

MINUTES

**UTAH
SOCIAL WORKER LICENSING BOARD
MEETING**

**December 6, 2012
Room 474, 4th Floor – 9:00 A.M.
Heber M. Wells Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

CONVENED: 9:05 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 1:40 P.M.

**Bureau Manager:
Board Secretary:
Board Members Present:**

Richard J. Oborn
Lee Avery

Doran Williams, Chairperson
Susan Egbert, Vice Chairperson
Nathan Strait
Kathleen Anderson
Donna Didas

Board Members Excused:

Kathy Searle
Tanya Nagahiro

DOPL staff present:

Susan Higgs, compliance specialist

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

MINUTES:

The Board reviewed the minutes dated October 4, 2012. Mr. Strait motioned to approve the minutes with changes, seconded by Ms. Didas. The motion carried unanimously.

COMPLIANCE REPORT:

Ms. Higgs reviewed the compliance report with the Board.

#1. Mr. James Stringham is in compliance with his stipulation. This is his last meeting with the Board. His probation is due to end February 8, 2013. He submitted a letter from his supervisor supporting his removal from probation and his letter to the Board reflecting what he learned during his probation with the Board.

#2. Mr. Charles Andrews is in compliance with his stipulation. He submitted his report stating he is not

working in the field. He prefers to continue meeting with the Board, even though he is not working in the field. His essay is due March 6, 2013.

#3. Mr. Barry Richards is in compliance with his stipulation. He submitted two supervisor reports and is asking for the Board to consider less frequent meetings with the Board. He submitted an addendum to the essay that he submitted at the October 4, 2012 Board meeting.

Discussion:

The Board did not accept the essay submitted in October because he referred to himself in the third person and did not internalize the reasons why his license is on probation. The Board reviewed the addendum and noted that he has not changed the essay much. He continues to not internalize the reasons why his license was placed on probation. The Board expressed concern that there is a level of resistance to his understanding that he violated boundaries. He appears to believe that he does not believe his violations harmed anyone or was wronged.

#4. Ms. Susan Thorn is in compliance with her stipulation. Her CEs and essay are due by February 2013. She submitted certification that she is working for Davis Behavioral Health.

#5. Ms. Julie Bylund is in compliance with her stipulation. She submitted her quarterly supervisor reports. Her probation is scheduled to end June 22, 2013.

#6. Mr. Ronald Jensen is a new probationer. He submitted his probation plan and supervisor and employer report. He submitted a CV for his supervisor. He failed to disclose his business partners' criminal history when submitting an application for a class B methadone clinic. The partners routinely conducted business on behalf of the pharmacy.

#7. Ms. Melodi Horne is a new probationer. She

submitted CE for her proposed supervisor and will bring her probation plan to the Board meeting. She entered into an inappropriate dual relationship with a former client and failed to formulate a diagnosis, treatment plan, monitor progress and failed to provide termination summary. She failed to take steps to ensure confidential client records were stored in a secure location.

APPOINTMENTS:

1. James Stringham, probation interview

Mr. Stringham met with the Board. Mr. Strait conducted the interview. The Board noted that his probation is due to end January 2013. Mr. Stringham stated he felt the Board has been helpful to him. The Board noted that he has made a lot of progress and has been very easy to work with. Mr. Stringham stated he has learned a lot regarding the need to be formal, to keep information confidential, and the need to have peer review and peer support. He feels he should have had more experience in a clinical setting before starting a private clinic. He plans to continue to consult with his supervisor and he is taking and keeping better notes. Mr. Stringham stated that he works with two other therapists and they support each other a lot. He is working about 40 hours a week now. The Board reviewed the letter Mr. Stringham submitted regarding the end of his probation. The Board supports Mr. Stringham's release from probation on February 8, 2013.

2. Mr. Charles Andrews, probation interview

Mr. Andrews met with the Board. Ms. Didas conducted the interview. Mr. Andrews stated he continues volunteering at the Utah Food Bank. He is on the waiting list at the 4th Street Clinic. He is working on his essay. Mr. Andrews stated that he plans to do an outline to include self reflection and empathy towards his victims. He is redoing the cover letter for his resume and continues to search for work in the profession. Mr. Andrews stated that he finds meeting with the Board helpful to him and wishes to continue although he is not working in the field. The Board advised Mr. Andrews that his essay is due in March 2013. The Board asked to see Mr. Andrews February 7, 2013. **Mr. Andrews is in compliance with his stipulation.**

3. Barry Richards, probation interview

Mr. Richards met with the Board. Mr. Williams conducted the interview. Mr. Richards stated that there have been no changes. He continues doing home studies two to three hours per week and he meets with his supervisor daily. The Board advised Mr. Richards that the Board reviewed his amended essay and compared it with the first one he submitted in October and feels they are the same with few changes. Mr. Richards stated he is very cognizant of boundaries and would turn to a supervisor or colleague for guidance. The Board advised Mr. Richards that the key of the essay is to show the Board how he has taken the knowledge and applied it to real life, i.e. the human and empathy side. Board would like Mr. Richards to share examples from his own work in his essay. The Board advised Mr. Richards that he needs to redo his essay again. The Board recommended that he share his essay with his supervisor for feedback before submitting it to the Board. The Board asked to see Mr. Richards on February 7, 2013. **Mr. Richards is in compliance with his stipulation.**

4. Ms. Susan Thorn, probation interview

Ms. Thorn met with the Board. Ms. Egbert conducted the interview. Ms. Thorn advised the Board that things are going well. She is keeping busy at Davis Behavioral Health and going to school. Ms. Thorn stated that school break will be for 3 weeks and she will do the ethics course and essay during this time. Ms. Thorn stated she is going to school for her Ph.D in psychology. The Board reviewed and approved CEs on the NASW website. Ms. Thorn advised the Board that she plans to attend ethics courses in person that are directly related to her violations, instead of online courses. The Board reminded her that her CEs are due February 13, 2013 and the essay is due 30 days after the completion of the CE. The Board encouraged her search on the internet for CE. The Board advised Ms. Thorn to let Ms. Higgs or Mr. Oborn know as soon as she decides which ones she would like to submit for Board approval. The Board asked to see Ms. Thorn on February 7, 2013. **Ms. Thorn is in compliance with her stipulation**

5. Julie Bylund, probation interview

Ms. Bylund met with the Board. Ms. Anderson

conducted the interview. Ms. Bylund advised the Board that her current employment has been a good job within which to learn boundaries. She has re-established boundaries and is getting better to not let her clients or employer cross them. She feels she has proven herself to be an asset to her employer and she now finds it easier to say no when her employer requests that she work more often than she feels comfortable working. The Board noted that she will finish her probation June 22, 2013 and encouraged her to submit a written request for early termination of her probation and include what she has learned from the process and why her probation should be terminated early. The Board advised her to include a letter of support from her supervisor. The Board asked to see Ms. Bylund on February 7, 2013. **Ms. Bylund is in compliance with her probation.**

6. Ronald Jensen, probation interview

Mr. Jensen met with the Board. Mr. Jensen is a new probationer. Ms. Didas conducted the interview. Mr. Jensen reviewed his violations with the Board. The Board noted that one of the faxes he sent the Board the heading shows it comes from Compass Point. Mr. Jensen stated this business is closed and he will change the heading. He is now working for True North. The Board reviewed his probation plan, noting that his psychological assessment is with Dr. Janice Pompa. Dr. Pompa has been approved by the Board in the past. The Board reviewed his proposed supervisor, Shelley Iverson Stevens, LCSW, MSW resume. Mr. Jensen advised the Board that Ms. Stevens is his LCSW supervisor. Ms. Stevens came recommended to him. He met with her two times so far. She has a good background in drug and alcohol. They have reviewed his stipulation and are already working in the areas of violations as outlined in his stipulation. Mr. Strait motioned to approve Ms. Stevens as Mr. Jensen's supervisor, seconded by Ms. Egbert. The motion carried unanimously. The Board reminded Mr. Jensen that his psychological evaluation is due January 2, 2013, and his reports are due by the end of the month. The Board noted that there are no supervision limitations in his stipulation, he needs to keep the Board informed, and he needs to make sure everyone at the agency knows his license is on probation. The Board asked to see Mr. Jensen February 7, 2013.

Mr. Jensen is in compliance with his stipulation.

Melodi Horne, probation interview

Ms. Horne met with the Board for the first time. Ms. Egbert conducted the interview. Ms. Horne reviewed her violations with the Board. Ms. Horne advised the Board that the Virginia State Licensing Board suspended her license for 6 months due to her violations. This suspension ended in August 2012. The Board reviewed her probation plan and her proposed supervisor's resume, Leann G. Jones, LCSW. Ms. Horne stated she worked at Cornerstone and Cancer Wellness with Ms. Jones. The Board expressed concern regarding her supervisor being someone she knows and has a history with and encouraged Ms. Horne to find a supervisor she is not friends with, preferably one who works in a private practice. The Board advised Ms. Horne to submit a proposed supervisor's resume to Ms. Higgs for the Board's consideration at the February 7, 2013 Board meeting. The Board advised Ms. Horne that she is not working off her probation time until she starts working in the field. The Board asked to see Ms. Horne February 7, 2013. **Ms. Horne is in compliance with her stipulation.**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Consideration of requests for approval for LCSW to supervise more than 3 CSW supervisees

The Board reviewed the request from Mr. de St. Aubin for approval to supervise additional supervisees. Mr. de St. Aubin stated he is currently supervising 3 full time CSWs, and wants to supervise 2 additional supervisees part-time. Currently he is supervising: 1. Allie Diamond, 2. Randy Garvin, both employed at Silverado Senior Living, a nursing facility, and 3. Myrna Hermansen, employed at Once Care Home Health and Hospice. These 3 will be completing their hours in about 14 months. The 2 additional supervisees are: 1. Reggie Campbell, CSW, is doing part-time home health care and hospice with Mountain Region Home Care and Hospice. 2. Kara Adams, employed at a skilled nursing facility is requesting part time supervision 1 to 2 times per month as a supplement to her regular supervision with John Clift with a focus on geriatric care and therapy with the chronic and terminal ill. Ms. Egbert motioned to approve Mr. de St. Aubin to supervise 5 supervisees,

seconded by Ms. Didas. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Consideration of proposal from LDS Hospital to consider it as acceptable provider of continuing education under R156-60a-304 (2)(c)

The Board reviewed a proposal from LDS Hospital to consider it as an acceptable provider of continuing education under R156-60a-304 (2)(c). Mr. Oborn advised the Board that representatives from the LDS Hospital want the hospital to qualify as a “community mental health agency” that is an acceptable provider of continuing education. The Board determined that the LDS Hospital does not receive the same audits as a community mental health agency. For this and other reasons, Board members believed it did not fall under R156-60a-304(2)(c). The Board noted that they can propose to change the language in the rule and they can obtain course work approval through ASWB.

3. Consideration of proposal from LCSW to be allowed to convert to CSW license

Mr. Oborn read the proposal from Ms. Joanne Robertson Jones to convert her LCSW to a CSW license. Ms. Robertson Jones is not working in the field and has not obtained continuing education. Mr. Oborn stated that in reviewing the statutes and rules, there is nothing to prevent the Division from granting her a CSW license. She would have to apply, submit the application fees and documentations showing she meets the requirements for a CSW license. Mr. Oborn noted that the CSW license was initially developed as a training license, to obtain supervised hours, and does not require CEs. Mr. Oborn noted that over the years, the industry has developed this license into the lower level full license. This license requires supervision and the Division will take action against the CSW if they practice without supervision. The Board expressed concern and noted that at one time there was a limitation on the timeframe of a CSW license and over time this was removed. The Board discussed the option of changing this back to a training license. Mr. Oborn noted that this would require that the statute be changed.

4. Update regarding amendments to Mental Health Professional Practice Act Rule (Utah Admin. R156-60)

Mr. Oborn noted that the Mental Health Professional Practice Act Rule became effective November 13, 2012. The new rule modified the definition of an “employee” to mean a W-2 employee. This amendment clarified the fact that CSWs, associate MFTs, and associate clinical mental health counselors

must be W-2 employees.

5. Update regarding potential legislation to address remote therapy and remote supervision in the Mental Health Professional Practice Act

Mr. Oborn reviewed the update regarding potential legislation to address remote therapy and remote supervision in the Mental Health Professional Practice Act. Mr. Oborn noted that this handout is only part of the discussion and is still a working draft. Professional associations related to the mental health professions support the proposal. Mr. Oborn will keep the Board advised of the progress.

6. Potential changes to ASWB exam pre-approval process for Utah applicants

Mr. Oborn reviewed potential changes to ASWB exam pre-approval process for Utah applicants noting that currently the Division will hold applications up to one year waiting for applicants to pass the ASWB exam. Keeping applications in a holding status for a year has been problematic for the Division.

In current exam pre-approval, they must first apply for a license to take the exam and then the application typically is pending for 4-5 months. In the proposed changes, the Division would still pre-approve individuals to take the exam but the exam pre-approval and license application will be separate. This change will shorten the length of time needed to process license applications.

7. Board survey of online disciplinary documents

Mr. Oborn reviewed the letter to the Board regarding the Board Survey of Online Disciplinary Documents from DOPL Director Mark Steinagel.

Mr. Strait motioned to recommend option #1: We believe disciplinary documents posted on DOPL's website should only be found through a search someone performs within DOPL's website. General internet searches shouldn't be allowed to display or embed disciplinary documents as a search result. The motion was seconded by Ms. Didas and carried unanimously. The Board noted the option to revisit this in the future.

8. Report from Ms. Didas regarding 2012 ASWB Annual Meeting

Ms. Didas reviewed topics discussed at the 2012 ASWB Annual Meeting.

9. Identification of agenda items to be discussed at next meeting

The Board will contact Mr. Oborn with topics for discussion at the February Board meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There is no correspondence at this time.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:

February 7, 2013

2013 Board meetings tentatively scheduled:
February 7, April 4, June 6, August 1, October 3, December 5.

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn at 1:40 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.

February 7, 2013
Date Approved

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

February 7, 2013
Date Approved

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