



Janet T. Mills
Governor

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL & FINANCIAL REGULATION
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL & OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION
Board of Social Worker Licensure
35 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0035

Anne L. Head
Commissioner

**Board of Social Worker Licensure
Public Board Meeting
Friday, December 8, 2023**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Linda Butler, Board Chair (in-person)
Lee-Andra D'Attilio, Vice Chair
Benjamin Strick, Complaint Officer
Angela Fileccia
Karen Lemoine (in-person)
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 October 13, 2023 minutes.

A motion was made by Benjamin Strick and seconded by Angela Fileccia to approve the minutes as written.

Vote: 6 in favor.

COMPLAINT PRESENTATIONS

2023-SOC-19184

A motion was made by Lee-Andra D'Attilio and seconded by Karen Lemoine to set this matter for an adjudicatory hearing and offer a Consent Agreement, in lieu of a hearing, siting violations of NASW Code of Ethics 1.06 A (conflict of interest), 1.06 C (dual relationships), 1.06 E (technology for personal and/or non-work purposes) and 5.01 A

OFFICES LOCATED AT: 76 NORTHERN AVENUE, GARDINER, MAINE

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(high standards of practice), with: a censure; 24 months of monthly consultation, with a Board-approved Maine LCSW consultant (different from the consultant the licensee independently sought out) who will submit quarterly and final reports to the Board; and completion of 8 continuing education hours, in addition to the required annual continuing education hours, focused on dual relationships and contain an interactive element, to be completed anytime during the 24 months of consultation.

Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2023-SOC-19235

A motion was made by Angela Fileccia 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, siting violations of NASW Code of Ethics 1.06 A (conflict of interest), 1.06 C (dual relationships), 1.06 E (technology for personal and/or non-work purposes) and 5.01 A (high standards of practice), with: a censure; 24 months of monthly consultation, with a Board-approved Maine LCSW consultant (different from the consultant the licensee independently sought out) who will submit quarterly and final reports to the Board; and completion of 8 continuing education hours, in addition to the required annual continuing education hours, focused on dual relationships and contain an interactive element, to be completed anytime during the 24 months of consultation.

Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2023-SOC-19166

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Angela Fileccia to set this matter for an adjudicatory hearing and offer a Consent Agreement, in lieu of a hearing, siting violations of NASW Code of Ethics 1.03 A (informed consent), 1.12 (derogatory language), 1.15 (interruption of services) and 3.04 A (client records) with: a censure; and 24 months of monthly consultation, with a Board-approved Maine LCSW consultant who will submit quarterly and final reports to the Board, focused on the violations above.

Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2023-SOC-19222

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

Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2023-SOC-19231

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

Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2023-SOC-19392

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

Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2023-SOC-19393

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

Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2023-SOC-19450

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

Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

COMPLAINT ITEMS

2022-SOC-18590 Quarterly Report Approval

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

Vote: 6 in favor.

2023-SOC-18881 Quarterly Report & Continuing Education Approval

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

Vote: 6 in favor.

2023-SOC-19229 Supervisor Approval

A motion was made by Lee-Andra D'Attilio and seconded by Karen Lemoine to accept the proposed supervisor.

Vote: 6 in favor.

2023-SOC-19439 Supervisor Approval

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Karen Lemoine to accept the proposed supervisor.

Vote: 6 in favor.

RULEMAKING

Provisional Licensure

Board members, staff and OPOR's Deputy Commissioner, Joan Cohen, discussed the passage of Maine's new law regarding provisional licensure for individuals from jurisdictions outside of the U.S. and the Board's proposed rule to incorporate this statute. Board members requested additional information on other countries' social worker licensure requirements and discussed the need for further discussion and edits to this proposed Board rule.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Board Administrator, Kristina Halvorsen, discussed the 2024 Board meeting schedule and Board members decided to add an additional Board meeting in November 2024. Kristina shared the Board's licensure application statistics since 2014, which shows the continued increase in the amount of submitted applications. Kristina will continue working on separating this data into Maine-based licensees and out of state licensees and will submit the information to the Board in the future.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Karen Lemoine and seconded by Linda Butler to adjourn the meeting at 12:36 p.m.

Vote: 6 in favor.