



State of Idaho

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

BRAD LITTLE
Governor
RUSSELL BARRON
Administrator

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Board Meeting Minutes of 04/22/2025

Board Members Present: Alex Zamora, Chair
April Christenson
Greg Ullmann
Brandi Warnke
Priscilla Bake
Evan Maynard

Division Staff: Cesley Metcalfe, Executive Officer
Russ Barron, Division Administrator
Allegra Earl, Licensing Program Manager
Greg Loos, General Counsel
Skip Liddle, Investigations Program Manager
Debi Casto, Licensing Specialist
Dyan Durham, Board Support Specialist

Others Present: Tyler Williams, Board Prosecutor

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 AM by Alex Zamora.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 01/28/2025 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

No public comment was made.

DIVISION BUSINESS

Legislative Update: Ms. Metcalfe presented information on the following legislation:

H0014, signed by the Governor on February 7th, requires state agencies to review their titles and chapters of Idaho Code for unnecessary, obsolete, and outdated provisions and to report to the Legislature by September 1, 2025, their recommendations for the removal of such provisions.

H0151, signed by the Governor on March 14th, requires state agencies to provide objective information to the legislature and the public on the number of complaints and disciplinary actions taken by Idaho licensing agencies.

H0364 recognizes the need for systematic oversight and efficiency improvements. To maximize its impact, a task force will be structured into specialized subgroups, each addressing a critical area of government operations: Regulatory Accountability – Evaluating state agency rulemaking to strengthen oversight and reduce regulatory burdens, with a long-term goal of shifting nearly all regulations to statute by 2033. Budget Accountability – Conducting base budget reviews to identify and eliminate wasteful or redundant government services, programs, and expenditures. Government Operations and Oversight – Assessing state government structures to recommend agency consolidations and streamline operations for optimized efficiency. This bill did not pass.

Mr. Barron stated that even though this bill did not pass, a committee has been established that is waiting for guidance from the Governor. He shared that the Department of Health and Welfare is also moving forward with implementation plans.

H0059, signed by the Governor on March 19th, protects the conscience rights of healthcare professionals and healthcare entities. It protects them from being forced to participate in non-emergency procedures that would violate their sincerely held religious, moral, or ethical beliefs.

H0110, signed by the Governor on March 18th, clarifies in statute that Medicaid will not limit practice authority conferred by the legislature and licensing boards, and that services covered by Medicaid can be provided by any legislatively authorized provider who completes a Medicaid provider agreement.

H0220, signed by the Governor on March 19th, simplifies the fee determination for patients and families receiving adult or children's mental health services through the Department of Health and Welfare.

H0152, signed by the Governor on March 19th, requires that a report be submitted to the Legislative Services Office each year that contains a plan of action for boards that do not have a cash balance of 30-150% of the five-year rolling average of expenditures. It also includes cleanup of biennial renewal cycles for specific professions. Lastly, it will give the Administrator the authority to authorize fee holidays.

Financial Update: Ms. Metcalfe presented the Board's financial report for the second quarter of FY2025, which indicated that the Board had a cash balance of (\$25,321.04) as of December 31, 2024.

BOARD BUSINESS

Health and Welfare Clinical Social Work Services: Staff from the Department of Health and Welfare Behavioral Health Unit raised concerns about the new verbiage on the Supervision Report for Clinical Licensure form. Specifically, the concern is over the term "psychotherapy." The main concern was that applicants would not qualify for licensure because working at Health and Welfare does not involve 1750 hours of direct client talk therapy. Mr. Loos stated that the legal definition of psychotherapy rules is broader than the professional use. The Board stated that it wants to ensure that a clinical social worker is equipped to engage in all functions of clinical social work. If the required 3 clinical services (clinical assessment, clinical diagnosis, clinical treatment) are performed, the experience should qualify.

Licensing Report: Ms. Earl presented the licensing report.

Complaint Memorandum: Mr. Liddle reported that a Complaint Memorandum is being developed that will provide statistics related to complaints and investigations. While it is not yet available, it should be ready by the next board meeting.

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: Mr. Zamora, aye; Ms. Christenson, aye; Mr. Ullmann, aye; Ms. Warnke, aye; Ms. Bake, aye; and Mr. Maynard, 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 1473327, 1549363, and 1552818 with an advisory letter. The motion carried unanimously.

Applications

A motion was made and seconded to approve application 1613580. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:47 AM.

The next meeting is on 07/22/2025.