

MINUTES

**UTAH
SOCIAL WORKER LICENSING BOARD
MEETING**

**April 5, 2012
Room 474, 4th Floor – 9:00 A.M.
Heber M. Wells Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

CONVENED: 9:05 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 2:10 P.M.

Bureau Manager:

Richard J. Oborn

Board Secretary:

Lee Avery

Board Members Present:

Doran Williams, Chairperson
Nathan Strait
Dennis R. Frandsen
Kathy Searle

Board Members Excused

Donna Didas
Tanya Nagahiro
Susan Egbert

DOPL Staff Present:

Connie Call, Compliance Specialist
Jenny Johnson, DOPL Licensing Specialist

Guests:

Jake Dimdale
Scott Kelly
Rusty Boller
Jeff Titus
Emily Bleyl, NASW
Jenna Christensen, NASW
Megan LaFrance
Pat Berckman, NASW
Elise Hutchins, NASW
Jessica Olson

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

MINUTES:

The Board reviewed the minutes dated February 2, 2012. Mr. Frandsen motioned to approve the minutes with changes, seconded by Mr. Strait. The motion carried unanimously.

COMPLIANCE REPORT:
Connie Call, Compliance Specialist

Appointments:

#1 James Stringham is in compliance with his stipulation. He submitted a positive employer report.

#2. Barry Richards is in compliance with his stipulation. He submitted a supervisor report and notice of a new supervisor. Mr. Richards needs to submit his CE certificates.

Discussion:

The Board approved him to take the DBT courses and submit his essay. He completed an in house ethics course through DCFS. The Board will need to decide if he can use this course towards the CE requirement in his stipulation. His supervisor, Ken McCauley, holds an associate professional counselor license. DCFS stated this was the only person available to supervise him. DCFS claims that he does not do clinical work.

#3. Julie Bylund is in compliance with her stipulation. She is seeing her therapist as needed. She submitted two positive supervisor reports including a letter regarding boundaries from her supervisor.

#4. Tammy Titus is in compliance with her stipulation. She submitted positive supervisor and employer reports. She is requesting early release and submitted six letters supporting early release from her probation.

#5. Susan Thorn is a new probationer. She has not submitted her probation plan. This was to be submitted to the Division one week before this Board meeting.

Charges:

Ms. Thorn had a dual relationship with a former client and she is still in a committed, romantic relationship with this former client.

#4. Charles Andrews is a new probationer and he

Preliminary review of appointments and discussion items

APPOINTMENTS:

Mr. James Stringham, probation interview

Mr. Barry Richards, probation interview

submitted his probation plan.

Charges:

Mr. Andrews has a criminal history that includes includes criminal stalking. He also entered into a plea in abeyance to selling liquor to an intoxicated person and to the selling of alcohol to minors and selling alcohol to an intoxicated person.

Mr. Oborn briefly reviewed the discussion items with the Board.

Mr. Stringham met with the Board. Mr. Frandsen conducted the interview. The Board noted that Mr. Stringham's supervisor reports have been positive. Mr. Stringham advised the Board that his supervisor requested he complete a project regarding transference and counter transference. Mr. Stringham stated his workload has reduced. He is currently working with about forty clients. The Board asked to see Mr. Stringham on August 2, 2012. **Mr. Stringham is in compliance with his stipulation.**

Mr. Richards met with the Board. Mr. Williams conducted the interview. Mr. Richards stated things are going well. He meets with his supervisor every week. The Board noted that his supervisor reports are positive. The Board reminded Mr. Richards that he needs to submit copies of his certificates before he will be given credit for attending the continuing education courses. These are due by August 2012. Mr. Richards stated that he would like to attend a CE course taught by Dale Burcher. The course offered 1.5 hours. Mr. Richards needs to submit the course information to Mr. Oborn so the Board can review it. Mr. Richards stated that he is doing 3 to 6 home studies. They are in various stages of completion. Mr. Richards stated his supervisor, Ken McCauley, currently supervises 11 people. He has been in his current supervisory position for 6 years.

Mr. Strait motioned to approve Mr. McCauley as Mr. Richards' supervisor, seconded by Mr. Frandsen. The motion carried unanimously. The Board asked to see Mr. Richards on June 7, 2012. **Mr. Richards is in compliance with his stipulation.**

Ms. Julie Bylund, probation interview

Ms. Bylund met with the Board. Ms. Searle conducted the interview. Ms. Bylund stated things are going well. Her employer is hiring employees and she is now only working 40 hours per week. She is seeing a lot of different things and learning a lot. She is setting limits and is working things out with work and family. The Board noted that she submitted her therapist report stating she supports seeing Ms. Bylund on an as needed basis. The Board noted that her supervisor report was positive and clarified that she is working in several areas with boundaries and setting limits. She always comes into supervision with questions and takes feedback well. The Board advised Ms. Bylund that if she is still in compliance with her stipulation at the next meeting, the Board will consider moving her reports to quarterly. The Board asked to see Ms. Bylund on June 7, 2012. **Ms. Bylund is in compliance with her stipulation.**

Ms. Tammy Titus, probation interview

Ms. Titus met with the Board. Mr. Williams conducted the interview. Ms. Titus stated that things are going well. She is working more hours and has completed about 4,700 supervised hours for her LCSW license. The Board noted that her supervisor and employer reports are positive and support her being released from probation. Ms. Titus stated that she was a new student/employee and felt she was left in a vulnerable situation; however, she learned a lot from this experience. This experience helped her to develop and gain different prescriptive and heal in areas that did not heal in her addiction recovery. **Board made a recommendation to the Division that they consider granting Ms. Titus early termination of her probation. Mr. Oborn is in agreement and will take the request into consideration.**

Susan Thorn, new probation interview

Ms. Thorn met with the Board. Mr. Frandsen conducted the interview. Mr. Williams reviewed the Board's responsibility to her and the public and how the Board will support her during her probation. The Board noted the importance of her being in compliance with her stipulation at all times while her license is on probation. Ms. Thorn advised the Board that she was overwhelmed with everything that has taken place these last few months. She is no longer employed in the field and has been unable to find a

job. She was unsure how to proceed with her license being on probation. Ms. Thorn reviewed the charges regarding her probation with the Board. Ms. Thorn reviewed a written plan with the Board, noting that she is currently not employed in the profession. The Board reviewed her stipulation, noting that she will need to meet with the Board every time the Board meets, she will need to obtain 10 hours of continuing education and the courses need to be pre-approved by the Board. She will need to complete an essay that is due 30 days after completion of the continuing education courses. She needs to immediately advise the Board when she gains employment or when she changes her address. The Board advised Ms. Thorn that she can supervise other individuals; however, she cannot supervise CSWs who are gathering hours towards their LCSW license. She can supervise students.

The Board asked Ms. Thorn to submit a formal plan into DOPL by April 12, 2012. The Board encouraged Ms. Thorn to contact Mr. Oborn or Ms. Higgs with any questions. The Board asked to see Ms. Thorn on June 7, 2012. **Ms. Thorn is not in compliance with her stipulation.**

Mr. Charles Andrews, new probation interview

Mr. Andrews met with the Board. Ms. Searle conducted the interview. Mr. Williams reviewed the Board's responsibility to him and the public and how the Board will support him during his probation. The Board noted the importance of him being in compliance with his stipulation at all times while his license is on probation. Mr. Williams stated he reviewed the MOU and feels he understands what is expected. The Board advised Mr. Andrews that his probation plan looks good. He needs to write up information regarding community service. The Board will need to pre-approve his supervisor, and he will need to submit the supervisor's CV. The Board expects that he work on the community service requirement throughout his probation and to have the program representative send this documentation to the Board. Mr. Andrews will need to meet with the Board, complete continuing education hours, and submit a 500 word essay. Mr. Andrews stated that currently he is employed with a vending service. The Board advised Mr. Andrews that his reports are

due by the 20th of each month, with his first report due May 20, 2012. The Board asked to see Mr. Andrews on June 7, 2012. **Mr. Andrews is in compliance with his stipulation.**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Report regarding legislation passed during 2012 General Legislative Session
 - a. H.B. 100: Social Worker Examination Amendments
 - b. H.B. 294: Biofeedback Licensing Amendments
 - c. H.B. 496: Mental Health Practice Act Revisions

Taken out of order on the agenda:

The Board reviewed a report regarding legislation passed during 2012 General Legislative Session

- a. HB 100 Social Worker Legislative Session: SW examination amendments grant the possibility of extra time on the ASWB exam to candidates who can prove they are foreign born and for whom English is a second language.
- b. HB 294 Biofeedback Licensing Amendments: LCSWs, MFT, LPCs and others may provide biofeedback in their practice.

HB 496 Mental Health Practice Act Revisions, changed title to clinical mental health counselors. This becomes effective July 1, 2012. The licensed professionals felt this title summarizes their scope of practice and education better. This act also modifies the titles for the substance abuse counselors and their professional scope of practice.

2. Consideration of proposals for amendments to Utah Admin. Code R156-60a
 - a. amend examination requirement as necessitated by H.B. 100
 - b. amend definition of SSW social work practice methods course
 - c. add definition of SSW social welfare policy course
 - d. allow for 100 hours of supervision required for LCSW license to be completed via live video conference

The Board reviewed the Social Worker Examination amendments necessitated by H.B. 100.

- a. Applicants requesting additional time to complete any ASWB exam in accordance with Subsection 58-60-250 (5) shall complete an ASWB application for special arrangements approved by the Division.
- b. The social work practice methods course means a course at a CSWE accredited program. The Board noted that there are universities working to ensure their program meets this requirement.
- c. A definition of social welfare policy course was added, making it easier for schools to ensure their students meet the requirements. Mr. Oborn noted that this was added to the application.
- d. The Board discussed allowing for 100 hours of supervision required for LCSW license to be completed via live video conference. The

Board noted that this could be very helpful to those in rural areas in Utah. The Division feels the way the current statute reads, DOPL does not have the authority to change this in the rule. It will need to be changed in the statute before it can be changed in rule.

Mr. Strait motioned to recommend that the association bring this to the attention of an interim committee of the Utah Legislature, seconded by Ms. Searle. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Strait motioned to recommend that the Division go forward with rule changes that were approved in previous meetings along with those approved at this meeting, seconded by Mr. Frandsen. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Review of rule amendments approved at past Board meetings

Discussed above.

4. Consideration of whether specific courses at Utah schools fulfill SSW course requirements

Mr. Oborn reviewed a letter from Ms. Olson for consideration of whether specific courses at Utah schools fulfill SSW course requirement.

Ms. Olsen reviewed the course syllabus for FCHD 4900: Pre Practicum Skills in Family and Human Relationship course. The feed back from Board members is that the Division needs to consider the social work practice methods course meeting the requirements in the rule. Mr. Oborn noted that the legislation did not create a transition period. The purpose of the rule change is to clarify the requirements and the proposed change indicates that the program needs to be accredited CSWE.

5. Consideration of proposal to amend definition of "employee" in Utah Admin. Code R156-60

Out of order on the agenda

The Board reviewed the amendments to the Mental Health Professional Practice Act Rule regarding consideration of proposal to amend definition of "employee" in Utah Admin. Code, R1560-60. Mr. Oborn noted that in the past the Division has enforced this as the employee needs to be a W-2 employee. The proposed language will set a clear standard. There is a proposal to remove the definition of unprofessional conduct because each of the mental health professions have their own unprofessional conduct clauses in their

professional practice act rule. Ms. Searle motioned to accept the changes, seconded by Mr. Frandsen. The motion carried unanimously.

6. John Conlee surrender of LCSW license

Out of order on the agenda:

Mr. Oborn reviewed Mr. John Conlee's surrender of license. He was in the Diversion program. During this time he admitted he was alcohol dependent and admitted his dependency may affect his ability to do his employment.

7. Posting of public disciplinary orders on DOPL website

Out of order on the agenda:

Mr. Oborn shared with the Board that just recently the Division began posting disciplinary orders on the DOPL website.

8. 2011 ASWB examination pass rates

Out of order on the agenda:

Mr. Oborn reviewed the ASWB examination pass rates with the Board.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There is no correspondence at this time.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:

June 7, 2012

2012 Board meetings tentatively scheduled:

June 7, August 2, October 4, December 6.

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn at 2:10 P. M.

Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.

June 7, 2012
Date Approved

(ss) Doran Williams
Chairperson, Utah Social Worker Licensing Board

June 7, 2012
Date Approved

(ss) Richard J. Oborn
Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing