



STATE of OREGON
BOARD of LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS
Board Meeting
Friday, May 17, 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*
Scott Wilson, *CSWA*
Paddy Farr, *LCSW*

Board Counsel Present: Kyle Martin, *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: Meg Maginn

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Manriquez called the Board Meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. and provided brief opening remarks.

2. REVIEW OF AGENDA:

Chair Manriquez asked for review of the draft agenda.

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

3. MINUTES:

Chair Manriquez asked if the Board members had an opportunity to review the minutes for the March 15, 2024 Board meeting:

- i. **Wilson moved to approve the minutes for March 15, 2024 as presented.**
- ii. **Fant seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Meg Maginn has applied for LCSW licensure in Oregon. They have been licensed for over 30 years and hold an LCSW in New York, Georgia, and Florida. Maginn was grandfathered when they obtained licensure, so they have not taken the ASWB Clinical exam. In consideration of their experience, Maginn would like the ASWB Clinical exam requirement waived for LCSW licensure in Oregon. Board members reviewed current Board rules and determined that rules do not allow waivers of the ASWB Clinical exam requirement for LCSW licensure.

5. 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 11:38 a.m. Chair Manriquez moved the Board out of Executive Session at 11:50 a.m.

6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS:

Director Miller informed Board members that the Board office received a letter of gratitude from the Governor's Office which acknowledged the progress made on processing time for licensing social workers.

Director Miller provided an update on the Interstate Compact (Compact). The Board needs to determine if the Compact is compliant with the Oregon Constitution, Board statutes, and Board administrative rules. DOJ is currently reviewing the Compact language. Miller is in contact with NASW who are primarily pushing for the Compact. Miller requested that Board members send him any comments, questions or concerns regarding the Compact.

Director Miller discussed SB 1552, which passed in recent legislation. This bill creates a process for individuals interested in occupations that require licensure through the state to petition the state body for determination if their criminal background would preclude them from that occupation, prior to applying for licensure. Miller met with Board staff to discuss the additional work this process would require and determined that it would not result in a significant increase. The bill goes into effect June 2025.

Director Miller provided a Thentia update. Miller received news from a Thentia Executive that they will be prioritizing every project that the Board has. Thentia has also put the Board on a prioritization list for migrating to the new platform, Thentia Cloud, starting next month. Miller received a migration schedule and point of contact. In the event that Thentia is unable to deliver, Miller has been actively looking for alternative licensing system solutions.

Director Miller provided a new Board member update. The deadline for submitting recommendations for the May Senate confirmation has passed. The next opportunity for confirmation will be in September. Fant has agreed to continue to fill his Board public member position until a new member can be confirmed. Miller will provide recommendations to the Governor's Executive Appointment Office for two public members and one professional member that holds an CSWA, LMSW or RBSW.

Director Miller provided a staffing update. The recruitment has closed for one of the Board's limited duration 1.0 FTE Office Specialist 2 positions that was approved by the legislature. There were approximately 70 applicants. Miller expects to be conducting interviews the last week of May and have the position filled by mid-June. Recruitment for the second limited duration 1.0 FTE Office

Specialist 2 position will begin in July. Miller has plans for hiring a permanent 1.0 FTE Office Specialist 2 in July 2025.

Director Miller reviewed applicant statistics. The oldest CSWA application waiting to be processed is 26 days old. Miller has directed staff to process CSWA applications within 30 days of submission. For all application types, the oldest application waiting to be processed is 28 days old.

Director Miller reviewed licensing statistics. There are currently 6524 LCSWs, 1881 CSWAs, 351 LMSWs, and 32 RBSWs for a total of 8,788 regulated social workers in Oregon.

Director Miller discussed increasing fees. Miller will start the rulemaking process and organize a Rules Advisory Committee. The need for a fee increase is based on current spending plus funding for the staff and IT infrastructure needed to operate efficiently. **Ashton-Williams** would like to see what the dollar amount would be. Miller will create a visual for Board review. **Manriquez** inquired about adding funding into the budget for off-site Board meetings.

Director Miller provided a DEI plan update. Miller will be sending out a draft DEI plan for Board review.

Director Miller informed Board members that the Board office has started sending out regular email communications to regulated social workers. Each email covers a different topic and is intended to be a five-minute read. Board staff have determined the topics based on frequent questions and noted issues. Going forward, Board newsletters will also be emailed to all regulated social workers.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Janssen presented the Consumer Protection Committee report.

In the matter of case 2015-10:

- 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 2015-35:

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

In the matter of case 2016-15:

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

In the matter of case 2016-30:

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

In the matter of case 2016-31:

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

In the matter of case 2017-16:

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

In the matter of case 2017-27:

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

In the matter of case 2017-31:

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

In the matter of case 2017-32:

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

In the matter of case 2017-34:

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

In the matter of case 2017-38:

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

In the matter of case 2018-17:

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

In the matter of case 2020-09:

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

In the matter of case 2020-10:

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

In the matter of case 2020-11:

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

In the matter of case 2020-16:

- 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 2021-18:

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

In the matter of case 2022-45:

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

In the matter of case 2024-04:

- 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 2024-05:

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

In the matter of case 2024-06:

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

In the matter of case 2024-08:

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

In the matter of case 2024-09:

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

In the matter of case 2024-11:

- i. **Janssen moved to dismiss the case due to not violation of rule or law.**
- ii. **Farr seconded.**
- iii. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the matter of case 2024-17:

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

In the matter of case 2024-20:

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

Wilson provided the Continuing Education Committee report and advised that committee had approved five CE requests from LCSWs **Amy McCormick, Erika Ruber, Gary Bredeweg, Jennifer Szolnoki, and Rafaela Steen**. The Committee also approved **Lane County Behavioral Health's** request to be added to the list of Board accepted credentialing bodies.

Wilson provided the Licensing and Examination Committee report, announcing that committee approved one Previous Hours request for LCSW applicant **Alyssa Miller Nurr** and seven Reduction in Supervision Meetings requests from CSWAs **Matthew Taylor, Ali Edwards, Tim Burns, Zoe Rasmussen, Joran Ayres, Michelle Dunn, and Natalie Williamsen**. CSWA **Karina Lopez's** Reduction in Supervision Meetings request required additional information.

Wilson provided the Joint Rules and Legislative Committee report. The committee recommended two rule changes. The first proposed change is to OAR 877-020-0012(3)(b) which would allow Oregon Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFTs) and Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs) to provide up to 50% of CSWA's supervision. **Ashton-Williams** added that the Committee confirmed that Oregon LMFTs and LPCs are required to complete cultural competency continuing education. The second proposed change is to OAR 877-020-0010(4), which would allow a CSWA to have a reduction in supervision meetings for a maximum of 100 days within a 12-month period.

8. SPECIAL REVIEWS

[No special reviews at this time]

9. PUBLIC COMMENT:

[No public comment at this time]

10. OLD BUSINESS:

Chair Manriquez discussed topics for the next Board newsletter. Manriquez would like articles for Paddy's introduction and a farewell for Scott, and encouraged Board members to bring forward topics they would like to see in the newsletter. Janssen recommended adding a section to thank everyone who submitted feedback on the Six Month Report draft, as well as providing an update on where we are at in the process. Janssen also suggested adding the definition of Direct Contact to the newsletter.

Janssen and **Ashton-Williams** reviewed the feedback received on the draft Six Month Report form. A lot of the feedback included concerns regarding the length and complexity of the form, and requests to have the form embedded in Thentia. There were other concerns surrounding whether it is appropriate or realistic to ask supervisors if they have directly observed their supervisees practice with clients. Concerns were also noted regarding supervisors consulting with site supervisors because many CSWAs receive supervision outside of their employment. Janssen recommended waiting to implement the new form until it can be embedded in the system when the Board transitions to Thentia Cloud. Janssen would like to assist in testing the new system.

Farr provided an update on the Alternative Pathways to Licensure Advisory Committee. The Committee has been formed. Farr will organize weekly meetings for the Committee to produce its first set of recommendations. Farr anticipates having the recommendations ready for the July Board meeting. The first order of business will be to look at the ASWB Clinical exam and how it applies to the LCSW license. The committee will also research what macro level licenses can do in other states.

11. NEW BUSINESS:

Director Miller requested two volunteers to participate as members the Board's Rules Advisory Committee. **Ashton-Williams** and **Wilson** agreed to participate.

Chair Manriquez proposed scheduling future Board meetings every-other-month as opposed to every month. The Board will meet on July 19th, September 20th, and December 6th, with a short Teams meeting on October 25th for CPC items only.

12. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

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

13. CORRESPONDENCE:

Board members reviewed correspondence received from Meg Maginn.

14. 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.

15. ADJOURNMENT:

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

Chair Manriquez adjourned the Board meeting at 1:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Coleman, *Licensing Manager*