



Janet T. Mills
Governor

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL & FINANCIAL REGULATION
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL & OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION
BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKER LICENSURE
76 NORTHERN AVENUE
GARDINER, MAINE 04345

Anne L. Head
Commissioner

**Board of Social Worker Licensure
Public Board Meeting
Friday, November 8, 2024**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Linda Butler, Board Chair
Lee-Andra D'Attilio, Vice Chair
Benjamin Strick, Complaint Officer
Angela Fileccia
Christopher Leighton, Public Member

STAFF PRESENT

Samantha Andrews, Assistant Attorney General
Mark Terison, Hearing Officer
Kristina Halvorsen, Board Administrator
George Morgan, Board Investigator
Jessica Cirello, Professional Licensing Supervisor

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair, Linda Butler, called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Review and approval of the October 11, 2024 minutes.

A motion was made by Lee-Andra D'Attilio and seconded by Angela Fileccia to approve the minutes as written.

Vote: 4 in favor, 1 abstained: Linda Butler.

COMPLAINT COMPLIANCE ITEMS

2023-SOC-19465; 19466; 19467 Proposed Consent Agreement Review

A motion was made by Lee-Andra D'Attilio and seconded by Christopher Leighton to accept the proposed consent agreement as presented.

Vote: 3 in favor, 2 recused: Angela Fileccia and Benjamin Strick.

COMPLAINT PRESENTATIONS

2024-SOC-19930 and Application Review

A motion was made by Angela Fileccia and seconded by Christopher Leighton to preliminarily deny the pending LMSW-cc application and offer a consent agreement, in lieu of a hearing, citing NASW Code of Ethics 4.06C (misrepresentation), that will grant the LMSW-cc license and impose: a warning; and 12 months of probation with a Board-approved supervisor, which can be the same supervisor for conditional licensure, and who will submit quarterly and final reports to the Board for review.

Vote: 4 in favor, 1 recused: Benjamin Strick.

2024-SOC-19993

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Christopher Leighton to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S. section 405(6)(F) for the purpose of discussing records made confidential by 10 M.R.S. section 8003-B.

Vote: 3 in favor, 2 recused: Angela Fileccia and Benjamin Strick.

Executive session 10:50 a.m.- 10:58 a.m.

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

Vote: 3 in favor, 2 recused: Angela Fileccia and Benjamin Strick.

2024-SOC-19878

A motion was made by Lee-Andra D'Attilio and seconded by Linda Butler to dismiss this complaint due to the lack of evidence of a violation of Board laws or rules and to issue a letter of guidance, discussing language used in relation to substance use and the importance of timely communication with clients and citing NASW Code of Ethics 1.12 (derogatory language) and 1.01 (commitment to clients), which will stay in the licensee's file for 1 year.

Vote: 4 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2024-SOC-20021

A motion was made by Angela Fileccia and seconded by Linda Butler to set this matter for an adjudicatory hearing and offer a consent agreement, in lieu of a hearing, citing NASW Code of Ethics 1.06A (conflicts of interest), 1.06C (dual relationships), 1.07A (privacy and confidentiality) and 3.04A (accurate client records), with; a reprimand; 24 months of probation consisting of monthly supervision with a Board-approved Maine licensed clinical mental health professional who will submit quarterly and final reports to

the Board for review; and completion of 20 hours of continuing education (in addition to the regular continuing education requirements), 10 hours of which must be synchronous, focused on ethics in boundaries, to be completed during the 24 months of probation.

Vote: 4 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2024-SOC-20065

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

Vote: 4 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2024-SOC-20075

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

Vote: 4 in favor, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2024-SOC-20093

A motion was made by Lee-Andra D'Attilio and seconded by Angela Fileccia to dismiss this complaint due to the lack of evidence of a violation of Board laws or rules.

Vote: 3 in favor, 1 recused: Linda Butler, 1 abstained: Benjamin Strick.

2024-SOC-20098

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Lee-Andra D'Attilio to dismiss this complaint due to the lack of evidence of a violation of Board laws or rules.

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

COMPLAINT COMPLIANCE ITEMS

2013-SOC-8831 Noncompliance and Initial Application Review

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Christopher Leighton to preliminarily deny the LMSW-cc application and offer a consent agreement, in lieu of a hearing, citing 10 M.R.S. §8003(5-A)A(9) (noncompliance with a consent agreement), with: 24 months of probation consisting of 1 hour of supervision a month with a Maine licensed clinical mental health professional (different from the applicant's conditional licensure supervisor) who must be approved by the Board prior to the issuance of the LMSW-cc license, will receive a copy of both consent agreements and who will submit

quarterly and final reports to the Board for review; and the submission of both consent agreements to the applicant's employer and conditional licensure supervisor.

Vote: 5 in favor.

2022-SOC-18703 Quarterly Report Review

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Lee-Andra D'Attilio to accept the report as submitted.

Vote: 5 in favor.

2023-SOC-18877; 18878 Quarterly Report and Continuing Education Review

A motion was made by Linda Butler and seconded by Benjamin Strick to accept the report and continuing education hours as submitted.

Vote: 5 in favor.

2023-SOC-19453 Quarterly Report Review

A motion was made by Lee-Andra D'Attilio and seconded by Benjamin Strick to accept the report as submitted.

Vote: 5 in favor

2023-SOC-19184; 19235 Quarterly Report Review

A motion was made by Lee-Andra D'Attilio and seconded by Benjamin Strick to accept the report as submitted.

Vote: 5 in favor.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Board Administrator, Kristina Halvorsen, discussed the licensing dashboard created by Board staff. Kristina will be working on breaking down the endorsement numbers to determine which applicants moved to Maine after obtaining a Maine license by endorsement. Board members requested data on how many incomplete applications are received. Board staff discussed the number of incomplete applications, and the extra time added to processing incomplete applications due to follow up.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Benjamin Strick and seconded by Lee-Andra D'Attilio to adjourn the meeting at 2:11 p.m.

Vote: 5 in favor.