



Mike Beebe
Governor

STATE OF ARKANSAS
SOCIAL WORK LICENSING BOARD

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BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 11, 2009

The Social Work Licensing Board met Monday, May 11, 2009, in Room 200 of the Attorney General's Offices at 323 Center Street, Little Rock, Arkansas. Chairperson Sandra Taylor called the meeting to order.

Board Members Present: Sandra Taylor Betty Rhodes Kaylynn Barrett
Nancy Streit Mae Isom Kelley Williams
Tealisa Allen Dr. Steven Domon

Board Members Absent: Melanie Sletten

Approval of Minutes:

Kaylynn Barrett made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2009 board meeting. Betty Rhodes seconded the motion, which carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update on Complaint No. 2009-09:

Nancy Streit reported that based on information gathered in her investigation she recommended a hearing be scheduled for Complaint #2009-09. Dr. Steven Domon made a motion to hold a hearing. Betty Rhodes seconded the motion, which carried. A hearing date of July 13, 2009 at 10:00 am was set.

Update on Complaint No. 2009-10:

The Executive Director reported that the investigation into Complaint #2009-10 would be continued.

Update on Complaint No. 2009-11:

The Executive Director reported that the investigation into Complaint #2009-11 would be continued.

Update on Complaint No. 2009-14:

The Executive Director reported that the investigation into Complaint #2009-14 would be continued.

Update on Complaint No. 2009-15:

The Executive Director reported that the investigation into Complaint #2009-15 would be continued.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ted Newman, Appeal of Board's Licensure Decision:

Mr. Ted Newman appeared before the Board to appeal the Board's decision to deny renewal of his license since it had lapsed for more than six (6) months. Dr. Steven Domon made a motion to deny the appeal of the Board's previous decision of not granting an extension for licensure renewal. Kelley Williams seconded the motion, which carried.

Board Reviewed Question Regarding LMSW Supervision:

Abby Cate had written the Board requesting clarification on supervision of an LMSW who is seeking their LCSW once they have completed the two-year and 4,000 hour requirement. Board members stated that once a LMSW has received the required supervision and those hours are documented with the Board, they would not require additional supervision by a LCSW.

Board Matthew Coven's File:

Matthew Coven has completed his 18-month probationary period. Mr. Coven's supervisor, Ann Brown, LCSW, has submitted a recommendation that Mr. Coven be allowed to practice independently. Kelley Williams made a motion to fully reinstate Mr. Coven's license. Betty Rhodes seconded the motion, which carried.

Board Reviewed Robert Pruitt, Jr. File:

Robert Pruitt has completed his 12-week suspension as ordered by the Board. Mr. Pruitt's license is now on a probationary status in accordance with the terms of his Final Order. Mr. Pruitt also presented questions regarding his additional social work continuing education. The Board suggested he continue to look for the specific courses as listed in the Board order. While Mr. Pruitt is not ordered to take the courses face-to-face, the Board highly recommends it.

Board Reviewed Executive Director's Performance Evaluation:

The Board reviewed the Performance Evaluation for the Executive Director. Dr. Steven Domon made a motion to accept the evaluation as completed by the Board. Dr. Domon also recommended that in order to bring the Executive Director's salary in line with or more comparable with other Board's that the Board increases the salary to the amount appropriated by the legislative during the previous session. Mae Isom seconded the motion, which carried.

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Board Reviewed Question Regarding Drug Screening Test:

Robert Jorgensen had written the Board requesting clarification of which drug screening he would be allowed to submit to the Board. Dr. Steven Domon made a motion to allow Mr. Jorgensen to submit the 10-panel drug screening in place of the HP2 screening. Tealisa Allen seconded the motion, which carried.

Board Reviewed Question from James Seawel:

James Seawel had written the Board requesting clarification on a LCSW calling themselves a Christian Counselor, having a private practice reflecting a Christian-themed name and an LCSW marketing themselves as a Christian Counselor. Nancy Streit made a motion to have the Executive Director write Mr. Seawel a letter, stating, yes he may as long as it is within the realms of the ethical guidelines of social work. Mr. Seawel must also keep in mind that his social work continuing education must be consistent with the definition of social work continuing education. Mae Isom seconded the motion, which carried.

Board Reviewed Question Regarding Early Renewal of Social Work License:

Dr. Vaughn DeCoster had requested permission from the Board to renew his social work license more than two (2) months ahead of time due to possible deployment to Iraq. Dr. Steven Domon made a motion allow a one-time exception for Dr. DeCoster to renew his license early. Betty Rhodes seconded the motion, which carried.

Report on ASWB Spring Education Meeting:

Sandra Taylor, Chairman of the Board, and Ruthie Bain, Executive Director gave reports on their attendance at the Association of Social Work Boards annual Spring Education Meeting.

Board Reviewed Request From Raven Lawson:

Raven Lawson had written the Board requesting acceptance of her Bachelor's degree in Sociology in lieu of a degree in Social Work. Tealisa Allen made a motion to deny the request based on §17-103-306, which requires a baccalaureate degree in a social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. Kaylynn Barrett seconded the motion, which carried.

Board Reviewed Extension Request From Kelly Kirby:

Kelly Kirby had written the Board requesting an extension of her provisional license. Kaylynn Barrett made a motion to deny the request. Nancy Streit seconded the motion, which carried.

Board Reviewed Act 688:

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Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2009

Page 4

Kaylynn Barrett presented information to the Board regarding Act 688, which was approved by the 87th General Assembly. A letter will be posted to the Social Work Licensing Board website notifying State employed social worker of their status under Act 688.

Board Approved Waiver Request No. 56:

The Board reviewed a social worker's request for a waiver of the requirements of A.C.A. (17-103-307(f), the law that requires criminal history checks for social workers. Dr. Steven Domon made a motion to grant the social worker's request since she met the requirements for a waiver according to A.C.A. 17-103-307(h). Betty Rhodes seconded the motion, which carried.

Review of Standing Financial Reports:

Nancy Streit, LCSW, reviewed and approved the Warrant Detail Report, ASWB Exam Candidate Log, Leave Report, Refund Report and Trial Balance Reports. Betty Rhodes made a motion to accept the reports as presented. Kaylynn Barrett seconded the motion, which carried.

Action Taken on Applications:

Mae Isom made a motion to approve the action taken on the applications for licensure.

LSW Applications:

Provisionally Licensed and Approved to take Examination:

Dana Mullins Baker

Approved to take the Exam:

None

Approved for Licensure through Reciprocity:

None

LMSW Applications:

Provisionally Licensed and Approved to take Examination:

None

Approved to take the Exam:

Velesta Ann Parson

Carolyn Ann Perkins

Amy E. Scott

Approved for Licensure through Reciprocity:

None

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LCSW Applications:

Approved to take Examination:

LaToya M. Butler
Anthony Eric Gonzalez
Matthew N. Yount

Cynthia Ann Dillport
LaShun Eva Smith

Samuel C. Duer
Miranda Carol Watkins

Approved for Licensure through Reciprocity:

None

Betty Rhodes seconded the motion, which carried.

Action Taken on Renewal Applications:

The Board reviewed 45 applications for license renewal. Nancy Streit made a motion to approve 41 of the applications. Four of the renewal applications were tabled pending clarification or additional continuing education hours. Tealisa Allen seconded the motion, which carried.

Action Taken on Continuing Education Audits:

The Board reviewed six continuing education audits. Kaylynn Barrett made a motion to approve all six of the audits. Tealisa Allen seconded the motion, which carried.

Other Business:

Dr. Steven Domon made the motion to adjourn. Nancy Streit seconded the motion, which carried.

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