

# State of Idaho Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses Idaho Board of Social Work Examiners

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## **Board Meeting Minutes of 10/2/2023**

**Board Members** Lynnet R Keeley - Chair

Present: Virginia K Dickman

Brandi Warnke Dr. Alex Zamora April Christenson **Division** Cesley Metcalfe, Executive Officer

**Staff:** Greg Loos, Legal Counsel

Christian Runnalls, Board Support Specialist

**Board Members** Jeri Perkins **Absent:** 

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM by Lynnet R Keeley.

# **Applications**

A motion was made and seconded to approve application ILMSW-31475. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **BOARD BUSINESS**

**Zero-Based Regulation:** Ms. Metcalfe presented the ZBR public comments submitted for the proposed rules. She read comments submitted by: Carol Taylor who suggested adding spirituality to the list of items for assessment and treatment by clinical social workers; Sheila Weaver who stated her opposition to allowing a romantic or sexual relationship between a social worker and former client after any length of time; John Stennett, Becky Wolery, and Sherry Jacobia, stating their approval of the proposed rule changes; and Tim Thompson recommending the use of a phrase other than "apprenticeship program" to describe the required supervision for clinical licensure and adding the required training for clinical supervisors to the rules. Ms. Metcalfe also presented the following comments received during a townhall with the National Association of Social Workers (NASW): Emily Y. stated her concern for the impact that telehealth registration and endorsement licensure will have on Idaho social workers, her opposition to reducing the continuing education hours, and her opposition to allowing a romantic or sexual relationship between a social worker and former client after any length of time; Maria Torres stated her opposition to reducing the continuing education hours and allowing a romantic or sexual relationship between a social worker and former client after any length of time; and Delmar Stone, NASW, asked that all pronouns in rule be updated to gender-neutral pronouns, asked why the Board does not use the NASW Code of Ethics, and stated that the list of continuing education course providers should be retained in rule.

The Board discussed the comments and made the following updates to the proposed rules:

Proposed Rule 100.03 – Approved Postgraduate Supervised Clinical Experience for Clinical Social Work License: The Board changed "apprenticeship program" to "supervised clinical experience".

**Proposed Rule 100.05 – Continuing Education:** The Board readded previously deleted language regarding retention of records for four years.

**Proposed Rule 100.06 – Inactive Status:** The Board readded previously deleted language regarding continuing education and fee requirements for returning to active status.

New Proposed Rule 200.04.g – Code of Professional Conduct: The Board added a provision stating that social workers may not engage in a romantic or sexual relationship with a client during professional services and for ten years after services have ended.

**Proposed Rule 200.04.h** – **Code of Professional Conduct:** The Board deleted the reference to a client relationship because that is now covered by the new Rule 200.04.g. The final sentence stating that social workers may not provide services to a person with whom they have had a romantic or sexual relationship was also moved to the new Rule 200.04.g.

**Proposed Rule 200.05.a** – Competency: The Board changed the pronouns to gender-neutral.

A motion was made and seconded to move the proposed rules to pending with the changes made during the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Public Comment:**

Sheila Weaver stated that she is troubled by the allowance of sexual relationships between a social worker and a client ten years after professional services ended.

Delmar Stone, National Association of Social Workers (NASW), stated that the NASW wants the Board to: change the qualifying national exam language to be more general, rather than specifying the Association of Social Work Boards exam in Rule 100.02; retain the original language regarding approved continuing education sources in old Rule 351.03; and incorporate by reference the NASW Code of Ethics instead of using the Code of Conduct currently in the proposed rules.

### Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:24 PM.

The next meeting is on 11/14/2023.