

IDAHO BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKERS EXAMINERS
Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0063

Quarterly Meeting Minutes of 5/17/2022

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Alex Zamora - Chair
April Christenson
Virginia Dickman
Lynnet Keeley
Dr. Donna Lynn Schmid

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeri Perkins

DIVISION STAFF: Anne Lawler, Bureau Chief
Kent Absec, Licensing Program Manager
John Price, Investigative Unit Manager
Yvonne Dunbar, General Counsel
Cesley Metcalfe, Board Support Supervisor
Emily Rough, Board Support Specialist

OTHERS PRESENT: Eric Nelson, Outside Legal Counsel
Cameron Gilliland, Department of Health and Welfare
Roxanne Printz, Department of Health and Welfare
Madison Miles, Department of Health and Welfare
Heather Dolman, LMSW

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM MST by Dr. Alex Zamora.

DISCUSSION OF CASE MANAGEMENT

Mr. Gillian addressed the Board and explained the shortage of available social workers that the Department of Health and Welfare (DHW) is experiencing in the current job market. He explained that he is seeking guidance on what tasks must be performed by social workers and which tasks can be completed by support staff who would be supervised by social workers. The Board discussed its concerns regarding boundaries and public safety. Ms. Printz stated that she will provide additional documentation for the Board to review.

EXTENSION REQUEST APPROVAL PROCESS

The Board discussed its current approval process for licensees requesting an extension of the five-year deadline to complete supervised social work experience in pursuit of licensure as an independent practitioner. Ms. Dickman made a motion authorizing any one Board member to approve extension requests. If the Board member has questions the extension request will be reviewed by the full Board. It was seconded by Dr Schmid. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board reviewed correspondence from Robert Payne regarding staff approval of supervision plans. Mr. Absec responded on behalf of Division staff and the Board. Mr. Absec's response will be provided to the Board at the next meeting.

ASWB 2022 EDUCATION MEETING

Dr. Schmid provided a recap of the 2022 Education Meeting. She stated that: several states are facing challenges regarding moral turpitude language; that an influx of population to rural areas is making services difficult; and that social workers should become involved in advocacy for the profession by talking to their legislators. Dr. Schmid also discussed a study presented at the meeting that showed that more supervision hours led to more violations in the future. The belief is that more focused supervision plans will lead to higher quality supervision hours and reduce the disconnect between theory and actual practice in examinees.

DELEGATE FOR ASWB ASSEMBLY SPECIAL MEETING

The Board discussed a virtual assembly special meeting scheduled by ASWB in August. The details of the meeting are currently unavailable. Ms. Christenson made a motion to elect Ms. Keeley as the delegate and Ms. Dickman as the alternate to attend the virtual meeting and to vote on behalf of the Board. It was seconded by Dr. Schmid. Motion carried.

ASWB NEW BOARD MEMBER TRAINING

Dr. Zamora stated that there is an in-person ASWB New Board Member Training scheduled September 15-17 in Alexandria, VA, and a virtual training scheduled for June 2-3. Ms. Dickman made a motion to pay any fees required for Ms. Christenson to attend the virtual ASWB New Board Member Training. It was seconded by Dr. Schmid. Motion carried.

ASWB TRAINING FOR IDAHO BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. Zamora and Dr. Schmid stated that the ASWB provides individualized training to state boards and their administrative staff. Following discussion, Dr. Zamora stated that he will follow-up with ASWB to gather additional information regarding the training program.

COMPLAINT MEMORANDUM

John Price gave the investigative report, which is linked above.

FOR BOARD DETERMINATION

Ms. Christenson made a motion to accept the Division recommendation and authorize closure for case number(s) SWO2021-3 and SWO2021-10/11. It was seconded by Ms. Dickman. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Dickman made a motion that the Board enter executive session under Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(d) to consider records that are exempt from disclosure under the Idaho Public Records Law, Idaho Code § 74-106(9). The purpose of the executive session was to discuss documents relating to the fitness of a licensee to retain a license or registration. Ms. Dickman amended the motion to include that the Board will also discuss documents relating to the fitness of an applicant to be granted a license or registration. It was seconded by Dr. Schmid. The vote was: Dr. Zamora, aye; Ms. Christenson, aye; Ms. Dickman, aye; Dr. Schmid, aye; and Ms. Keeley, aye. Motion carried.

Ms. Dickman made a motion to leave executive session. It was seconded by Dr. Schmid. Motion carried.

DISCIPLINE

Dr. Schmid made a motion to approve the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Final Order in case number SWO-2021-6 and allow the Board chair to sign on behalf of the Board. It was seconded by Ms. Dickman. Motion carried.

Ms. Christenson made a motion to close case number SWO-2022-9 with no action. It was seconded by Dr. Schmid. Motion carried.

Ms. Keeley made a motion to close case number SWO-2022-5 with a warning letter. It was seconded by Ms. Dickman. Motion carried.

APPLICATIONS

Ms. Christenson made a motion to reinstate license LSW-32373. It was seconded by Ms. Dickman. Motion carried.

Ms. Dickman made a motion to deny SW0A-41794 pursuant to Idaho Code § 54-2312. It was seconded by Dr. Schmid. Motion carried.

Ms. Dickman made a motion to approve SW0A-41645 for licensure. It was seconded by Ms. Keeley. Motion carried.

Dr. Schmid made a motion to approve the supervision plan for applicant LMSW-40378, and to apply the hours identified from the start date of licensure as an LMSW

toward the hours required by Rule 210.03.b. It was seconded by Ms. Christenson. Motion carried.

Ms. Christenson made a motion to seek further information from applicants LMSW-34432 and LMSW-39533 as the Board cannot approve the supervision plans as written due to needing more information regarding the role of clinical social work. It was seconded by Ms. Keeley. Motion carried. Dr. Zamora abstained.

Dr. Schmid made a motion to deny the supervision plans for applicants LMSW-35381 and LMSW-38512 based on Rule 210, and the need for the plans to involve clinical social work. It was seconded by Ms. Dickman. Motion carried.

DIVISION BUSINESS

The Board tabled the legislative, Division, and financial updates until the next meeting.

BOARD MEMBER TRAINING

Dr. Zamora tabled the training until the next meeting but had a question regarding what constitutes a quorum. When two Board members have a conversation does the Open Meeting Law consider that a meeting? Ms. Dunbar stated that two members of the Board would not constitute a meeting because it is not a quorum of the Board and they do not have the authority to make a decision. Per statute, four members would constitute a quorum as a majority of the six-member Board. Ms. Dunbar further stated that any discussions between Board members that could impact a Board decision should be held in an open meeting. If a private discussion is held verbally or electronically between two Board members, the discussion should be restated during an open meeting so that the public understands how the Board came to any subsequent decision. Ms. Dunbar clarified that if the two Board members are a quorum of a subcommittee than any discussion between those two members must comply with the Open Meeting Law.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board tabled approval of the minutes until the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING was scheduled for August 30, 2022, at 8:30 AM MDT.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Zamora adjourned the meeting at 1:22 PM MDT