



**STATE of OREGON
BOARD of LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS
Board Meeting
Friday, July 19, 2024
Via Microsoft Teams
3218 Pringle Road SE, Salem, OR 97302**

Board Members Present: Stephanie Manriquez, *Public Member, Chair*
Amy Ashton-Williams, *LCSW, Vice Chair*
John Fant, *Public Member*
Mollie Janssen, *LCSW*
Paddy Farr, *LCSW*

Board Counsel Present: Kyle Martin, *AAG, Oregon Dept. of Justice*
Rachel Bertoni, *AAG, Oregon Dept. of Justice*

Staff Members Present: Ray Miller, *Executive Director*
Kim Coleman, *Licensing Manager*
Mindy Tucker, *Compliance Specialist*
Troy Clinton, *Investigator*
Abe Dedek, *Investigator*
Wende Thatcher, *Licensing Compliance Specialist*

Public Present: Scott Wilson, *LCSW*
Timisha Wilson, *LCSW*

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Manriquez called the Board Meeting to order at 11:04 a.m. and provided brief opening remarks.

2. REVIEW OF AGENDA:

Chair Manriquez asked for review of the draft agenda.

- i. **Farr moved to approve and adopt the agenda as amended.**
- ii. **Fant seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

3. INTRODUCTION:

Director Miller introduced **Noelle Johnson** to the Board. Johnson was hired to fill the Board's limited duration Office Specialist 2 position; their first day was July 15th. Since being hired, Johnson has already helped improve application processing times and workflow in the Board office.

4. MINUTES:

Chair Manriquez asked if the Board members had an opportunity to review the minutes for the May 17, 2024 Board meeting:

- i. **Farr moved to approve the minutes for May 17, 2024 as presented.**
- ii. **Fant seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

[No public comment at this time]

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chair Manriquez announced that the Board would now enter into Executive Session to conduct Board business, pursuant to ORS 162.660(2)(b)(f)(h)(i)(l). The Board entered into Executive Session at 11:10 a.m. Chair Manriquez moved the Board out of Executive Session at 12:17 p.m.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS:

8. **Director Miller** informed the Board that SB 1552, which creates a predetermination process for background checks, will go into effect July 2025.

Director Miller provided a Thentia update. Thentia has corrected a significant issue in which CSWAs changing their Place of Practice were not aware of the requirement to also submit a new Plan of Supervision. CSWAs are now prompted to submit a new Plan of Supervision in these instances. Miller is actively exploring alternative providers in the event Thentia is unable to provide the level of service to adequately support the Board's staff and licensees.

Director Miller provided a new Board member update. Miller submitted recommendations for a public member and a CSWA member to the Governor's Executive Appointment Office. The next Senate confirmation hearing will be held in September.

Director Miller discussed increasing fees. The Board's current monthly revenue is approximately \$100,000.00. The Board's monthly expenditures for personnel only are approximately \$85,000.00. The last fee increase was January 1, 2016. At that time the Board had roughly 5,400 licensees. Since that time, the licensee base has grown to roughly 8,500 licensees, and Board staff has increased by 0.5 FTE. The large growth in licensees combined with a staff vacancy and minimal staffing growth resulted in a backlog. Miller is adding two limited duration Office Specialist 2 positions, one of which was just filled. Once the duration has ended on those positions, the Board will hire one permanent Office Specialist 2. State Government service charges, which cover IT and financial services, will be increasing approximately \$1,100.00 per month beginning July 1, 2025. Attorney General services will have a 40% increase beginning July 1, 2025. Miller is working with the Board's DAS Chief Financial Officer and Fiscal Analyst to determine the fee increase amount that would meet the Board's needs.

Director Miller will provide a DEI plan update at the following Board meeting.

Director Miller informed Board members that the next Board quarterly newsletter has been drafted by Board staff **Tucker**. It will be distributed following Board approval. **Ashton-Williams** suggested adding a link for Board meetings to the newsletter.

Director Miller will be coordinating with individuals interested in participating in the Board's Rules Advisory Committee to schedule a committee meeting.

Director Miller reviewed licensing statistics. There are currently 6616 LCSWs, 1880 CSWAs, 353 LMSWs, and 32 RBSWs for a total of 8,881 regulated social workers in Oregon.

Director Miller reviewed applicant statistics. The oldest CSWA application waiting to be processed is 32 days old. Board staff are continuing the goal of processing CSWA applications within 30 days of submission. For all application types, the oldest application waiting to be processed is also 32 days old.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Director Miller acknowledged Scott Wilson's service as a Board member from October 2023 to June 2024. Wilson, previously a CSWA, obtained their LCSW on June 14th. The Board member position Wilson held was required to be filled by either a CSWA, LMSW, or RBSW. As an LCSW, Wilson is no longer eligible to fill the position. Board members thanked Wilson for their contributions and the large impact they made in the short amount of time they were on the Board. Wilson will continue to serve on Board advisory committees and is planning to run for City Commission. Wilson expressed their opinion on the role of psilocybin in social work. While Wilson is not against psilocybin and understands its demonstrated value and purpose, they view psilocybin as a medicine and pharmacological intervention, and do not believe social work has a role in prescribing and administering medicine or pharmacological interventions. Wilson expressed concern regarding the potential dangers for Oregonians if psilocybin therapy is allowed as part of integrated practice for social workers. Wilson views it as practicing outside the role of social work and believes it would be difficult for the Board to regulate in the event that an issue arises. Wilson recommends that the Board considers the dual role of serving clients in therapeutic services as well as providing psilocybin therapy.

Timisha Wilson also expressed concern regarding psilocybin therapy and feels that social workers administering psilocybin should have the same training as a medical provider prescribing medicine.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Janssen presented the Consumer Protection Committee report.

In the matter of case 2016-04:

- i. **Janssen moved to dismiss the case due to no violation of rule or law.**
- ii. **Ashton-Williams seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2016-15:

- i. **Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. **Fant seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2017-28:

- i. Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. Ashton-Williams seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2018-15:

- i. Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. Fant seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2018-16:

- i. Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. Fant seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2018-30:

- i. Janssen moved to dismiss the case due to no violation of rule or law.**
- ii. Ashton-Williams seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2018-40:

- i. Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. Fant seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2019-39:

- i. Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. Fant seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2019-42:

- i. Janssen moved to dismiss the case due to no violation of rule or law.**
- ii. Ashton-Williams seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2019-47:

- i. Janssen moved to dismiss the case due to no violation of rule or law.**
- ii. Fant seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2019-48:

- i. Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. Ashton-Williams seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2020-14:

- i. Janssen moved to dismiss the case due to no violation of rule or law.**
- ii. Fant seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2020-15:

- i. Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. Ashton-Williams seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2020-18:

- i. Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. Fant seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2021-21:

- i. Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. Fant seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2021-48:

- i. Janssen moved to dismiss the case due to no violation of rule or law.**
- ii. Ashton-Williams seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2022-43:

- i. Janssen moved to dismiss the case due to no violation of rule or law.**
- ii. Fant seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2023-09:

- i. Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. Ashton-Williams seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2023-19:

- i. Janssen moved to dismiss the case due to no violation of rule or law.**
- ii. Fant seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2024-07:

- i. Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. Ashton-Williams seconded.**
- iii. Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2024-28:

- i. **Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. **Fant seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Farr provided the Licensing and Examination Committee report, announcing that committee approved two Previous Hours requests for CSWA **Dawn Anoché** and CSWA applicant **Jessica Davison**; three Supervision Hours requests for CSWAs **Kitty Kloud**, **Maya Elasady**, and **Heather Nelson**; twelve Reduction in Supervision Meetings requests from CSWAs **Ali Appleton**, **Ana Teeter (Lasich)**, **Cameron Herriges**, **Cheri Partain**, **Christina Corrigan**, **Ezra Ryan Hessel**, **Holly Goritz**, **Jhoana Monroy**, **Junia Caley**, **Leah Sharpe**, **Lesley Conway**, and **Paul Peters**; and eight Plan Change requests from CSWAs **Alex Freericks**, **Hayley Cron**, **Melissa M. Smith**, **Hannah Hall**, **Nicole Stefano**, **Priscila Rosales**, **Saira Iram**, and **Morgan Szarfinski**.

Farr provided the Continuing Education Committee report and advised that committee had approved six CE requests from LCSWs **Avie Stacy**, **Lawrence Jacobson**, **Lauranell Timm**, **Lenora Johnson**, **Sarah Nelson** and **Scotti Warren**.

Farr provided the Alternative Pathways to Licensure Committee report. The committee started meeting in May and has met four times. The committee is currently completing their recommendation report which **Farr** anticipates presenting at the following Board meeting. Members of the committee include **Farr**; previous Board member **Scott Wilson, LCSW**; **Katia Duncan, LCSW** previously of PSU; **Delmar Stone, LMSW** of NASW; and **Johnny Dominguez, LCSW** who is in community mental health.

11. SPECIAL REVIEWS

[No special reviews at this time]

12. OLD BUSINESS:

Director Miller discussed the Interstate Compact. Model legislation for the compact has been created. In order for Oregon to be considered a part of the Interstate Compact, we have to first adopt legislation. Next step is to present legislation to commission to request to join. It would be wise to use model legislation as a base and propose changes to model legislation. The Board does not have the ability to independently propose legislation, it needs to be introduced by a third party. If the Board were to propose legislation, it would have to propose a legislative concept to DAS. **Martin** advised that if the proposed legislation becomes a bill proposed to the legislature, the Board will need to determine the Governor's position on the bill and whether the Governor's Office wants the Board to take a position or provide information. Then it would come down to providing information to the committee consistent with the direction from the Governor's Office.

Janssen and **Ashton-Williams** presented an updated Six Month Report Form that included changes based on Board discussion and feedback received from supervisors and CSWAs. **Janssen** would like to solidify the message that is sent out to supervisors and CSWAs with the updated form. Board staff will have a finalized form ready by October 1st. Once the form has been announced and distributed for use, the old form will be accepted up until December 31st. **Miller** will check with Thentia on the capability to make the Six Month Report a system embedded process. If that is not possible, the current method will be continued using the updated form.

- i. **Janssen moved to approve the updated Six Month Report form with noted formatting edits as a replacement for the current CSWA Six Month Report form.**
- ii. **Farr seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

13. NEW BUSINESS:

Director Miller discussed psilocybin therapy. There will be upcoming proposed legislation that would require the Board to have language within rule or statute that allows social workers to administer psilocybin as part of their social work services. Miller will invite a representative that is proposing the legislation to the next Board meeting to have a conversation with the Board about what exactly is being proposed. **Martin** suggested looking at the legislative concept language in advance and contacting OHA about the possibility of a psilocybin educator attending a Board meeting.

Director Miller Discussed CSWAs being hired by agencies as 1099 contractors. **Martin** recommended that the Board focus on the appropriateness of the supervisor-supervisee relationship as opposed to viewing it from the perspective of whether the CSWA is an employee for tax purposes. The Board should ensure that the supervisor is doing what the Board feels the supervisor is supposed to be doing. **Miller** would like add the topic to the agenda for next meeting to have a more in depth conversation.

14. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

- i. **Ashton-Williams moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.**
- ii. **Janssen seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

15. CORRESPONDENCE:

Board members reviewed correspondence received from Meg Maginn.

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chair Manriquez reviewed an ASWB report provided by Brenda Dennis. The Delegate Assembly will be held in Sand Diego in November. The next Education Meeting will be in Portland in May 2025. The Social Work census deadline has been extended.

17. ADJOURNMENT:

- i. **Farr moved to adjourn the Board meeting.**
- ii. **Fant seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Chair Manriquez adjourned the Board meeting at 2:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Coleman, *Licensing Manager*