaws will have a maximum amount to pay and some compacts may assess a smaller fee. Lori Vogel stated persons she has talked with says cost is not an issue. Whitney Cassity-Caywood stated that if the KY Legislature passes a bill and it is signed into law, the Board will have to write the regulations.

Zoom meetings- Hank Cecil reported he spoke to someone on open meetings and there is no way we can have a zoom meeting without the possibility of links being hacked. Discussion on the pros and cons was held. Hank Cecil stated since we cannot get around the hacking, we could set up a zoom; send to the Board members and then stream it to Facebook. The Zoom link will be made available only to Board members for participation in meetings and the public access to view will be through Facebook Live. Then if anyone would like to speak at the meeting, they will need to appear in person to the meeting in Frankfort. He will continue to work on this. Hank Cecil made a motion to have zoom link sent to Board

members and streamed on Facebook Live for public. Santosh Adhikary seconded. All approved by unanimous voice vote.

Draft Code of Conduct - Whitney Cassity-Caywood reported she received the drafts from Hank Cecil and Nicole Bearse. They are a work in progress. This will be good for showing who does what; what goes where and etc. She stated we need more consistency with our documents. She suggested working more on this at the 2023 retreat.

Regulations update/process – Vanessa Jones reported that Marc Kelly was attending the administrative regulation review committee meeting today. She stated the ordinary temporary permit regulation and the Emergency renewal regulation public comments meeting will take place on December 21, 2022 at 10:00 am. Persons can attend or they can email their comments to Vanessa or Marc Kelly. If no one requests to attend we can cancel the meeting and move forward with the process. She wanted to note that even if the meeting is cancelled, we will still accept comments until December 31st at noon.

Telehealth regulation – Hank Cecil reported that we may need to write a regulation for telehealth because we need better clarification on this process and how to do them. He has received several calls from social workers for clarification.

Update/Status on new legal counsel contract – Whitney Cassity-Caywood reported that the solicitation for new legal counsel has been posted and it closes on December 16th. The solicitation went out to 75 vendors. Once it closes and we have received the responses, we will set up a committee/score team to score all the applications/response. Hank Cecil made a motion for the committee/score team to review the counsel responses. Santosh Adhikary seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Vanessa Jones stated she is the contact person for this process and has been working on things already. She said if anyone wants to share that the solicitation has posted with any legal offices, to share with them now and have them submit any responses before the closing date.

Statement on pass rates – Whitney Cassity-Caywood reported that there are inequities with this. She asked if anyone has issued any statements and was told only one has issued a statement so far. She stated we are aware of these and will address that as regulation and we are in favor for this to be corrected. Hank Cecil shared that we will have 4 options instead of 3 and they have an application for the clinical exam that people can study. Whitney Cassity-Caywood then shared that ASWB encourages persons to ask for accommodations, such as language interpreter or extra time to take the exam. ASWB is working to make things more accommodating for all. They stated they know there are issues and they are addressing them.

New Business

2023 Board meeting dates – Whitney Cassity-Caywood stated that the board dates for the upcoming year are in the Board members packets. She stated we will keep the 2nd Tuesday of each month and begin at 11:30 am., if all was in agreement with that day and time of the month. Hank Cecil made a motion to approve the 2023 Board meeting dates. Lori Vogel seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

2023 Board Meeting Retreat - Whitney Cassity-Caywood reported that we would like to have one of the future Board meetings be a Board retreat. Discussion was held about the meeting, including where it will be held and that it will be open for the public to attend. Hank Cecil stated it would be good to wrap a

retreat around a regular meeting. Whitney Cassity-Caywood stated we could have it March or April and will have it on Monday/Tuesday or Tuesday/Wednesday and potentially have it at a state park or hotel in another part of the state. She stated this would allow us to cover things, such as writing the operation's manual, having a training component, review policies and long term agency planning. Hank Cecil made a motion to approve the retreat dates of March 13-14, 2023. Lori Vogel seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Whitney Cassity-Caywood said to send any ideas on locations to her. She asked Vanessa Jones to research the cost in different areas.

Announcements – no announcements at this time.

Brenda Rosen shared a template (flow chart) on how to get licensed in KY. She said it will be shared on NASW site and asked us to share it. Vanessa Jones stated we will share it on the Board website; facebook page and in the upcoming newsletters.

Adjournment - A motion was made by Santosh Adhikary to adjourn the meeting at 12:38 pm. Seconded by Laura Farris. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 11:30am at the Board of Social Work Office, 125 Holmes Street, 3rd Floor, Suite 310, Frankfort.