

Janet T. Mills

Governor

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL & FINANCIAL REGULATION OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL & OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKER LICENSURE 76 NORTHERN AVENUE GARDINER, MAINE 04345

Anne L. Head Commissioner

Board of Social Worker Licensure Public Board Meeting Friday, April 12, 2024

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Linda Butler, Board Chair Lee-Andra D'Attilio, Vice Chair Benjamin Strick, Complaint Officer Angela Fileccia Christopher Leighton, Public Member

STAFF PRESENT

Samantha Morgan, Assistant Attorney General Kristina Halvorsen, Board Administrator George Morgan, Board Investigator Jessica Cirello, Professional Licensing Supervisor

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair, Linda Butler, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Review and approval of the March 8, 2024 minutes.

A motion was made by Lee-Andra D'Attilio and seconded by Angela Fileccia to approve the minutes as written.

Vote: 5 in favor.

ADJUDICATORY HEARING

2022-SOC-18720 Erik Potter

This hearing was cancelled as the licensee signed the original Consent Agreement.

COMPLAINT PRESENTATIONS

2023-SOC-19465, 2023-SOC-19466, 2023-SOC-19467

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Lee-Andra D'Attilio to set this matter for an adjudicatory hearing and offer a Consent Agreement, in lieu of a hearing,

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with a reprimand and revocation, citing NASW Code of Ethics 2.07 (sexual harassment), 2.06A (verbal and physical contact) and 3.01B (boundaries).

Vote: 3 in favor, 1 recused: Angela Fileccia, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2023-SOC-19601

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Lee-Andra D'Attilio to dismiss the complaint due to the lack of evidence of a violation of Board laws or rules.

Vote: 4 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2023-SOC-19520

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Angela Fileccia to go into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S. 405 (6)E (obtain legal advice from the Board's legal counsel).

Vote: 5 in favor.

Executive session 10:29 a.m.-10:54 a.m.

A motion was made by Lee-Andra D'Attilio and seconded by Christopher Leighton to set this matter for an adjudicatory hearing and offer a Consent Agreement, in lieu of a hearing, citing Board rules Chapter 16 1(3)D (substance use) and NASW Code of Ethics 4.05A (impairment), and will include a censure and 6 months of probation which will consist of one face to face supervision meeting a month with a Maine LCSW, LCPC or LMFT licensee who will submit monthly reports to the Board for review.

Vote: 4 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2023-SOC-19638

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Lee-Andra D'Attilio to dismiss the complaint due to the lack of evidence of a violation of Board laws or rules.

Vote: 4 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2023-SOC-19639

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Angela Fileccia to dismiss the complaint due to the lack of evidence of a violation of Board laws or rules.

Vote: 4 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

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2024-SOC-19752

A motion was made by Lee-Andra D'Attilio and seconded by Christopher Leighton to dismiss the complaint due to the lack of evidence of a violation of Board laws or rules.

Vote: 3 in favor, 2 recused: Linda Butler and Benjamin Strick.

COMPLAINT COMPLIANCE ITEMS

2022-SOC-18026 Quarterly Report Review

A motion was made by Lee-Andra D'Attilio and seconded by Christopher Leighton to accept the reports as submitted.

Vote: 5 in favor.

2022-SOC-18392 Quarterly Report Review

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Lee-Andra D'Attilio to accept the reports as submitted.

Vote: 5 in favor.

2022-SOC-18590 Quarterly Report Review

A motion was made by Angela Fileccia and seconded by Christopher Leighton to accept the reports as submitted and end the probation period.

Vote: 5 in favor.

2022-SOC-18742 Quarterly Report Review

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Lee-Andra D'Attilio to accept the reports as submitted.

Vote: 5 in favor.

2022-SOC-18789 Quarterly Report Review

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Angela Fileccia to table this review and direct Board staff to obtain the missing reports.

Vote: 5 in favor.

2023-SOC-18881 Quarterly Report Review

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A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Christopher Leighton to table this review and direct Board staff to obtain the missing report.

Vote: 5 in favor.

APPLICATION REVIEWS

Reinstatement Application: Greg Marley

A motion was made by Angela Fileccia to allow the applicant to withdraw the pending LCSW application and dismiss the concerns of unlicensed practice.

There was no second.

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Christopher Leighton to allow the applicant to withdraw the pending LCSW application by 4/26/24 and if it is not withdrawn to preliminary deny the application due to the applicant not currently meeting the LCSW licensure requirements. The Board also directed Board staff to investigate the allegations of unlicensed practice further and gather more information regarding the applicant's job duties.

Vote: 3 in favor, 1 opposed: Angela Fileccia, 1 recused: Benjamin Strick.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Board Administrator, Kristina Halvorsen, shared the current licensure numbers with the Board.

Kristina attended a seminar for NASW Maine this week where she shared the Board of Social Worker Licensure's website page updates. Kristina also reiterated the importance of licensees knowing the governing laws and rules for licensure. Kristina also went over the online application process for social worker licenses.

LD1990 (removal of social worker examination requirement) is still waiting on enactors. The Social Worker Compact is still on the appropriation table and is almost complete. Kristina will continue to update the Board with new developments.

Board members asked about future rulemaking. This will be added to future agendas.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Nolan Thompson suggested the Board create and maintain a list of qualifying supervisors who are willing to work with licensees who are mandated by the Board to engage in probationary supervision.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Christopher Leighton to adjourn the meeting at 1:01 p.m.

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Vote: 5 in favor.