

**STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING**

BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

MINUTES OF MEETING

By authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.62, Article 6, a scheduled meeting of the Board of Social Work Examiners was held in Anchorage, Alaska at 550 West 7th Avenue.

October 14, 2011

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Jason Floyd, Acting Chair, at 9:00 a.m.

Board members present, forming a quorum of the Board, were:

Jason Floyd, Licensed Baccalaureate Social Worker, Nome
Laura Thiesen, Licensed Master Social Worker, Glennallen
Marilyn B. Kerr, Licensed Clinical Social Worker
Jennifer Syzdek, Public Member

Board member absent:

Gail La Rose-Henderson, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Wasilla

Present from the Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing at various times were:

Eleanor Vinson, Licensing Examiner
Susan Winton, Investigator
Gary Keiser, Investigator

Ethics Reports

There were no ethics reports.

Agenda Item 1 Review Agenda

There were additions/changes to the agenda:

Voluntary Surrender added to New Business
Presentation added to Investigators' Report

**On a motion duly made by Laura Thiesen, seconded by Marilyn Kerr, and passed unanimously,
with a friendly amendment, it was**

RESOLVED that the Board accept the agenda as amended.

Agenda Item 2 Review Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the July 21-22, 2011, meeting.

On a motion duly made by Laura Thiesen, seconded by Marilyn Kerr, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED that the Board accept the July21-22, 2011 meeting minutes.

Agenda Item 3 Budget Report

Administrative Officer Misty Frawley had prepared a budget report for the board. It showed that the Board is in solid shape, with a surplus amount of \$45,921.00 going forward.

On a motion duly made by Jennifer Syzdek, seconded by Laura Thiesen, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED that the Board accept the budget report.

Agenda Item 4 NASWAK Liaison Report

Marilyn Kerr is the Board's liaison with NASWAK, the social workers' professional organization.

She reported that there is a new executive.

The Board had asked that the organization distribute certificates for continuing education at their conferences, instead of the difficult to read stickers that they were distributing to attendees of the courses that were offered. Ms. Kerr reported that they are now giving out the certificates, which makes audits of continuing education more efficient.

On a motion duly made by Laura Thiesen, seconded by Jennifer Syzdek, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED that the Board accept the Liaison Report.

Agenda Item 5 Investigator Report

Investigator Gary Kaiser joined the meeting and gave his investigation report. Two complaints/investigations regarding unethical conduct have been closed since the last meeting in July. Both were found to have no violation. He also gave an update on three on-going probation/supervision cases.

Investigator Susan Winton introduced a new tool that had been adopted by the Medical Board, and it was believed that it would be useful to the Board. It is the Civil Imposition of a Civil Fine Without Censure. It is between an advisement letter and a memorandum of agreement. It is not retroactive and not for technical violations related to patient care.

The Board discussed the new tool and feel that it will be a useful tool to have to utilize, but will hold off voting on its use until the Chair is at the meeting.

On a motion duly made by Laura Thiesen, seconded by Jennifer Burkholder, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED that the Board table the discussion of civil imposition of civil fines without censure until the next meeting.

Agenda Item 6 New Business

A. Voluntary Surrender

On a motion by Marilyn Kerr, seconded by Laura Thiesen, and approved unanimously it was

RESOLVED to go into executive session with staff in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c)(2) and (3) for the purpose of discussing a license surrender.

Into executive session 9:10 am

Out of executive session 9:17 am

On a motion by Marilyn Kerr, seconded by Laura Thiesen, and approved unanimously it was

RESOLVED to accept the voluntary surrender of license in case number 2011-000627.

Agenda Item 7 Applications/Reinstatements/CEU Audits

The Board reviewed 22 applications and 4 continuing education audits during this meeting.

On a motion by Laura Thiesen, seconded by Jennifer Burkholder, and approved unanimously it was

RESOLVED to approve the following Social Work applications with the stipulation that the information in the applicants' files will take precedence over the information in the minutes:

CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER BY EXAMINATION

AHLALOOK, CHRISTINE
CONNOLLY, BROOK
HAMPTON, CYNTHIA
JOHNSON, KAREN
TUMBLESON, KRISTIN
SENSEINIG, GWEN

MASTER SOCIAL WORKER BY EXAMINATION

CALLAHAN, ROBYN
CRAMER, DEBORAH
DEVISSER, SHAYLA
FRANCISCO, JOSEPH
GRIFFIN, REBECCA

MASTER SOCIAL WORKER BY CREDENTIALS

THERIAULT, AMY

AUDIT OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

LEONARD, ANNA
MORRISON, KAREN

ALTERNATE SUPERVISION

BLANAS, ANNETTE
BLAIR, MINA

CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES

ALASKAS ISLAND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. Motivational Interviewing-Helping Clients Change Behavior

STATE OF ALASKA/OFFICE OF CHILDRENS SERVICE

1. Strengthening Families/Stronger Together

Agenda Item 8 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item 9 Old Business

A. Code of Ethics

The Board had discussed that the NASW's code of ethics. Some members had felt that it is broad and ambiguous and they wish to write their own. Discussion showed that some board members believe that the code of ethics is not a code of regulations and there is no historical context for needing to change it.

The discussion was tabled until after Board Members attend the ASWB annual meeting.

**On a motion duly made by Marilyn Kerr, seconded by Laura Thiesen, and approved unanimously,
it was**

RESOLVED that the Board table subject of Code of Ethics until the next meeting.

B. Legal Opinion/Military Reporting

The Board had requested a legal opinion from the state as to whether Federal authority would trump State authority in regard to social workers who are working off a military base, having to report to the OCS. At this time, the Attorney General's Office had not returned an opinion.

C. Maling/Concerns re BSWs

Refer to previous meeting.

Agenda Item 10 Conference Report

Board member Marilyn Kerr attended the Association of Social Work Board's new member training. She reported having great opportunity to understand the parameters of a board and a board member's role, defining boundaries of what can/cannot be done. Information on the development of testing was included explaining input, language used, and process of validating.

Ms. Kerr found the meeting very thorough and professional, with emphasis on public safety. Examples used were relevant to our own board's experience.

Agenda Item 11 Board Business

A. ASWB Legal Opinion

This was an FYI for the Board regarding legal decisions from the Association of Social Work Boards regarding another state's judicial ruling pertaining to an expert witness.

B. ASWB Exam Categories Summary

This was an FYI for the Board regarding the history of examinations with the Association of Social Work Boards.

Agenda Item 12 Board Business

A. Task List

Marilyn Kerr -- liaison to NASWAK.
All -- Read Code of Ethics (is on the website)

B. Sign Wall Certificates

The wall certificates were signed.

C. Schedule future meetings

February 24, 2012 in Juneau
June 15, 2012 in Anchorage

The meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m.

D. Sign Meeting Minutes

The April 29, 2011 meeting minutes were signed by the Board Chair.

E. Discuss Travel Authorizations/collect & sign

Travel Authorizations were signed by the Board members and turned in.

F. Training/conferences

Annual Meeting – Jason Floyd and Laura Thiesen to attend

Upon a motion by Laura Thiesen, seconded by Jennifer Syzdek, and approved unanimously it was

RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Eleanor Vinson, Licensing Examiner

Approved:

Gail La Rose-Henderson, Chair
Social Work Examiners Board

Date: _____