



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

Joan Cohen  
Acting Commissioner

**Board of Social Worker Licensure  
Public Board Meeting  
Friday, January 10, 2025**

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**STAFF PRESENT**

Samantha Andrews, 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 9:05 a.m.

**MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Review and approval of the December 13, 2024 minutes.

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

**Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstained: Leslie Lufkin.**

**COMPLAINT PRESENTATIONS**

2022-SOC-18736

A motion was made by Christopher Leighton and seconded by Angela Fileccia to dismiss this case without prejudice due to the lack of evidence of a violation of Board laws or rules and to direct Board staff to report the situation to the Board of Medicine, Board of Nursing, Department of Licensing & Certification, OADS Ombudsman's Office and the Consumer Advisory Board.

**Vote: 3 in favor, 2 opposed: Leslie Lufkin and Linda Butler, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.**

2024-SOC-20209

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

**Vote: 5 in favor, 1 recused: Benjamin Strick.**

2024-SOC-19979

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

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

2024-SOC-19980

A motion was made by Angela Fileccia and seconded by Christopher Leighton to dismiss this complaint due to the lack of evidence of a violation of Board laws or rules, to issue a letter of guidance, citing NASW Code of Ethics 3.07D (ensuring working environment is Code of Ethics compliant), which will stay in the licensee's file for 5 years, and to direct Board staff to report the situation to the Department of Licensing & Certification.

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

2024-SOC-20014

A motion was made by Christopher Leighton and seconded by Linda Butler to table this complaint to allow Board members time to review new documents.

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

2024-SOC-20100

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

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

2024-SOC-20190

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

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

2024-SOC-20192

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

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

2024-SOC-20207

A motion was made by Angela Fileccia and seconded by Christopher Leighton to set this matter for an adjudicatory hearing and offer a consent agreement, in lieu of a hearing, citing NASW Code of Ethics 1.07A and C (confidentiality), with a warning and 12 months of probation consisting of 1 hour a month of supervision, focusing on record keeping, confidentiality, privacy, and seeking consultation, with a Board-approved Maine clinical mental health licensee who will submit quarterly and final reports to the Board for review.

**Vote: 5 in favor, 1 recused: Benjamin Strick.**

### **COMPLAINT COMPLIANCE ITEMS**

2023-SOC-18938 Quarterly Report Review

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

**Vote: 6 in favor.**

2023-SOC-18881 Quarterly Report Review

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

**Vote: 6 in favor.**

2024-SOC-19930; 20443 Proposed Supervisor 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, 1 abstained: Leslie Lufkin.**

## 2023-SOC-19439 Final Report Review

A motion was made by Lee-Andra D’Attilio and seconded by Angela Fileccia to accept the report as submitted.

**Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstained: Leslie Lufkin.**

### **CHAPTER 13 RULE REVIEW**

The Board discussed potential rule changes regarding the LSX renewal terms, such as adding additional renewal term(s) or allowing the LSX to renew indefinitely. The Board also looked at the requirement for LSW applicants who don’t hold a social worker degree to hold an active LSX at the time of the LSW application. Board members suggested the LSX should follow the same kind of renewal terms as the LMSW-cc, which can be renewed indefinitely as long as the consultation requirements are met each renewal cycle.

The differences between the consultant requirements for DHHS and non-DHHS LSX licensees were also discussed. Board members suggested to standardize the consultant requirements for both groups using the current DHHS LSX consultant requirements.

The Board will continue rulemaking discussions at future Board meetings. Future topics will include looking at the LCSW requirement of applicants needing to hold an active LMSW-cc at the time of the LCSW application.

### **ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

Board Administrator, Kristina Halvorsen, discussed the legislators being back in session. Kristina reminded Board members they should not respond to the public or media about Board matters and instead they should forward all communication immediately to Kristina.

Kristina discussed the number of incomplete applications received for this Board. Board staff have compiled data and reports regarding incomplete applications, and these will be shared and discussed at future meetings.

### **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Lee-Andra D’Attilio and seconded by Angela Fileccia to adjourn the meeting at 1:57 p.m.

**Vote: 5 in favor, 1 absent: Benjamin Strick.**