

MINUTES

**UTAH
SOCIAL WORKER LICENSING BOARD
MEETING**

September 3, 2009

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

CONVENED: 9:06 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 3:17 P.M.

Bureau Manager:
Board Secretary:
Board Members Present:

Rich Oborn
Lee Avery

Tammer M. Attallah, Chairperson
Jean V. McAfee
Mark de St. Aubin
Patsy Smith
Dennis R. Frandsen

DOPL Staff Present:

Mark B. Steinagel, Division Director
Ronda Trujillo, Compliance Specialist
Birttany Butsch, DOPL Investigator

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

**ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:
MINUTES:**

The Board reviewed the minutes dated August 6, 2009. Ms. Smith motioned to approve the minutes with changes, seconded by Ms. McAfee. The motion carried unanimously.

COMPLIANCE REPORT:
Ronda Trujillo, Compliance Specialist

Update:
Ms. Emily Berry advised the Board that she is going back to school. She is requesting an indefinite suspension of her probationary license. After a brief discussion, Ms. Smith motioned to allow Ms. Berry to place her license on an indefinite suspension, seconded by Mr. Frandsen. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Fred Carlson's reports are current. He is out of the state and is unable to keep his appointment with the Board. He is in compliance with his stipulation.

Ms. Barbara Snow's reports are current. She is in compliance with her probation.

Ms. Melanie Walters holds dual licenses and is being monitored by the Professional Counselor Licensing Board. She is in compliance with her probation.

Ms. Brenda Welch is not working. The Division has not received her August report. Ms. Welch is not in compliance with her stipulation.

#1. Mr. James Stringham is not in compliance with his stipulation. The Division has not received his supervisor report from Christopher Robertson. This was due August 20, 2009.

#2. Ms. Jacqueline Allred is in compliance with her stipulation. She passed the ASWB clinical exam. Her Certified Social Worker (CSW) license was issued August 24, 2009. She submitted the acknowledgement forms from her employer Kristi Johnson and her supervisor Jan Watts stating that they have read the MOU. Her supervisor and employer reports are current and positive.

#3. Mr. William Green is in compliance with his stipulation. The Division received quarterly reports from his therapist, Paul Peterson, his employer, Terry Sellers, his supervisor, Will Dredge and his monthly supervisor reports from Cory Ruward. All reports are current and positive.

#4 Ms. Anntionette Titus is in compliance with her stipulation. She submitted her supervisor reports from her supervisor, K.C. Benn, her employer, Pam Gramse and her therapist, Karen Logan. All reports are positive.

#5. Ms. Theresa Schubach is in compliance with her stipulation. She submitted both of her therapy reports for July and August. Her supervisor reports from

Molly Prince are current and positive.

#6. Ms. Xan Kali is a new probationer. This is her initial interview. The Board reviewed Ms. Kali's psychological evaluation and her practice plan.

Discussion:

The Board reviewed the amended version of Mr. Gary Poulsen's criminal history. Mr. Oborn advised the Board that the Board could make any one of the following recommendations:

1. Deny his request for licensure and encourage him to have his criminal record expunged. He might not be able to do this until 2010. This will depend on what the criminal law allows.
2. Recommend probation with conditions.
3. Issue his license without conditions.

This discussion was tabled to a later time during this Board meeting.

APPOINTMENTS:

Mr. James Stringham, probation interview

Mr. Stringham met with the Board for his probation interview. Mr. Attallah conducted the interview. Mr. Stringham was advised that all previous minutes and agendas have been amended to reflect his name as James. The Board advised Mr. Stringham that his reports have not been received. Ms. Trujillo had left several messages on his cell phone. Mr. Stringham gave Ms. Trujillo his new cell phone number. Mr. Stringham stated he would check into why his reports were not submitted. Mr. Stringham stated that his practice is going well. He is learning a lot from his supervisor. They meet at least once a week which is more often when required. The malpractice issue is going to mediation. The Board noted that he has completed all of the additional continuing education (CE) hours as required in his stipulation. The Board asked to see Mr. Stringham at the December meeting. The date will be announced at a later time. His meeting time will be 10:00 A.M. if possible. **Mr. Stringham is not in compliance with his stipulation.**

Ms. Jacqueline Allred, probation interview

Ms. Allred presented herself to the Board. Mr. Frandsen conducted the interview. Ms. Allred stated that since obtaining a CSW license, she has returned to

doing mental health therapy. Ms. Allred stated that she is enjoying her current employment. The Board noted that her employer and supervisor reports are positive. The Board thanked Ms. Allred for taking the initiative to not work in the profession until she obtained her CSW license. The Board encouraged Ms. Allred to submit her essay as soon as possible now that she has completed her continuing education. The Board asked to see Ms. Allred on October 8, 2009.
Ms. Allred is in compliance with her stipulation.

Mr. William Green, probation interview

Mr. Green met with the Board for his probation interview. Mr. de St. Aubin conducted the interview. The Board noted that Mr. Green's reports have been received and are positive. Mr. Green states that he records every client therapy session. Mr. Dredge then chooses the recordings he wants to listen to. Mr. Green then destroys the rest of the recordings. Mr. Green states that his meetings with Mr. Dredge will occasionally take place in his office. Usually they meet at Mr. Dredge's office. The Board noted that he has completed all of the additional continuing education hours required in the stipulation. Mr. Green asked if his reports with Mr. Ruward could be moved to quarterly. The Board noted that his reports are positive. Mr. Frandsen motioned to move his reports from Mr. Ruward to quarterly, seconded by Ms. Smith. After further discussion, the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Green asked the Board to consider moving his meetings with the Board to quarterly. Mr. Attallah motioned to have all documentation and Mr. Green's meetings with the Board moved to quarterly, seconded by Mr. Frandsen. The motion carried unanimously. The Board asked to see Mr. Green at the December meeting and then start meeting quarterly in January 2010. The date for the December meeting will be announced at a later time. **Mr. Green is in compliance with his stipulation.**

Ms. Anntionette Titus, probation interview

Ms. Titus met with the Board for her probation interview. Ms. McAfee conducted the interview. Ms. Titus stated that things are going well. She is working twenty-five (25) hours a week. The Board noted that her reports have been received and are positive. Ms. Titus completed the additional continuing education as required in her stipulation. Ms. Titus states that she is

struggling with her self-confidence. She is working to build this back up again. Ms. Titus stated that her supervisor would sometimes attend an intake interview that she is conducting. Sometimes she will observe sessions she is running. The Board asked Ms. Titus to have her supervisor include this in his reports to the Board. The Board stated it would also like to see other issues they are working on included in his reports to the Board. The Board asked to meet with Ms. Titus on October 8, 2009. **Ms. Titus is in compliance with her stipulation.**

Theresa Schubach, probation interview

Ms. Schubach met with the Board for her probation interview. Mr. de St. Aubin conducted the interview. Ms. Schubach stated that things are going well for her professionally. Ms. Schubach requested the meeting be closed to discuss personal issues. The Board meeting closed at 11:14 A.M. The Board meeting opened at 11:23 A.M. Ms. Schubach stated that she does sex offender groups and case work. Her meetings with her supervisor, Molly Prince, are going well. Ms. Prince reviews all of Ms. Schubach's case notes. The Board noted that her reports from her supervisor are positive. Her quarterly report from her therapist was positive. The Board noted that the additional continuing education hours were completed. The Board noted that Ms. Molly Prince is Ms. Schubach's supervisor and employer. Ms. Schubach is currently working at Circle Treatment. The Board asked to see her in December. The date for the December meeting will be announced at a later time. **Ms. Schubach is in compliance with her stipulation.**

Xan Kali, initial probation interview

Ms. Kali met with the Board for her first probation interview. The Board introduced itself to Ms. Kali. Mr. Attallah conducted the interview. Mr. Attallah reviewed the function and goals of the Board. The Board meeting closed at 12:44 P.M. to discuss personal issues with Ms. Kali. The Board meeting opened at 1:04 P.M. The Board advised Ms. Kali that it appreciated her moving forward with her probation and submitting her practice plan, evaluation and signing up with the testing center. Ms. Kali stated that she is attending public administration classes at the

University of Utah. The Board advised Ms. Kali that her probation time would not start until she gains employment in the social work field. She must also have a representative of her employer submit a statement that confirms that he or she has reviewed her stipulation and that they agreed to supervise her under the conditions listed. The Board advised Ms. Kali that the Division has forms for the employer to complete. The Board noted that the additional ten (10) hours of continuing education required in the stipulation also requires some of these hours to be in ethics and working with minors. Mr. de St. Aubin motioned to approve the continuing education courses submitted by Ms. Kali, seconded by Ms. Smith. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Kali was given a form for her therapist to complete. The Board asked to see Ms. Kali at the December meeting. The date will be announced at a later time. The Board stated it would like to see Ms. Kali quarterly until she gains employment. **Ms. Kali is in compliance with her stipulation.**

Discussion:

The Board closed the meeting to review Mr. Gary Poulsen's application. DOPL Investigator Ms. Brittany Butsch was also in attendance. The Board meeting closed at 1:44 P.M. The Board meeting opened at 2:29 P.M. The Board noted that Mr. Poulsen passed the ASWB clinical exam.

Gary Poulsen, applicant interview for a Certified Social Worker Intern (CSWI) license.

Mr. Poulsen met with the Board. Mr. de St. Aubin recused himself from participating in this interview. Mr. Attallah conducted the interview. The Board advised Mr. Poulsen that his criminal history, unprofessional conduct, and his unlawful conduct caused them to be concerned regarding his ability to practice ethically as a Certified Social Worker Intern (CSWI). The fact that Mr. Poulsen practiced mental health therapy at somewhere other than his approved practicum site while completing his MSW degree was of great concern to Board members. Mr. Frandsen motioned to close the meeting at 2:45 P.M. to discuss the character and professional competence of Mr. Poulsen. The Board meeting opened at 3:17 P.M. Ms. McAfee motioned to deny Mr. Poulsen's application for licensure as a CSWI due to Mr. Poulsen's unlawful

conduct, his unprofessional conduct, and his failure to demonstrate good moral character which is a requisite for licensure. Ms. Smith second the motion. Ms. Smith, Ms. McAfee, Mr. Attallah and Mr. Frandsen voted to approve the motion. Mr. de St. Aubin recused himself. The motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Application Review

There are no additional applications for review.

Rule change update

Mr. Oborn briefly reviewed the proposed changes to the Social Worker Licensing Act Rule. Mr. Oborn stated that the public rule hearing would be conducted at the Boards next meeting. The rule will become effective on October 22, 2009 at the earliest.

Governor's Ethics Policy for Executive Branch Employees

Mr. Oborn reviewed the Governor's ethics policy with the Board.

Maintaining of client records for minimum of ten (10) years.

Mr. Oborn advised the board that there is a question regarding how long a professional needs to maintain their client records. Currently, the rule requires a minimum of 10 years. The Board questioned what other professions and state licensing agencies require. Mr. Oborn stated he would do more research regarding this question.

Conflicts between definitions of unprofessional conduct

Mr. Oborn reviewed the Division's concern regarding conflicts between the definitions of unprofessional conduct in the various administrative rules and the association. After a detailed discussion, the Board decided to table this item until the October 8, 2009 Board meeting.

Online MSW program accredited by Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that there is an online program in New England recently accredited by CSWE. Mr. Oborn noted that some states would not accept online courses, others will. Utah will accept a program by CSWE as long as it is accredited.

Request for additional supervisees

Mr. de St. Aubin advised the Board that he is removing his request for additional supervisees because the circumstances have changed.

Potential change to regular meeting date

The Board reviewed the proposed changes regarding the day of the week the Board would meet. After

checking individual schedules, the Board was unable to identify a day other than the first Thursday of every month that would meet the needs of all Board members.

Not on the agenda

Mr. Oborn reviewed information he received from ASWB. ASWB is publishing a book to assist the state Boards in taking disciplinary action with licensees. Due to the cost of the exams and supporting programs, ASWB is raising their exam fees.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There is no correspondence at this time.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:

October 8, 2009

NOTE* The October Board meeting has been moved to October 8, 2009.

2009 Board Meetings Tentatively Scheduled
October 8, November 5, December 3.

2010 Board Meetings Tentatively Scheduled
January 7, February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2 October 7, November 4 December 2.

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn at 3:17 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.

September 3, 2009
Date Approved

(ss) Mark de St. Aubin
Mark de St. Aubin, Acting Chairperson, Utah Social Work Licensing Board

August 24, 2009
Date Approved

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