

**WV Board of Social Work**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**

December 19, 2019  
WV Board of Social Work

**Attendance:** Patricia O'Reilly, Barbara Heasley, Chris Maniskas, Scott Inghram, Natalie Buskirk-Murphy, Bob Musick, Vickie James, Guests: Tanny O'Connell (by phone), Susan Richards, Mark Weiler, Sam Hickman, Janie Howsare

**Call to Order-** Patricia O'Reilly opened the meeting

**Welcome/Introductions:** New Board members were welcomed and introduced to existing Board members and guests.

**Election of Officers:** It was M/S/P (Musick, Buskirk Murphy/all in favor) to elect Patricia O'Reilly as chair of the Board. It was M/S/P (Inghram/Musick/all in favor) for Chris Maniskas to serve as Secretary. It was M/S/P (Musick/Buskirk Murphy/all in favor) to elect Scott Inghram to serve as Vice Chair.

**Minutes:**

Janie Howsare noted she was at the previous Board meeting and Patricia noted her first name was shortened incorrectly in the minutes. It was M/S/P (Maniskas/Inghram/all in favor) to approve the October 17 minutes as amended.

**Financial Reports/Purchasing Card:**

Members were referred to the monthly line item report and Fund 8513 report in their packets covering the 2019 fiscal year from July 1, 2018 to December 18, 2019. The report reflects revenues of \$108,265 and expenditures of \$103,171,27. There are a number of bills to be posted and Vickie anticipates that expenditures and revenues are probably even. For the benefit of new members, it was noted that December revenues tend to be higher due to more renewal anniversary dates occurring January 1 than any other month; the odd year is higher than the even year.

Vickie reported that there were two P Card reconciliations to report: September 20 to October 11 for expenditures totaling \$260.93 and for the period of October 16 to November 11 for expenditures totaling \$977.99. Receipts for all transactions were available for member review. It was M/S/P (Musick/Buskirk Murphy/all in favor) to approve the P card reconciliation/expenditures as submitted.

**Disciplinary Committee**

It was M/S/P (Maniskas/Inghram/all in favor) to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing complaints pending before the Board. Following Executive Session discussion, it was M/S/P (Musick/Inghram/all in favor) to exit Executive Session.

Upon return to the agenda, the Board voted to act (Inghram/Buskirk Murphy/all in favor) on the following cases (Heasley recused on all votes):

- 201912KD-Assign for investigation
- 201915BH-Assign for investigation
- 201832JG-The Board found no probable cause and is dismissing the complaint.

- 20198RK: The Board found probable cause at the October meeting that Rebecca Kinder violated 1.01 and 1.12 of the Code of Ethics with the use of derogatory and disrespectful language in her text messaging with a foster family in her care. Ms. Kinder failed to respond to two notices of complaint. An order of consent was prepared by Mark but he had since learned that she is no longer employed by the Department, thereby forfeiting her provisional license restricted to DHHR. Vickie noted that she plans to notify the Department that should this individual be rehired the Board will not be amenable to issuing another permit to practice without remedies as specified in the proposed Consent.
- 201813JS-Dismiss
- 201814MA-Dismiss
- 201815JS-Dismiss
- The Board voted to generate a complaint 201926

### **Executive Director Update**

**Office Operations/Activities:** Vickie briefly updated new members on current activities in her update. This is a peak season in renewals for the Board as almost 500 are due to renew as of January 1. Orientation packets were prepared and sent to new Board members in November. Work with implementing an online licensing system with In Lumon is just beginning. There are approximately 5-6 other Boards in WV who will be in the cohort beginning November 1, with a time frame of implementation expected for April 1, 2020.

**Meeting with Alcohol/Addictions Counselors:** Vickie and Sam updated members on the meeting with the Counselors on December 13 and in follow up to the last Board meeting discussion. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the feasibility of licensing addiction counselors under the umbrella of the board, although it was determined to be more feasible that the Board could offer a specialization for social workers licensed within the Board, and in the hopes that the other Boards will follow suit. While there is no minimum requirement established for substance use providers, there was discussion and concerns also raised by Board members that that such a designation may preclude access to services, particularly in the rural areas. Sam noted that Joe Deegan or Mary could be available to come to a Board meeting to discuss this further.

**Presentation of Appreciation Plaques** Vickie noted that she has ordered appreciation plaques for the outgoing Board members, and wanted input from the Board on how to recognize their 20 plus years of service. A number of options were discussed.

**Auditor's Licensing Board Seminar** was held October 29. Vickie advised the new Board members of the seminar, held annually in October or November which they should plan on attending this coming year if possible. All Board members are required to attend once every 3 years.

**Upcoming Legislative Session** Members were referred to the draft bill in their packets which creates a registry as a resolution for provisional licensees restricted to DHHR. Vickie updated the new members on prior efforts and

discussion with the Bureau for Children and Families. The House Counsel has called a stakeholder meeting for January 2.

**Biennial Report:** A draft copy was distributed for individuals to review. Additional work needs to be done on revenue sources before it is filed before December 31. Vickie noted that there is a modest increase-5% in the number of fully licensed social workers within the past 6 years, despite the decreasing population.

### **Provisional License Requests**

Six applications were presented: 1) Skylar Midkiff has a degree in Public Health and volunteers at Rape Crisis Center 2) Amanda Miller has a degree in Business Administration and is employed at KVC 3) Amanda Gribble has a degree in International Studies and is employed at Monongalia Shelter 4) Brittany Mitchell has a Regents Degree with 2 minors in Psychology and Sociology and 39 hours of coursework in behavioral sciences; 5) Renae Canady has a degree in Social Science and 18 classes in behavioral science; 6) Robin Abrams has an RBA and requests a reconsideration from decision in August 2018. It was M/S/P (Musick/Maniskas/all in favor) to deny requests for eligibility for Midkiff, Miller, Gribble, and Abrams, based on degree major, and approve Mitchell and Canady for eligibility. Vickie will notify the applicants of the Board's ruling.

### **Other License Requests**

Four requests were presented: 1) Cathy Richards who is provisionally licensed is requesting an administrative extension as she is unable to test prior to expiration date in December 2) Larry Gue is currently provisionally licensed and requests a Provisional License Restricted to DHHR, citing his inability to take the required coursework due to finances; 3) Aaron Medina is an LPC and ALPS, and is considering an MSW; he wants to know if he would be required to repeat two years supervised practice to attain clinical licensure 4) Traci Kramer requests consideration for documented 14 hours of supervision in New York (420 hours of practice) to be applied to clinical candidacy in WV.

IT was M/S/P (Musick/Heasley/all in favor) to approve an administrative extension until March 31 for Cathy Richards, approve Larry Gue for a Provisional License Restricted to DHHR, and Traci Kramer's request for acceptance of supervision hours. WV Code §30-30-8 requires an individual practice at least two years of clinical social work prior to applying for an independent license, and the Code also defines clinical social work in §30-30-8. Therefore, the Board believes an LPC would need to practice two years prior to becoming a clinical social worker. Vickie will follow up with the applicants and terms of approval.

Scott Inghram also noted that the John David Smith Loan Program is a resource for individuals who need assistance with payment for course work required of Provisional Licensees.

### **Continuing Education Committee**

The Committee has reviewed two applications for agencies seeking to become approved continuing education providers. Having met all the requirements in order to make application, the Committee recommends that Weirton Medical Center and the Greater Wheeling Coalition for the Homeless be approved as certified providers. It was M/S/P (Buskirk Murphy/Inghram/ all in favor) to approve the Committee's recommendation.

**New Business:**

Tanny O'Connell and Susan Richards updated the Board on initiatives in the Bureau. The need to track licensing is an issue the Bureau is working on in response to the PERD evaluation. Since the Board sends renewals out to individuals 3-4 months in advance of their expiration date, a copy of the mailing list could be sent to the Bureau; Tanny suggested it go to Commissioner Watts.

Discussion also addressed the Board's stance on registering provisional licenses restricted to DHHR. Vickie noted the stakeholder meeting on January 2 and the Board has not changed its position from previous meetings.

Susan passed out an updated training plan; the rule will be promulgated this session. Upon advice of Counsel, the training plan was not decoupled from the rule. However, it now reflects that years 2, 3, and 4 will have 50 hours of training rather than 60.

Additionally, the Bureau is implementing a requirement in January that individuals must have their license prior to competency testing, which should assist in last minute applications and expedited processing requests made to the Board.

**Working Group Needs/Assignments/Tasks-planning session**

Bob Musick was appointed by the Chair to serve on the Disciplinary Committee.

Vickie noted that with the appointment of new Board members, there is an opportunity to reexamine processes within the Board and meetings. Typically, the two functioning committees have been Disciplinary and Continuing Education in addition to ad hoc work groups. The Board may want to look at expanding those committees, identifying standing committees, or leave it as it.

The entire Board had been looking at Chapter 30-30 for potential revisions but that had been placed on the back burner with the appointment of new members. Additionally, there is still effort need to complete the work of the Ad Hoc work group chaired by Jo Dee Gottlieb on scope of practice.

**Next meeting date:** January 16, 2019 at 11:00 am. at the Board offices.

**Meeting Adjourned:** It was M/S/P (Musick/Maniskas/all in favor) to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Vickie James, Executive Director