

**Board of Counseling Professionals Licensure
Public Board Meeting
Monday, August 24, 2026**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jennifer King, Board Chair (in person)
Angela Blier, Vice Chair (remote)
Joanne Grant (remote)
Ellen Grunblatt (in person)
Lisa-Ann Henry (in person)
Holly Cavna, Complaint Officer (remote)
Carolyn Silsby, Public Member (in person)

MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Megan Hudson-MacRae, Assistant Attorney General
Mike Tarr, Board Manager
Joe Shields, Board Investigator
Cecile Sirois, Comprehensive Health Planner II
Katy Getchell, Office Specialist I

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair, Jennifer King, called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Review and approval of the June 22, 2026 minutes.

A motion was made by Carolyn Silsby and seconded by Lisa Henry to approve the minutes as written.

Vote: 6 in favor, 1 abstained: Holly Cavna.

COMPLAINT PRESENTATIONS

2026-COU-21238

A motion was made by Angela Blier and seconded by Joanne Grant to set this matter for an adjudicatory hearing and offer a consent agreement, in lieu of a hearing, citing Board rules Chapter 8-A 2(1)(A) (Dual Relationship) and Chapter 8-A (3)(5) and (3)(2) (Competence), and Chapter 8-A (6)(3) with a: reprimand; and license suspension for 90 days per violation for a total of 270 days with a statement to be provided prior to the end

of the suspension expressing what she has learned from the supervision and education, required probational supervision of at least one hour bi-weekly for the first six months and then monthly after that, which can be in person or virtual. The supervisor is to be a board approved supervisor MFT, LCPC, or LCSW who has been licensed at least 5 years and is considered in good standing. The supervision can be in person or virtual and supervision will be focused on the reasons for the prior discipline against the license. The supervisor is to submit typed quarterly reports that include topics discussed and length of the meeting, and a final recommendation. The supervision should continue until the probationary terms of the consent agreement are complete. Continuing education of 6 credits in ethics in family or couple related category to be completed by the end of probation. The continuing education course can be approved by Jennifer King without further Board review.

Vote: 6 in favor, 1 abstained: Holly Cavna.

2026-COU-21245

A motion was made by Carolyn Silsby and seconded by Angela Blier to dismiss this complaint due to the lack of evidence of a violation of Board laws or rules and to issue a letter of guidance, citing Board rules Chapter 8-A (7)(5) (Responsibility to Colleagues) and Chapter 8-A (6) (Confidentiality), which will stay in the licensee's file until May 31, 2027.

Vote: 5 in favor, 1 opposed: Ellen Grunblatt, 1 abstained: Holly Cavna.

2026-COU-21368

A motion was made by Lisa Henry and seconded by Ellen Grunblatt to dismiss this complaint due to the lack of evidence of a violation of Board laws or rules and to issue a letter of guidance, citing Board rules Chapter 8-A (2) (Client Relationship) which will stay in the licensee's file until January 31, 2027.

Vote: 6 in favor, 1 abstained: Holly Cavna.

2026-COU-21393

A motion was made by Ellen Grunblatt and seconded by Carolyn Silsby to dismiss this complaint due to the lack of evidence of a violation of Board laws or rules and to issue a letter of guidance, citing Board rules Chapter 8-A (6) (Confidentiality) which will stay in the licensee's file for one year.

Vote: 6 in favor, 1 abstained: Holly Cavna.

COMPLAINT COMPLIANCE ITEMS

2024-COU-19920 Reports

A motion was made by Jennifer King and seconded by Carolyn Silsby to approve the reports submitted and end probation.

Vote: 7 in favor.

2025-COU-19711 Supervisor Review

A motion was made by Holly Cavna and seconded by Ellen Grunblatt to rescind the April 27, 2026 approval of supervisor as the licensee knew the supervisor prior to the start of probationary supervision, request a new supervisor be submitted for approval within 30 days, allow licensee to submit reports for supervision completed between April 27, 2026 and August 24, 2026, must submit reports for supervision during the time from April 2026 until August 2026.

Vote: 7 in favor.

A motion was made by Jennifer King and seconded by Holly Cavna to initiate a complaint against the supervisor for dual relationship for having accepted the role of supervisor of an individual she knew prior to the probationary supervision, as the consent agreement states that the supervisor must have no personal or professional connection to the licensee.

Vote: 7 in favor.

APPLICATION REVIEWS

Initial Application:

Christina Solak

A motion was made by Carolyn Silsby and seconded by Holly Cavna to preliminarily deny the application due to failure to provide proof of meeting the educational requirements pursuant to Board Rules Chapter 3(2)(1), (A), (B), or (C), and for failure to provide proof of completion of the required supervised experience.

Vote: 7 in favor.

Gregory Stacy

A motion was made by Ellen Grunblatt and seconded by Carolyn Silsby to preliminarily deny the application due to failure to provide proof of meeting the educational requirements pursuant to Board Rules Chapter 3(2)(1), (A), (B), or (C) with the School Counseling Degree.

Vote: 7 in favor.

Brandi Farnum

A motion was made by Ellen Grunblatt and seconded by Carolyn Silsby to approve the application.

Vote: 7 in favor.

Haley Gaudrault

A motion was made by Jennifer King and seconded by Holly Cavanaugh to table and request clarification on whether or not the supervised experience was clinical and then to grant approval to staff to issue the license if verification is received from both supervisors that the supervised experience was clinical.

Vote: 7 in favor.

Caley Walker

A motion was made by Ellen Grunblatt and seconded by Carolyn Silsby to preliminarily deny the application due to failure to provide proof of meeting the educational requirements pursuant to Board Rules Chapter 3(2)(1), (A), (B), or (C) with a non-clinical masters degree in MFT, and with the acceptance of a withdrawal of the application in lieu of a denial if requested within 30 days. Courses MFT616, MFT618, MFT617, MFT620, MFT628, 613, 629 are all acceptable courses toward the LCPC-c.

Vote: 7 in favor.

Deserai Liberty

A motion was made by Carolyn Silsby and seconded by Holly Cavanaugh to table and request adjustment of the disclosure statement to remove all diagnosis information as an LPC is a non-clinical license.

Vote: 7 in favor.

Audrey Chapman

A motion was made by Ellen Grunblatt and seconded by Jennifer King to approve the application in which the applicant had a short internship and less than 2,000 hours of direct client contact in their supervised experience because they have a master's degree in counseling education that was CACREP accredited.

Vote: 6 in favor, 1 recused: Angela Blier.

Renewal Application:

Tracy Bennett

A motion was made by Jennifer King and seconded by Carolyn Silsby to approve the application and have staff send an email to the applicant reminding them of the 10-day notification requirement pursuant to 32 M.R.S. §8003-G.

Vote: 7 in favor.

LMFT STATE EQUIVALENCY REVIEW

A motion was made by Jennifer King and seconded by Carolyn Silsby to approve KY and IL as being comparable to Maine's licensing requirements to apply for licensure by endorsement if they hold the correct qualifying license type.

Vote: 7 in favor.

BOARD MANAGER'S REPORT

Board Manager, Mike Tarr provided the licensee total to the Board. Mike told the Board that the number of applications continues to increase slightly. He stated that the complaints are getting caught up that they are working on a new process for saving, sharing and viewing complaints. Mike informed the Board that Joe Shields was hired for the complaint investigator position within our unit and that Jonny Ramos was hired for the Operations Coordinator position. He mentioned that online applications will be changing to only allow for submission of a complete application, meaning all documents required must be uploaded to the application when applying for licensure.

Lisa Henry addressed the board about there being confusion amongst licensees about the qualification of continuing education courses and what informal study versus formal study means and feels there should be clarification on it provided.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeri Stevens stated that there has been a lot of confusion around qualifying continuing education courses and what categories they may fit into.

Shanw Graham also commented on the confusion about the continuing education and what would qualify pursuant to Board Rule.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ellen Grunblatt and seconded by Carolyn Silsby to adjourn the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

Vote: 7 in favor.