



# OKLAHOMA State Board of Licensed Social Workers

## OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS

### MEETING MINUTES

July 17, 2024

The Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers met at 10am on July 17, 2024, at the Oklahoma Office of the Chief Medical Examiner at 921 Northeast 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73105. The meeting will be held in accordance with the *Administrative Procedures Act* and *Open Meeting Act of Oklahoma*.

#### **Members Present:**

Chair Beverly Coon, LMSW, LCSW  
Vice Chair Angela Dickson, LCSW  
Secretary Clark Grothe, LCSW  
April Courouveau, LMSW  
Public Member David Spencer  
Stacey Blaylock, LCSW

Meeting called to order at 10:03am. A quorum was met with six Board members present to facilitate and conduct the business of the agency.

#### **Agenda Item 2: Review and possible amendment and/or approval of the May 31, 2024, meeting minutes**

Mr. Grothe made a motion to approve the May 2024 Board minutes. Motion was seconded by Ms. Dickson. Vote was as follows:

- Mr. Grothe: yes
- Ms. Courouveau: yes
- Ms. Dickson: yes
- Ms. Coon: yes
- Ms. Blaylock: abstain
- Mr. Spencer: yes

**Agenda Item 4: Discussion and possible action:** personal appearance by Diana Winslow requesting receipt of her LCSW license and reinstatement of her Board-Approved Supervisor status.

Mr. Grothe made a motion to approve Ms. Winslow's license. Motion was seconded by Ms.

Blaylock. Vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**Agenda Item 5: Discussion and possible action:** personal appearance by Stephanie Silva requesting approval of her application for the LMSW-Provisional license pending receipt of her MSW transcript.

Ms. Courouveau made a motion to approve Ms. Silva's license. Motion was seconded by Mr. Grothe. Vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**Agenda Item 6: Discussion and possible action:** personal appearance by Victoria Rigdon requesting approval of her application for the LMSW-Provisional license.

Ms. Blaylock made a motion to approve Ms. Rigdon's license. Motion was seconded by Ms. Courouveau. Vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**Agenda Item 7: Discussion and possible action:** personal appearance by Kimberly Tunnel requesting approval of her application for the LMSW-Provisional license.

Ms. Dickson made a motion to approve Ms. Tunnel's license. Motion was seconded by Ms. Blaylock. Vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**Agenda Item 8: Discussion and possible action:** personal appearance by Misty Upshaw requesting approval of her application for the LMSW-Provisional license.

Mr. Grothe made a motion to approve Ms. Upshaw's license. Motion was seconded by Ms. Courouveau. Vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**Agenda Item 9: Discussion and possible action:** personal appearance by Austin Noe requesting approval of his application for the LMSW-Transfer license.

Ms. Blaylock made a motion to approve Mr. Noe's license. Motion was seconded by Mr. Grothe. Vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**Agenda Item 10: Discussion and possible action:** personal appearance by Christa Conway requesting approval of her application for the LMSW-Provisional license.

Ms. Courouveau made a motion to approve Ms. Conway's license. Motion was seconded by Ms. Blaylock. Vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**Agenda Item 11: Discussion and possible action:** personal appearance by Amy Taber requesting approval of her application for the LMSW-Provisional license.

Ms. Blaylock made a motion to approve Ms. Taber's license. Motion was seconded by Mr. Grothe. Vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**Agenda Item 12: Discussion and possible action:** personal appearance by Kaylee Niemann requesting approval of her application for the LMSW-Provisional license.

Ms. Blaylock made a motion to approve Ms. Niemann's license. Motion was seconded by Ms. Courouveau. Vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**Agenda Item 3: Discussion and possible action:** personal appearance by Marcellus Thurman regarding his LMSW license status.

Mr. Grothe made a motion to reinstate Mr. Thurman’s license. Motion was seconded by Ms. Courouleau. Vote was as follows: - Mr. Grothe: yes

- Ms. Courouleau: yes
- Ms. Dickson: no
- Ms. Coon: yes
- Ms. Blaylock: yes
- Mr. Spencer: yes

**Agenda Item 13: Discussion and possible action** on the following Citizen Complaints filed against social workers:

- a. \*Complaint 2024-148, Individual proceeding - State of Oklahoma, ex rel., State Board of Licensed Social Workers vs. B. LeAnn Leach, LCSW. The Board may conduct an executive session pursuant to Article II of the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act, 75 O.S. § 309(D), and the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, 25 O.S. § 307(B)(8).

Mr. Grothe made a motion to accept the terms of the consent decree. Motion was seconded by Ms. Blaylock. Vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

- b. \*Complaint 2024-172, Individual proceeding - State of Oklahoma, ex rel., State Board of Licensed Social Workers vs. Taren Patterson, LMSW. The Board may conduct an executive session pursuant to Article II of the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act, 75 O.S. § 309(D), and the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, 25 O.S. § 307(B)(8).

Mr. Grothe made a motion to accept the terms of the consent decree. Motion was seconded by Ms. Blaylock. Vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

- c. Complaint 2023-131 – Complaint Committee recommends dismissal.
- d. Complaints 2024-166, 2024-176, 2024-184, 2024-185, and 2024-197 – Complaint Committee recommends dismissal.
- e. Complaint 2024-170 – Complaint Committee recommends dismissal.
- f. Complaint 2024-175 – Complaint Committee recommends dismissal.
- g. Complaint 2024-186 – Complaint Committee recommends dismissal.
- h. Complaint 2024-187 – Complaint Committee recommends dismissal.
- i. Complaints 2024-188 and 2024-194 – Complaint Committee recommends dismissal.
- j. Complaint 2024-189 – Complaint Committee recommends dismissal.
- k. Complaint 2024-191 – Complaint Committee recommends dismissal.
- l. Complaint 2024-192 – Complaint Committee recommends dismissal.

Ms. Courouleau made a motion to accept the recommendations of the Complaint Committee. Motion was seconded by Mr. Grothe. Vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**Agenda Item 14:** Presentation of the Complaint Log to the Board.

The Board entered into a brief break from 11:11am to 11:22am.

**Agenda Item 15: Discussion and possible action:** approval of online application submissions reviewed and vetted by Board staff.

Mr. Grothe made the motion to approve the applications noted on the agenda. Motion seconded by Ms. Blaylock. Vote was as follows:

- Mr. Grothe: yes
- Ms. Courouleau: abstain
- Ms. Dickson: yes - Ms. Coon: yes
- Ms. Blaylock: yes
- Mr. Spencer: yes

**Agenda Item 16: Discussion and possible vote** to enter executive session to discuss the employment, hiring, appointment, promotion, demotion, disciplining or resignation of the Executive Director of the Board as authorized by 25 O.S. § 307(B)(1).

Mr. Grothe made the motion to enter executive session. Motion was seconded by Ms. Blaylock. Vote was unanimous in the affirmative. The Board entered executive session at 11:27am.

a. Vote to exit executive session and return to open session.

Mr. Grothe made the motion to exit executive session and return to open session. Motion was seconded by Ms. Blaylock. Vote was unanimous in the affirmative. The Board exited executive session and returned to open session at 12:03pm.

b. Discussion and possible action regarding the employment, hiring, appointment, promotion, demotion, disciplining or resignation of the Executive Director of the Board.

A motion was made by Ms. Blaylock and seconded by Ms. Dickson accepting the resignation of Ms. Whitney Kenedy from employment by the Board with the employment ending at the end of the day on July 24, 2024, and the hiring of Mr. James Marks as the new Executive Director to begin employment by the Board on August 1, 2024, at the maximum salary allowance. Motion was seconded by Ms. Dickson. Vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**Agenda Item 17: Discussion and possible action:** the Board will discuss a transition and training plans following changes in Board office staff.

No discussion was had as this was discussed in Agenda Item 16.

**Agenda Item 18: Ms. Kenedy presented the Executive Director's report. The report included the following:**

- A. Board office updates.

**Agenda Item 19: New business:** None

**Agenda Item 20: Adjournment:**

Ms. Blaylock made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Mr. Spencer. Vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Adjournment at 12:11pm.

**Remaining 2024 Meeting Dates**

September 27th

November 8th