

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL 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, January 12, 2024

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Benjamin Strick, Complaint Officer Angela Fileccia Karen Lemoine Christopher Leighton, Public Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

Linda Butler, Board Chair Lee-Andra D'Attilio. Vice Chair

STAFF PRESENT

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

CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chair, Angela Fileccia, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Review and approval of the December 8, 2023 minutes.

A motion was made by Karen Lemoine and seconded by Christopher Leighton to accept the minutes as written.

Vote: 4 in favor.

ADJUDICATORY HEARING

2022-SOC-18720 Erik Potter

This hearing will be rescheduled due to the lack of hearing quorum.

PHONE: (207)624-8626 (VOICE) TTY users: call Maine Relay 711 FAX: (207)624-8637

OFFICES LOCATED AT: 76 NORTHERN AVENUE, GARDINER, MAINE

COMPLAINT PRESENTATIONS

2023-SOC-19484

A motion was made by Christopher Leighton and seconded by Benjamin Strick to table this complaint case due to lack of quorum with Angela Fileccia's recusal.

Vote: 3 in favor, 1 abstained: Angela Fileccia.

2023-SOC-19490

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

Vote: 3 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2023-SOC-19511

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

Vote: 3 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2023-SOC-19584

A motion was made by Angela Fileccia and seconded by Karen Lemoine to dismiss this complaint case and issue a letter of guidance, siting NASW Code of Ethics 1.07 L (protecting client records), which will remain in the licensee's file for 5 years.

Vote: 3 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

COMPLAINT COMPLIANCE ITEMS

2021-SOC-17975 Quarterly Report Approval

A motion was made by Karen Lemoine and seconded by Benjamin Strick to accept the reports as written.

Vote: 4 in favor.

2022-SOC-18026 Quarterly Report Approval

A motion was made by Angela Fileccia and seconded by Benjamin Strick to accept the reports as written and have Board staff contact the consultant and licensee to reiterate the requirement of meeting twice a month, as described in the Consent Agreement.

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Vote: 4 in favor.

2022-SOC-18709 Consent Agreement Approval

A motion was made by Karen Lemoine and seconded by Christopher Leighton to approve the proposed Consent Agreement as written for this complaint case.

Vote: 3 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2022-SOC-18742 Quarterly Report Approval

A motion was made by Karen Lemoine and seconded by Angela Fileccia to approve the reports as written.

Vote: 4 in favor.

2023-SOC-18877 Quarterly Report Approval

A motion was made by Angela Fileccia and seconded by Karen Lemoine to approve the reports as written.

Vote: 4 in favor.

2023-SOC-18881 Quarterly Report Approval

A motion was made by Angela Fileccia and seconded by Christopher Leighton to table this report and ask the consultant to submit 3 reports per quarterly report, as described in the Consent Agreement.

Vote: 4 in favor.

2023-SOC-19184; 19235 Consent Agreement Approval

A motion was made by Angela Fileccia and seconded by Christopher Leighton to accept the proposed Consent Agreement as written for these complaint cases.

Vote: 3 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2023-SOC-18938 Quarterly Review Approval

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

Vote: 4 in favor.

2023-SOC-19166 Proposed Supervisor Approval

A motion was made by Karen Lemoine and seconded by Christopher Leighton to accept the proposed supervisor.

Vote: 3 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

APPLICATION REVIEW

Initial Application: Marit Wilson

A motion was made by Angela Fileccia and seconded by Christopher Leighton to allow this applicant to keep the LCSW application pending and to deny the request for a partial waiver of licensed supervised clinical hours as required in Board rules Chapter 13 (5) 2.

Vote: 4 in favor.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Board Administrator, Kristina Halvorsen, shared Maine's current licensure numbers for the Board of Social Worker Licensure.

Kristina is currently writing summaries for two proposed bills that would directly impact this Board: LD2140 and LD1990. If LD1990 is enacted, this would eliminate the licensure requirement for the bachelor level and master level examinations and would keep the clinical level examination requirement. If LD1990 is enacted, this would conflict with Maine's entrance into the Social Worker compact, as this change would no longer meet the compact's requirements. Board members asked if they can testify about these proposed laws on their personal behalf and not on the behalf of the Board. Kristina will check with Commissioner Head and follow up with Board members about this matter.

Kristina discussed the process of Maine joining the Social Worker Compact. If Maine is one of the first seven states to join the compact, Maine would be involved in the compact's rulemaking process.

Kristina discussed the active Board staff hiring process and future positions for the unit.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

A motion was made by Karen Lemoine and seconded by Ben to adjourn the meeting at 10:44 a.m.

Vote: 4 in favor.