



Janet T. Mills
Governor

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

Minutes
Maine Board of Social Worker Licensure
January 13, 2023 Board Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT

Linda Butler, Board Chair
Lee-Andra D'Attilio
Karen Lemoine
Christopher Leighton
Benjamin Strick

MEMBERS ABSENT

Angela Fileccia

STAFF PRESENT

Samantha Morgan, Assistant Attorney General
Kristina Halvorsen, Board Administrator
George Morgan, Board Investigator
Cecile Sirois, Professional Licensing Supervisor

CALL TO ORDER

Linda Butler called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Review and approval of the minutes of December 9, 2022.

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

Vote: 3 in favor (2 abstained – Christopher Leighton and Karen Lemoine)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Board Chair

A motion was made by Lee D'Attilio and seconded by Benjamin Strick to appoint Linda Butler as board chair.

Vote: 5 in favor

OFFICES LOCATED AT: 76 NORTHERN AVENUE, GARDINER, MAINE

Vice Chair

A motion was made by Karen Lemoine and seconded by Benjamin Strick to appoint Lee D'Attilio as vice chair.

Vote: 5 in favor

Complaint Officer

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Benjamin Strick to table the vote for complaint officer to discuss at the March Meeting when all board members will be in attendance.

Vote: 5 in favor

COMPLAINT PRESENTATIONS

2022-SOC-18392

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Lee D'Attilio to set the matter for an adjudicatory hearing and offer a consent agreement in lieu of hearing citing Code of Ethics 1.06(B), 1.06(C), and 1.06(H), and imposing a warning, additional supervision of one hour a month for twelve months by an appropriately licensed clinical social worker. Supervision can be through video conference. The supervisor will be required to submit quarterly reports.

Vote: 5 in favor

2022-SOC-18538

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Lee D'Attilio to set the matter for an adjudicatory hearing and offer a consent agreement in lieu of hearing citing Code of Ethics 1.06(B) and Board Rules Chapter 16(3)(O) and imposing a reprimand, a civil penalty for each of the 4 violations found of \$1,500.00 per violation for a total amount of \$6,000.00.

Vote: 5 in favor

2022-SOC-18590

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Christopher Leighton to set the matter for an adjudicatory hearing and offer a consent agreement in lieu of hearing citing Code of Ethics 1.08(A), 1.07(F), and 1.06(D) and imposing a warning, additional supervision of one hour a month for twelve months by an appropriately licensed clinical social worker. Supervision can be through video conference. The supervisor will be

required to submit quarterly reports. Grant the license renewal upon signing the consent agreement. Preliminarily Deny the license if the consent agreement is not signed.

Vote: 5 in favor

2022-SOC-18596

A motion was made by Lee D'Attilio and seconded by Benjamin Strick to dismiss with a letter of guidance referencing 1.06(D) and 3.04(A) of the Code of Ethics, when seeing multiple people in sessions, to be clear which one is the client. The letter of guidance will stay in the file for 10 years.

Vote: 2 in favor (3 opposed – Karen Lemoine, Christopher Leighton, and Benjamin Strick) Motion did not pass.

A motion was made by Lee D'Attilio and seconded by Benjamin Strick to dismiss with a letter of guidance referencing 1.06(D) and 3.04(A) of the Code of Ethics, when seeing multiple people together to be clear which one is the client. The letter of guidance will stay in the file for 6 years.

Vote: 5 in favor

2022-SOC-18611

A motion was made by Lee D'Attilio and seconded by Karen Lemoine to dismiss with a letter of guidance referencing 3.01(D) of the Code of Ethics and Board Rules Chapter 16(3)(G), ensure that proper recorded supervision is provided to the supervisee. The letter of guidance will stay in the file for 5 years.

Vote: 4 in favor (1 recused – Benjamin Strick)

2022-SOC-18655

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Karen Lemoine to dismiss due to lack of evidence of violation of Laws and Rules.

Vote: 5 in favor

2022-SOC-18703

A motion was made by Benjamin Strick and seconded by Karen Lemoine to set the matter for an adjudicatory hearing to review and discuss what they have received for rehabilitation, probation, parole, counseling, supervisor evaluations, and any information about fines that have been paid.

Vote: 5 in favor

2022-SOC-18736

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Karen Lemoine to offer an interim consent agreement where the licensee agrees to an immediate voluntary suspension of her social worker license. The board will not take final action until resolution of the criminal charges against the licensee.

Vote: 5 in favor

COMPLAINT COMPLIANCE ITEMS

2021-SOC-17975 Reports

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

Vote: 5 in favor

REMOTE PARTICIPATION POLICY

A motion was made by Benjamin Strick and seconded by Christopher Leighton to adopt the policy changes based on the new rules.

Vote: 5 in favor

There were no public comments on the new remote participation policy.

ASWB PASS/FAIL RATE ANALYSIS-UPDATE

Tabled to a later meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Kristina Halvorsen, Board Administrator provided the license count to the board. Kristina informed the board that licensing numbers are growing and that she will have reports with graphs in the near future. Kristina discussed that CLEAR training will be provided to all board members and she and the Assistant AG will discuss the specific ways in which the training applies to Maine law.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

RULEMAKING DISCUSSION

Table to next meeting.

EDUCATIONAL SESSION WITH ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL Samantha Morgan, Assistant Attorney General discussed the complaint process with the Board Members.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Benjamin Strick to adjourn the meeting at 4:53 p.m.

Vote: 5 in favor