

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

F I N A L M I N U T E S

MEETING OF:

STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKERS,  
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS,  
AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS  
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

TIME: 11:07 A.M.

February 9, 2021

1                   State Board of Social Workers,  
2                   Marriage and Family Therapists,  
3                   and Professional Counselors  
4                   February 9, 2021

5  
6  
7 BOARD MEMBERS:

8  
9 Joy E. Corby, Ph.D., LMFT, Chair  
10 Theodore Stauffer, Executive Secretary, Bureau of  
11 Professional and Occupational Affairs, on behalf of  
12 K. Kalonji Johnson, Commissioner, Bureau of  
13 Professional and Occupational Affairs  
14 Michelle Santiago, Psy.D., LPC, Vice Chair  
15 Jeanne Elberfeld, M.D., LSW  
16 Erika Evans, Ph.D., LMFT  
17 Christian Jordal, Ph.D., LMFT  
18 Amy K. Keisling, LCSW  
19 Kurt L. Kraus, Ed.D., NCC, ACS, LPC  
20 Linda A. Martin, LCSW, RN  
21 Marilyn L. Painter, Public Member  
22  
23

24 BUREAU PERSONNEL:

25  
26 Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board/Regulatory Counsel  
27 Jaime D. Black, Esquire, Board/Regulatory Counsel  
28 Dean F. Picarella, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel  
29 Heather J. McCarthy, Esquire, Board Prosecution  
30 Liaison  
31 Kayla R. Bolan, Esquire, Board Prosecutor  
32 Kenneth J. Suter, Esquire, Board Prosecutor  
33 Sandra E. Matter, Board Administrator  
34 Carolyn DeLaurentis, Deputy Chief Counsel, Prosecution  
35 Division  
36 Cynthia K. Montgomery, Esquire, Deputy Chief  
37 Counsel/Regulatory Counsel, Department of State  
38 Marc Farrell, Deputy Policy Director, Department of  
39 State  
40  
41

42 ALSO PRESENT:

43  
44 Amanda Ashok, National Association of Social Workers  
45 Pennsylvania Chapter Intern  
46 Hatta Brillhart, National Association of Social  
47 Workers Pennsylvania Chapter Intern  
48 Jerry J. Livingston, Democratic Executive Director,  
49 Senate Consumer Protection & Professional Licensure  
50 Committee

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51

State Board of Social Workers,  
Marriage and Family Therapists,  
and Professional Counselors  
February 9, 2021

ALSO PRESENT: (Continued)

Michael Fox, National Association of Social Workers  
Pennsylvania Chapter Intern

1 \*\*\*

2 State Board of Social Workers,  
3 Marriage and Family Therapists  
4 and Professional Counselors

5 February 9, 2021

6 \*\*\*

7 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at  
8 9:30 a.m. the Board entered into executive session  
9 with Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel, and  
10 Jaime D. Black, Esquire, Board Counsel, for the  
11 purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations on  
12 a number of matters that are currently pending before  
13 the Board and to receive the advice of counsel. The  
14 Board returned to open session at 11:00 a.m.]

15 \*\*\*

16 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State  
17 Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family  
18 Therapists, and Professional Counselors was held on  
19 Tuesday, February 9, 2021. Joy E. Corby, Ph.D., LMFT,  
20 Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m.

21 \*\*\*

22 [Chair Corby reminded everyone the meeting was being  
23 recorded, to mute phones when not speaking, and to  
24 send chats to only panelists.]

25 \*\*\*

1 Introduction of Board/Public Members

2 [Chair Corby requested Board members and the public  
3 introduce themselves.]

4 \*\*\*

5 Approval of minutes of the November 24, 2020 meeting

6 CHAIR CORBY:

7 Approval of the Board minutes. I  
8 believe that the Board members sent  
9 revisions to Sandy again, so we can  
10 approve the minutes with revisions. Do  
11 I have a motion for the minutes?

12 DR. JORDAL:

13 So moved.

14 DR. SANTIAGO:

15 Second.

16 CHAIR CORBY:

17 All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

18 [The motion carried. Ms. Painter abstained from  
19 voting on the motion.]

20 \*\*\*

21 Appointment - Carolyn A. DeLaurentis, Esquire, Deputy

22 Chief Counsel, Prosecution Division Presentation

23 [Carolyn A. DeLaurentis, Esquire, Deputy Chief

24 Counsel, Prosecution Division, provided highlights of

25 the prosecution division's work during the past year.

1 She commended staff for their hard work to make  
2 telework successful. She noted all decisions were  
3 made thoughtfully and with the safety of all in mind.

4 Ms. DeLaurentis stated the Board prosecutors made  
5 every effort to monitor the restrictions, waivers,  
6 policies, and new procedures specific to the practice  
7 in each profession regarding challenges imposed on  
8 licensees by the COVID-19 pandemic.

9 Ms. DeLaurentis noted the Pennsylvania Licensing  
10 System (PALS) to be a lifeline. She stated the Bureau  
11 of Enforcement and Investigation (BEI) worked closely  
12 with prosecution to continue investigations and figure  
13 out the best methods during statewide shutdowns and  
14 stay-at-home orders. She also noted the Professional  
15 Compliance Office continued opening cases and  
16 processing files, and legal assistants had been  
17 working a hybrid schedule to ensure mailings and  
18 filings were completed.

19 Ms. DeLaurentis commented that the Board, Board  
20 staff, and counsel have adapted to virtual Board  
21 meetings. Prosecution will continue to work with all  
22 to ensure efficient and effective presentation and  
23 resolution of cases. She mentioned 2020 was a year  
24 filled with challenges, but the prosecution division  
25 led by the incredible senior staff rose to the

1 challenge and would continue to do so in 2021.

2 Ms. DeLaurentis informed the Board that 307 files  
3 were opened in 2020 and 343 in 2019 with 234 files  
4 closed in 2020 for the Board of Social Workers,  
5 Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional  
6 Counselors. She noted 301 open files as of January 1,  
7 2021. She thanked Timothy Smith for his assistance  
8 providing information for 2020.

9 Ms. DeLaurentis addressed enforcement actions  
10 with 33 total cases that resulted in discipline in  
11 2020 for the Board of Social Workers, Marriage and  
12 Family Therapists and Professional Counselors. She  
13 reported 32 warning letters, 9 fines, 10 Act 48  
14 citation fines, 16 suspensions, 1 automatic  
15 suspension, 4 reprimands, 4 revocations or voluntary  
16 surrenders, and 5 probation cases in 2020.

17 Ms. DeLaurentis discussed 2020 overall  
18 prosecution as a whole. She noted 44 immediate  
19 temporary suspensions in 2020. She mentioned 3 of the  
20 1,223 opened COVID-19 cases are for the Board of  
21 Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and  
22 Professional Counselors in 2020. She reported the  
23 total number of open cases as of January 1, 2021, was  
24 12,250. The total number of cases opened overall in  
25 2020 was 13,394, which is down from 2019 at 16,295.

1 She noted 13,274 files were closed in 2020.

2 She noted most general COVID complaints involved  
3 failure to follow the governor's orders, secretary of  
4 health's orders, CDC guidelines, Board guidelines,  
5 masking requirements, and social distancing  
6 requirements.

7 Ms. DeLaurentis answered questions that the Board  
8 Members had.]

9 \*\*\*

10 Report of Board Prosecutorial Division

11 [Heather J. McCarthy, Esquire, Board Prosecution  
12 Liaison, announced the prosecution division is  
13 starting a pilot program at the Dauphin County Office  
14 of Victim Advocate in 2021.]

15 Ms. McCarthy presented the VRP Consent Agreements  
16 for Case No. 20-69-011926, Case No. 20-69-010920, and  
17 Case No. 20-69-011196.]

18 \*\*\*

19 Report of Board Counsel

20 [Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted the  
21 Board was in Executive Session at 9:30 a.m. and  
22 discussed all of the Consent Agreements presented at  
23 this meeting, along with agenda items 5 and 6 and 19  
24 through 24.

25 Ms. Wucinski announced this would be her last day



1 as Board counsel and introduced Jaime Black as the new  
2 Board counsel.

3 Ms. Black provided a summary of her professional  
4 background.

5 Ms. Wucinski addressed Act 116 of 2020 regarding  
6 carryover of continuing education credits for one  
7 biennial renewal period. She stated it would be at  
8 the discretion of the Board if they wanted to  
9 implement the carryover. She mentioned several boards  
10 had concerns regarding the time required for Board  
11 administration to calculate and audit the hours.

12 Ms. Matter added that the State Board of  
13 Psychology has carryover CEs already in its  
14 regulations, noted the difficulty of ensuring other  
15 biennial renewal periods and the new biennial renewal  
16 period have the correct number.

17 Dr. Kraus requested more information regarding  
18 why carryover was coming up at this moment. Ms. Black  
19 stated that this Act was enacted by the legislature  
20 and it gave all the Boards the discretion to offer  
21 this provision. Ms. Black referred to the Board of  
22 Psychology, noting that at its February meeting, not  
23 only did the Psychology Board vote not to adopt Act  
24 116 but it also voted to remove the carryover  
25 provision that currently exists in their regulation.

1 Cynthia K. Montgomery, Esquire, Deputy Chief  
2 Counsel/Regulatory Counsel, Department of State,  
3 further explained that some boards were interested in  
4 the carryover provision, but their statute did not  
5 authorize the same, which may have prompted Act 116.

6 Dr. Elberfeld questioned whether the carryover  
7 was for general continuing education only. Ms.  
8 Montgomery believed the carryover of continuing  
9 education would only be for the general continuing  
10 education, noting the need for the matter to be  
11 addressed in the regulations. She stated mandatory  
12 child abuse, suicide prevention, and ethics would need  
13 to be addressed in the regulations.

14 Dr. Elberfeld expressed a concern, stating the  
15 continuing education credits (CEUs) are supposed to be  
16 current. By allowing an individual to take 60 credits  
17 in 2020 and carrying those out to 2024 would not be  
18 current.

19 Ms. Wucinski also noted that CE carryover caused  
20 difficulties for the Board of Psychology and suggested  
21 the Board take into consideration the number of CE to  
22 be reviewed and the backlog that may be caused for the  
23 Board administrator.

24 Dr. Kraus commented that the goal of continuing  
25 education was not stockpiling education. He mentioned

1 that the 30 hours is not onerous given the current  
2 flexibility, where all of the hours could be earned  
3 online. He encouraged the Board to not further burden  
4 Board administration.

5 Chair Corby questioned whether it would be  
6 possible to compromise, where an individual could ask  
7 that so many credits be applied to the next biennial.

8 Ms. Matter commented that excess clocked hours  
9 may not be carried over to the next biennium according  
10 to the regulations.

11 Ms. Black explained that Board administration  
12 would have to go through the task of auditing biennium  
13 periods to determine whether or not there was an  
14 excess and if the excess could be moved forward and  
15 not specifically allocated for that year. She stated  
16 a compromise would put that burden on Board  
17 administration. She also noted that licensees who may  
18 run into an issue with CE compliance have the ability  
19 to ask for an extension or waiver.

20 Ms. Wucinski noted the majority of the Board was  
21 not in favor of amending the regulations to allow for  
22 the carryover and suggested the Board discuss the  
23 issue again at a later time.

24 Ms. Wucinski addressed Senate Bill 26 regarding  
25 prohibiting mental health professionals from engaging

1 in sexual orientation change efforts with individuals  
2 under 18 years of age. She stated the bill was  
3 referred to the Consumer Protection & Professional  
4 Liability Committee on January 20, 2021.

5 Ms. Wucinski addressed Act 53 of 2020. She  
6 mentioned not having definite guidance regarding the  
7 qualifications for a health care practitioner. She  
8 expressed concern with Act 76 with the ability to  
9 diagnose. She mentioned any health care practitioners  
10 convicted of a sexual offense were automatically  
11 precluded from obtaining a license. She provided a  
12 definition of health care practitioner.

13 Ms. Montgomery addressed case law, where social  
14 workers are not considered health care practitioners.  
15 She stated licensed professional counselors (LPCs),  
16 licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFTs), and  
17 licensed clinical social workers (LCSWs) are health  
18 care practitioners and can diagnose and treat mental  
19 health disorders.

20 Ms. Montgomery recommended the Board take another  
21 look at whether to specifically designate any or all  
22 of the sexual offenses as being directly related to  
23 the profession of social work, bachelor of social  
24 work, or any of the other professions to be safe in  
25 the event of legal challenges.

1 Ms. Wucinski further explained that sexual  
2 offenses are listed on the Act 53 list of offenses.  
3 She stated LPCs, LMFTs, and LCSWs would be prohibited  
4 from receiving a license if they have a conviction  
5 that is listed in the sexual offenses. She expressed  
6 concerns if LSWs and LBSWs are not considered health  
7 care practitioners because they would not have an  
8 automatic preclusion from licensure.

9 Ms. Wucinski questioned whether the Board wanted  
10 to add the sexual offenses to the list of crimes  
11 related to the profession.]

12 \*\*\*

13 CHAIR CORBY:

14 Could I have a motion to include the  
15 sexual offenses in the list of directly  
16 related to the profession?

17 DR. KRAUS:

18 So moved.

19 MS. KEISLING:

20 Second.

21 CHAIR CORBY:

22 All those in favor, raise your hand.

23 Opposed? Abstentions?

24 [The motion carried unanimously.]

25 \*\*\*

1 Report of Board Chair - No Report

2 \*\*\*

3 Report of Commissioner - No Report

4 \*\*\*

5 Report of Board Administrator

6 [Sandra E. Matter, Board Administrator, noted the  
7 committee would be reviewing continuing education  
8 preapproved providers, and she will distribute the  
9 preapproved provider renewals to Board members for  
10 review.]

11 Ms. Matter and Ms. Black will review and approve  
12 the extension requests to complete continuing  
13 education for the March 1, 2019 through February 28,  
14 2021 biennial renewal period.]

15 \*\*\*

16 MOTIONS

17 MS. WUCINSKI:

18 I believe the Board would entertain a  
19 motion to approve the following  
20 Voluntary Recovery Program Consent  
21 Agreements at Case No. 20-69-011926,  
22 Case No. 20-69-010920, and Case No. 20-  
23 69-011196, noting that that will be  
24 obtained on page 2 at agenda item 4.

25 CHAIR CORBY:

1 Do I hear a motion?

2 DR. ELBERFELD:

3 So moved.

4 CHAIR CORBY:

5 Do I hear a second?

6 DR. SANTIAGO:

7 Second.

8 CHAIR CORBY:

9 All in favor, raise your hand. Opposed?

10 Abstentions?

11 [The motion carried unanimously.]

12 \*\*\*

13 MS. WUCINSKI:

14 I believe the Board would entertain a  
15 motion to adopt the proposed  
16 Adjudication and substitute the Final  
17 Board Order for Barbara Forrest Bauer,  
18 LPC, Case No. 19-69-005825.

19 CHAIR CORBY:

20 Do I hear a motion?

21 DR. KRAUS:

22 So moved.

23 CHAIR CORBY:

24 Do I hear a second?

25 DR. EVANS:

1 Second.

2 CHAIR CORBY:

3 All those in favor? Opposed? One  
4 opposed. Any abstentions?

5 [The motion carried. Dr. Santiago opposed the  
6 motion.]

7 \*\*\*

8 MS. WUCINSKI:

9 Item 6. I believe the Board would  
10 entertain a motion to adopt as final the  
11 draft Adjudication and Order of Jared  
12 Joseph Ingros, LCSW, Case No. 20-69-  
13 000635, noting that Kurt Kraus, Amy  
14 Keisling, and Marilyn Painter are all  
15 recused.

16 CHAIR CORBY:

17 Do I have a motion?

18 DR. SANTIAGO:

19 Motion.

20 DR. EVANS:

21 Second.

22 CHAIR CORBY:

23 All those in favor, raise your hand.  
24 Opposed? Abstentions? There are three  
25 recused.



1 [The motion carried. Dr. Kraus, Ms. Keisling, and Ms.  
2 Painter recused themselves from deliberations and  
3 voting on the motion.]

4 \*\*\*

5 MS. WUCINSKI:

6 I entertain a motion to approve the  
7 education of Brandon Williams.

8 CHAIR CORBY:

9 Do I hear a motion?

10 MS. PAINTER:

11 So moved.

12 DR. SANTIAGO:

13 Second.

14 CHAIR CORBY:

15 All those in favor? Opposed?

16 Abstentions?

17 [The motion carried unanimously.]

18 \*\*\*

19 MS. WUCINSKI:

20 At agenda items 13 and 14, the Board  
21 would direct the Board administrator to  
22 send letters to Megan Neil and Boualem  
23 Ghanem regarding their education.

24 \*\*\*

25 MS. WUCINSKI:

1                   At agenda item 15, I believe the Board  
2                   would entertain a motion to approve the  
3                   education of Diany Fermin.

4 CHAIR CORBY:

5                   Do I have a motion?

6 MS. KEISLING:

7                   So moved.

8 DR. KRAUS:

9                   Second.

10 CHAIR CORBY:

11                   All those in favor, raise your hand.

12                   Opposed? Abstentions?

13 [The motion carried unanimously.]

14   \*\*\*

15 MS. WUCINSKI:

16                   Items 16 and 17. I believe the Board  
17                   would entertain a motion to grant a  
18                   provisional license to practice  
19                   professional counseling under Act 41 of  
20                   Jaime Oko and Kaitlyn Ringwood.

21 CHAIR CORBY:

22                   Do I have a motion?

23 DR. JORDAL:

24                   So moved.

25 DR. KRAUS:

1                   Second.

2 CHAIR CORBY:

3                   All those in favor, raise your hand.

4                   Opposed? Abstentions?

5 [The motion carried unanimously.]

6   \*\*\*

7 MS. WUCINSKI:

8                   Item 18. The Board would direct the  
9                   Board administrator to Carbon Lehigh  
10                   Intermediate Unit #21 requesting more  
11                   information relating to the application  
12                   of the preapproved provider.

13   \*\*\*

14 MS. WUCINSKI:

15                   I would note that agenda items 19 and  
16                   24, the Board has also directed the  
17                   Board administrator to respond to these  
18                   correspondences as discussed in  
19                   executive session.

20   \*\*\*

21 MS. WUCINSKI:

22                   Item 20. The Board also directed the  
23                   Board administrator to send a response  
24                   to Jennifer Henkel, LCSW, CAE,  
25                   consistent with discussions in executive

1 session.

2 \*\*\*

3 MS. WUCINSKI:

4 Moving on to item 21, I believe the  
5 Board would entertain a motion to grant  
6 a three-month extension to Deborah Hite,  
7 LPC, to complete her continuing  
8 education requirements 2019 through 2021  
9 biennial renewal cycle.

10 CHAIR CORBY:

11 Do I have a motion?

12 MS. PAINTER:

13 So moved.

14 DR. JORDAL:

15 Second.

16 CHAIR CORBY:

17 Moved by Painter and seconded by Jordal.

18 All those in favor? Opposed?

19 Abstentions?

20 [The motion carried unanimously.]

21 \*\*\*

22 MS. WUCINSKI:

23 Agenda item 22. I believe the Board  
24 would entertain a motion provisionally  
25 denying the fictitious name of Shannon

1                    Wasel Psychotherapy LLC based on it  
2                    being misleading.

3 DR. KRAUS:

4                    So moved.

5 DR. JORDAL:

6                    Second.

7 CHAIR CORBY:

8                    All those in favor, raise your hand.

9                    Opposed? Abstentions?

10 [The motion carried unanimously.]

11                    \*\*\*

12 MS. WUCINSKI:

13                    Agenda item 23. I believe the Board  
14                    would entertain a motion to grant a 3-  
15                    month extension to Richard Karolac, LSW,  
16                    to complete his continuing education  
17                    requirements 2019 through 2021 biennial  
18                    cycle.

19 MS. PAINTER:

20                    So moved.

21 DR. JORDAL:

22                    Second.

23 CHAIR CORBY:

24                    All those in favor, raise your hand.

25                    Opposed? Abstentions?

1 [The motion carried unanimously.]

2 \*\*\*

3 [The Board recessed from 12:32 p.m. until 12:57 p.m.]

4 \*\*\*

5 [A Formal Hearing was held from 12:58 a.m. until  
6 1:34 p.m. in the matter of the Application for a  
7 License to Practice Professional Counseling of Cindy  
8 Bello, Case No. 20-69-013649.]

9 \*\*\*

10 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at  
11 1:34 p.m. the Board entered into executive session  
12 with Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel, and  
13 Jaime D. Black, Esquire, Board Counsel, for the  
14 purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations on  
15 a number of matters that are currently pending before  
16 the Board and to receive the advice of counsel. The  
17 Board returned to open session at 1:46 p.m.]

18 \*\*\*

19 [Chair Corby announced the Board will deliberate over  
20 the hearing during the next Board meeting.]

21 \*\*

22 Adjournment

23 CHAIR CORBY:

24 I am open to a motion to adjourn this  
25 meeting.

1 DR. JORDAL:

2 Motion.

3 DR. SANTIAGO:

4 Second.

5 CHAIR CORBY:

6 All in favor, say aye.

7 [The motion carried unanimously.]

8 \*\*\*

9 [There being no further business, the State Board of  
10 Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and  
11 Professional Counselors Meeting adjourned at  
12 1:47 p.m.]

13 \*\*\*

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing summary minutes of the State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors meeting, was reduced to writing by me or under my supervision, and that the minutes accurately summarize the substance of the State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors meeting.



Evan Bingaman,  
Minute Clerk  
Sargent's Court Reporting  
Service, Inc.



STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKERS,  
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS,  
AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS  
REFERENCE INDEX

February 9, 2021

	TIME	AGENDA
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12	9:30	Executive Session
13	11:00	Return to Open Session
14		
15	11:07	Official Call to Order
16		
17	11:08	Introduction of Board/Public Members
18		
19	11:13	Approval of Minutes
20		
21	11:14	Appointment - Carolyn A. DeLaurentis,
22		Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel,
23		Prosecution Division Presentation
24		
25	11:17	Report of Prosecutorial Division
26		
27	11:23	Report of Board Counsel
28		
29	12:20	Report of Board Chair
30		
31	12:21	Report of Board Administrator
32		
33	12:23	Motions
34		
35	12:31	Recess
36	12:56	Return to Open Session
37		
38	12:58	Formal Hearing - Cindy Bello
39	1:34	
40		
41	1:34	Executive Session
42	1:46	Return to Open Session
43		
44	1:47	Adjournment
45		
46		
47		
48		
49		
50		