



State of Idaho

Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses Board of Social Work Examiners

BRAD LITTLE
Governor
RUSSELL BARRON
Administrator

11341 W Chinden Blvd.
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0063
(208) 334-3233
dopl.idaho.gov

Board Meeting Minutes of 10/22/2024

Board	Alex Zamora, Ph.D. – Chair	Division	Cesley Metcalfe, Executive Officer
Members	April Christenson	Staff:	Greg Loos, General Counsel
Present:	Greg Ullmann		Skip Liddle, Investigations Manager
	Brandi Warnke		Allegra Earl, Licensing Manager
	Priscilla Bake		Debi Casto, Licensing Specialist
			Christopher Gilliam, Human Resources Specialist
			Meagan Graves, Board Support Specialist

Others Tyler Williams, Board Prosecutor
Present:

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Alex Zamora, Ph.D.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 07/23/2024 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

No public comment was provided.

DIVISION BUSINESS

Respectful Workplace Training: The Board viewed a Respectful Workplace presentation.

OASIS Update: Ms. Earl provided the Board with an update on the new licensing system, OASIS. She clarified that applicants are required to upload their continuing education (CE) only when reinstating a lapsed license or when specifically requested to provide this information. Additionally, Ms. Earl and Ms. Metcalfe noted that with the new system, users may voluntarily upload all CEs, which will allow them to track completed and pending requirements.

Financial Update: Ms. Metcalfe provided the financial update.

BOARD BUSINESS

Clinical Supervision: The Board reviewed Rule 100.03 regarding clinical supervision and concluded after a robust conversation that the current wording should remain unchanged. The Board affirmed that the five-year timeframe is sufficient for Licensed Master Social Workers (LMSW) to fulfill the requirement of completing three thousand hours of supervised experience and passing the necessary examinations to attain their Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) designation. LMSW licensees are permitted to practice under supervision for a maximum of five years, provided they operate within the scope of practice defined by the relevant statute and rules. The Board further discussed the fact that there

are only three license types currently approved by statutory authority through the legislature and that allowing masters social workers to forever provide clinical services without working toward and obtaining a clinical license is not supported by that statutory authority. Board members considered their charge of public protection and made the following observations:

- The licensing exams test the baseline knowledge of applicants. Passing the clinical exam is the final requirement to demonstrate minimum competency for providing clinical services. In many instances, supervisors may be spending only a short time with supervisees. If this continues into perpetuity with no intention to take the clinical exam, then there is no stopgap to determine whether the social worker is minimally competent to provide clinical services.
- The public knows that there are different levels of licensure and may assume that someone providing clinical services is more qualified than they are.
- Masters-level social workers providing clinical services may be billing under another professional as their clinical supervisor. This creates some grey areas regarding liability in some instances such as malpractice suits or disciplinary cases. The current levels of licensure minimize the potential for this, protecting not only the public but the licensees.

The Board recognized that many people may have created a career and caseload through a perceived loophole in the previous rules regarding clinical supervision and empathized with those licensees and their clients. However, the Board also believes it was transparent throughout the zero-based regulation rules review process, providing plenty of time and opportunity for licensees to weigh in with their concerns, and that the clinical supervision requirements have been clarified in a way that is consistent with public protection and legislative intent.

Annual Meeting Delegate Voting: The Board advised its delegate how to vote at the upcoming annual meeting for the Association of Social Work Boards.

Licensing Report: Ms. Earl provided the licensing report.

Executive Session

A motion was made and seconded to 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 obtain or retain a license or registration. The vote was: Dr. Alex Zamora, aye; April Christensen, aye; Greg Ullmann, aye; Brandi Warnke, aye; and Priscilla Bake, aye. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to exit executive session. The motion carried unanimously. No decisions were made in executive session.

Discipline

A motion was made and seconded to close case numbers 1396319 and 1440896. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to close case number 1332229 with an advisory letter. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to close case number 1299386 with an advisory letter. The motion carried with one dissenting vote.

A motion was made and seconded to negotiate an agreement in lieu of discipline with the terms discussed in executive session for case numbers 1228893, 1284909, and 1149032 and to authorize the Executive Officer to approve on behalf of the Board. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize the prosecuting attorney to negotiate a Stipulation and Consent Order with the terms discussed in executive session for case numbers 1224224 and 1257916 and to authorize the Board chair to sign on behalf of the Board.

Applications

A motion was made and seconded to deny the request for rule waiver for LSMW-29317. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:55 PM.