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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 TELECONFERENCE**

TIME: 10:30 A.M.

September 1, 2020

1 State Board of Social Workers,
2 Marriage and Family Therapists,
3 and Professional Counselors
4 September 1, 2020

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7 BOARD MEMBERS:

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

23 BUREAU PERSONNEL:

24
25 Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board/Regulatory Counsel
26 Heather J. McCarthy, Esquire, Board Prosecution
27 Liaison
28 Dean F. Picarella, Esquire, Senior Counsel, Bureau of
29 Professional and Occupational Affairs
30 Sandra E. Matter, Board Administrator
31 Theodore Stauffer, Executive Secretary, Bureau of
32 Professional and Occupational Affairs
33 Andrew LaFratte, MPA, Policy Office, Department of
34 State
35 Marc Farrell, Deputy Policy Director, Department of
36 State
37
38

39 ALSO PRESENT:

40
41 Amy Sagen, Chief Operating Officer, National
42 Association of Social Workers
43 Briana Jurrema, LPC Applicant
44 Jen Smeltz, Executive Director, Consumer Protection
45 and Professional Licensure Committee
46 Selena P. Johnson, LSW Applicant
47 Victoria Slobodian, ASW Student Intern, National
48 Association of Social Workers
49 Amanda, Marywood University MSW Student,
50 National Association of Social Workers

1 ***

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

5 September 1, 2020

6 ***

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

14 ***

15 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State
16 Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family
17 Therapists, and Professional Counselors was held on
18 Tuesday, September 1, 2020. Joy E. Corby, Ph.D.,
19 LMFT, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

20 ***

21 [Chair Corby welcomed Dr. Erika Evans. She announced
22 this was Ms. Cardone's last meeting and thanked her
23 for all of her hard work and service on the Board.]

24 ***

25 Introduction

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

3 ***

4 [Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted the
5 meeting was being recorded, and those who remain on
6 the line were giving their consent to being recorded.]

7 ***

8 Report of Board Prosecutorial Division

9 [Heather J. McCarthy, Esquire, Board Prosecution
10 Liaison, welcomed new Board member, Dr. Erika Evans.
11 She also stated it had been a pleasure to work with
12 Ms. Cardone. She presented the Consent Agreement for
13 Case No. 16-69-00574.]

14 ***

15 Report of Board Counsel

16 [Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted
17 executive session from 9:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.,
18 where the Board discussed one Consent Agreement and
19 agenda items 4 through 16. She also noted the
20 Bachelor of Social Work license regulations are
21 currently in effect, which were published as final on
22 August 29, 2020.]

23 ***

24 Report of Board Chairperson - No Report

25 ***

1 [Renee J. Cardone, MSW, LCSW, commented that serving
2 on the Board had been one of the highlights of her
3 professional career. She thanked everyone for being
4 great colleagues, noting it had been a pleasure to
5 serve with the Board.

6 Dr. Corby again thanked Ms. Cardone for all she
7 had done.

8 Ms. Cardone addressed practice monitors relating
9 to proposed consent agreements, noting prior
10 discussion on the importance of supervision and
11 credentials in supervision. She questioned how the
12 Board would assess whether someone was appropriate to
13 supervise licensees.

14 Ms. Wucinski explained that most Boards defer to
15 the prosecution division, who look for licensees in
16 good standing with the Board. She commented that the
17 Board has relied on the prosecution division approving
18 practice monitors. However, the Board can choose a
19 certain process and relay that to the prosecution
20 division.

21 Ms. McCarthy noted the issue does not come up
22 very often with the Board, which is why there had not
23 been more of a procedure in place. She explained the
24 procedure and offered to rewrite those to the Board's
25 preference.

1 Ms. Wucinski stated that the practice monitor
2 does not have to rise to the standard of a clinical
3 supervisor, noting most Boards only look for whether
4 the individual has licensure in good standing. She
5 mentioned that the whole idea of someone looking over
6 or checking someone's work is to make sure prior
7 disciplinary issues are not continuing to occur.

8 Ms. Keisling recommended avoiding placing the
9 Board in a position where they are delaying resolution
10 of issues because of the need to make a decision on
11 the monitor, which would slow the processes.

12 Ms. Wucinski stated that the prosecution division
13 takes the responsibility off the Board by looking at
14 the curriculum vitae (CV) to ensure the person is an
15 acceptable practice monitor and suggested the Board
16 should continue that process.

17 Chair Corby commented that the Board does not
18 want to add any restrictions to slow the process,
19 noting that counsel would be able to approve the best
20 candidate.]

21 ***

22 Report of Commissioner

23 [K. Kalonji Johnson, Commissioner, Bureau of
24 Professional and Occupational Affairs, thanked the
25 Board for their hard work over the past several

1 months. He welcomed Dr. Evans and formally
2 congratulated her on the appointment to the Board. He
3 described the Board as a magnanimous group of
4 individuals who are deeply committed to the work and
5 obligation of protecting the public and providing
6 information to the regulated community, members of the
7 public, stakeholders, and colleagues in the
8 legislature with regard to maintaining high standards
9 in the profession.

10 Commissioner Johnson wished Ms. Cardone the best
11 and thanked her for the extraordinary influence she
12 left during her time on the Board. He thanked
13 everyone for all their work on behalf of all of the
14 citizens of the commonwealth and offered thoughts and
15 prayers to frontline workers. He also thanked Ms.
16 Matter, Ms. Wucinski, staff at the bureau, and the
17 prosecutorial counsel who continue to process
18 applications and answer questions to folks in the
19 community.]

20 ***

21 Miscellaneous

22 [Sandra E. Matter, Board Administrator, noted 2021
23 Board meeting dates.]

24 ***

25 Correspondence

1 [Sandra E. Matter, Board Administrator, noted
2 correspondence from Janine Mariscotti, MSW, LCSW,
3 Assistant Professor at La Salle University, requesting
4 the Board to permit individuals in their final
5 semester in the MSW program to be able to sit for the
6 exam while their school is in candidacy. She
7 commented that there would be a lot of extra
8 administrative work.

9 Dr. Jordal stated the Board may not have the
10 regulations or infrastructure to support the request.

11 Dr. Kraus commented that the responsibility
12 belongs to the institution of higher education and not
13 the state.

14 Dr. Santiago mentioned that responsibility should
15 be on the program and not on the Board.

16 Ms. Wucinski requested the Board provide a
17 response, clarifying that there is no provisional
18 license for the students. She also noted the answer
19 would be "no" as to whether students in an
20 unaccredited program could take the Association of
21 Social Work Boards (ASWB) Licensed Social Worker (LSW)
22 Exam during their last semester of the unaccredited
23 Master of Social Work (MSW) program.

24 Commissioner Johnson expressed concern of the
25 Board wading into advisory opinions. He noted the

1 administrative burden placed on the Board and
2 understood there will be limitations in the
3 Pennsylvania Licensing System (PALS) to put these
4 folks in a holding pattern. He requested Ms. Matter
5 explain how requests were handled in the past
6 procedurally.

7 Ms. Matter explained the process.

8 Commissioner Johnson noted the importance of
9 being clear that the Board is not advising the
10 institution to act in a certain way. He stated the
11 Board could not prohibit them from offering this test
12 but that the Board cannot condition any guarantees
13 based on the passage of the examination because the
14 Board does not know what is going to happen within the
15 next four years.

16 Chair Corby stated that the requirement of having
17 graduated from an accredited program in order to take
18 the test or apply for licensure had not been met.

19 Ms. Wucinski and Ms. Matter will work together on
20 drafting a response.]

21 ***

22 MOTIONS

23 MS. WUCINSKI:

24 I believe the Board would entertain a
25 motion to adopt the Consent Agreement at

1 Case No. 16-69-00574.

2 DR. JORDAL:

3 So moved.

4 CHAIR CORBY:

5 Is there a second?

6 DR. ELBERFELD:

7 Second.

8 CHAIR CORBY:

9 All those in favor, say aye. Those
10 opposed? Any abstentions?

11 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's
12 name is Ellen Ostrof, LCSW.]

13 ***

14 MS. WUCINSKI:

15 I believe the Board would entertain a
16 motion to direct Board Counsel to draft
17 an Adjudication and Order consistent
18 with discussions in executive session
19 and addressing the exception for Brian
20 L. Fruchtman, Case No. 20-69-002776.

21 CHAIR CORBY:

22 Is there a motion?

23 DR. JORDAL:

24 So moved.

25 DR. SANTIAGO:

1 Second.

2 CHAIR CORBY:

3 All those in favor, say aye. Those
4 opposed? Any abstentions?

5 [The motion carried unanimously.]

6 ***

7 MS. WUCINSKI:

8 I believe the Board would entertain a
9 motion to approve as final the draft
10 Adjudication and Order for Jennifer
11 Schickling, LCSW, Case No. 19-69-008123.

12 DR. KRAUS:

13 So moved.

14 MS. KEISLING:

15 Second.

16 CHAIR CORBY:

17 All those in favor? Opposed?
18 Abstentions?

19 [The motion carried. Dr. Jordal abstained from voting
20 on the motion.]

21 ***

22 MS. WUCINSKI:

23 I believe the Board would entertain a
24 motion to approve the Application for
25 Approval of a Preapproved Provider for

1 Prevention Education Solutions, LLC.

2 MS. MARTIN:

3 So moved.

4 DR. ELBERFELD:

5 Second.

6 CHAIR CORBY:

7 All those in favor? Opposed?

8 Abstentions?

9 [The motion carried unanimously.]

10 ***

11 MS. WUCINSKI:

12 I believe the Board would entertain a
13 motion to provisionally deny the
14 Application for a License by Examination
15 to Practice Professional Counseling of
16 David Montgomery.

17 DR. JORDAL:

18 So moved.

19 DR. KRAUS:

20 Second.

21 CHAIR CORBY:

22 All those in favor? Opposed?

23 Abstentions?

24 [The motion carried unanimously.]

25 ***

1 MS. WUCINSKI:

2 At agenda Item No. 6, I will just note
3 that the Board has directed the Board
4 administrator to send a letter to
5 Timothy Legg regarding his education and
6 supervision.

7 ***

8 MS. WUCINSKI:

9 I believe the Board would entertain a
10 motion to approve the Application for a
11 License by Examination to Practice
12 Professional Counseling of Maria
13 Perrotta.

14 MS. CARDONE:

15 So moved.

16 DR. SANTIAGO:

17 Second.

18 CHAIR CORBY:

19 All those in favor? Opposed?

20 Abstentions?

21 [The motion carried unanimously.]

22 ***

23 MS. WUCINSKI:

24 I believe the Board would entertain a
25 motion to approve the Application for a

1 License by Examination to Practice
2 Professional Counseling of Dathan
3 Landon-Freeman.

4 DR. ELBERFELD:

5 So moved.

6 MS. KEISLING:

7 Second.

8 CHAIR CORBY:

9 All those in favor? Opposed?

10 Abstentions?

11 [The motion carried unanimously.]

12 ***

13 MS. WUCINSKI:

14 I would note that agenda Item No. 9 the
15 Board has directed the Board
16 administrator to send a letter to
17 Jermain Wright regarding his supervised
18 clinical experience.

19 ***

20 MS. WUCINSKI:

21 I believe the Board would entertain a
22 motion to provisionally deny the
23 Application for a License by Examination
24 to Practice Professional Counseling of
25 Erin Ramsey.

1 DR. SANTIAGO:

2 So moved.

3 DR. KRAUS:

4 Second.

5 CHAIR CORBY:

6 All those in favor? Opposed?

7 Abstentions?

8 [The motion carried unanimously.]

9

10 MS. WUCINSKI:

11 I believe the Board would entertain a
12 motion to grant a provisional license
13 under Act 41 to the following: Michael
14 Shook, Briana Jurrema, Selena P.
15 Johnson, and Sarah MacNerland-
16 Barak.

17 CHAIR CORBY:

18 Is there a motion?

19 DR. JORDAL:

20 So moved.

21 DR. KRAUS:

22 Second.

23 CHAIR CORBY:

24 All those in favor? Opposed?

25 Abstentions?

1 [The motion carried. Dr. Santiago is opposed the
2 motion regarding No. 11, Michael Shook; No. 12, Briana
3 Jurrema; and No. 14, Selena P. Johnson.]

4 ***

5 MS. WUCINSKI:

6 I believe the Board would entertain a
7 motion to provisionally deny the
8 Application for a License by Examination
9 to Practice Social Work of Debbe
10 Plummer.

11 CHAIR CORBY:

12 Is there a motion?

13 MS. KEISLING:

14 So moved.

15 CHAIR CORBY:

16 Keisling motioned. Who is going to
17 second it?

18 DR. ELBERFELD:

19 Second.

20 CHAIR CORBY:

21 All those in favor? Opposed?
22 Abstention?

23 [The motion carried unanimously.]

24 ***

25 MS. WUCINSKI:

1 I believe the Board would entertain a
2 motion to approve the Supervised
3 Clinical Experience of Soleana Silva for
4 her Application for Licensure as a
5 Professional Counselor by Examination.

6 DR. JORDAL:

7 So moved.

8 DR. ELBERFELD:

9 Second.

10 CHAIR CORBY:

11 All those in favor? Opposed?

12 Abstentions?

13 [The motion carried unanimously.]

14 ***

15 [The Board recessed from 11:32 a.m. until 11:36 a.m.]

16 ***

17 [A Formal Hearing was held from 11:37 a.m. until
18 12:25 p.m. in the matter of the Application for a
19 License by Examination to Practice Professional
20 Counseling of Jason Kamora, Case No. 20-69-007699.]

21 ***

22 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at
23 12:27 p.m. the Board entered into Executive Session
24 with Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel, the
25 Board reentered executive session to deliberate on a

1 matter that is currently pending before the Board and
2 to receive the advice of Counsel. The Board returned
3 to open session at 12:42 a.m.]

4 ***

5 [Joy E. Corby, Ph.D., LMFT, stated the Board will
6 await the transcripts before an official vote.]

7 ***

8 Adjournment

9 CHAIR CORBY:

10 At this time, I would entertain a motion
11 for adjournment.

12 DR. JORDAL:

13 So moved.

14 DR. SANTIAGO:

15 Second.

16 CHAIR CORBY:

17 All those in favor?

18 [The motion carried unanimously.]

19 ***

20 [There being no further business, the State Board of
21 Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and
22 Professional Counselors Meeting adjourned at
23 12:43 p.m.]

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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

September 1, 2020

| TIME | AGENDA |
|-------|--|
| 9:00 | Recess |
| 10:30 | Return to Open Session |
| 10:30 | Official Call to Order |
| 10:32 | Introduction of Board Members and Public |
| 10:38 | Report of Prosecutorial Division |
| 10:44 | Report of Board Counsel |
| 10:59 | Report of Commissioner |
| 11:05 | Miscellaneous |
| 11:06 | Correspondence |
| 11:25 | Motions |
| 11:32 | Recess |
| 11:36 | Return to Open Session |
| 11:37 | Formal Hearing - Jason Kamora |
| 12:25 | |
| 12:27 | Executive Session |
| 12:42 | Return to Open Session |
| 12:43 | Adjournment |