

The Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners
Board Meeting Minutes
August 8, 2019

The regular meeting of the Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners was held on August 8, 2019. Board Chair, Dr. Michael Smith, called the meeting to order at 9:30am.

There was a quorum of members present including:
District I representative Sharrie Cranford, Vice Chair
District II representative Jennifer Venable-Humphrey
District III representative Valeri White
District VII representative Shea Cobb-England
District V representative Dr. Michael Smith - Chair

Ellen Leonard, Board Legal Counsel, was not present. Executive Director Rachel Dickinson was present for the meeting. The following individuals were present for the meeting: Carolyn Miller, LICSW, PIP, Social Work Director of Family Health Services with Alabama Department of Public Health; William Kennedy, LICSW, State Social Work Director with Alabama Public Health.

Unless otherwise specified, all votes were taken by a show of hands. Proper notice for the meeting was provided to the Secretary of State and posted on the Secretary of State website.

Approval of Minutes

Copies of the minutes from the May 31, 2019, meeting were reviewed. Valeri White made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Shea Cobb-England seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Board Business

- a. Executive Director Rachel Dickinson updated the Board on status of complaints. There are currently three (3) pending complaints.
- b. Sharrie Cranford made a motion to accept approval of new licenses issued since the last Board meeting. Jennifer Venable-Humphrey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Board Business

- a. Dr. Michael Smith was asked to speak to the undergraduate social workers at the University of Alabama in October but because he will no longer be a Board Member Shea Cobb-England agreed to speak. ED Rachel Dickinson will send Shea Cobb-England the information for the event.

- b. ED Dickinson provided the Board with a Finance Report Update. The Board's finances are in good standing.
- c. Valeri White, Jennifer Venable-Humphrey, and Shea Cobb-England updated the Board on the Supervision subcommittee progress. There has been discussion about possibly rewriting entire sections of the administrative code. The Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) has offered their assistance to the Board. They are available to come to Montgomery to meet with and recommend possible updates and changes. Valeri White will finalize the meeting date and time with ASWB and inform the Board.
- d. Mr. William Kennedy, LICSW, State Social Work Director with Alabama Public Health, addressed the Board again to express concern about the loss of social work services within the Department of Public Health. He reminded the Board that clients could be without services for at least a month. Jennifer Venable-Humphrey wanted the minutes to reflect that licensees would be protected. The licensees had been forced to abandon their clients and that Medicaid currently has no plan to assist the clients during that timeframe and the Board would not hold the licensees liable. Dr. Michael Smith commented that we have no authority over what Medicaid can and cannot do and that Ellen Leonard had stated previously that licensed social workers would be protected.
 - i. Jennifer Venable-Humphrey made a motion to accept, as is, all pending administrative code changes to be effective October 1, 2019. Shea Cobb-England seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
 - ii. Sharrie Cranford made a motion to adopt all new proposed administrative changes. Jennifer Venable-Humphrey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
 - iii. ED Dickinson reminded the Board about the upcoming Sunset Review August 22, 2019.
 - iv. ED Dickinson distributed a report based on failing exam scores to the Members and explained that the Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE) would like to join with the University of Alabama, Interim Dean of Social Work and present this and other pertinent information to all Deans of Social Work at each public and private College and University at a meeting in October. The Board agreed that this would be beneficial.
 - v. Dr. Michael Smith shared an updated PIP "cheat sheet" with the Members to use for their convenience when reviewing PIP's.

Other Requests

- a. Valeri White made a motion to deny reciprocity to Ms. Kastner. Shea Cobb-England seconded the motion. Jennifer Venable-Humphrey began the discussion by suggesting if we approve her request, we would have jurisdiction if we deny we do not. Shea Cobb-England stated that if we bring her in, we would be waiting on a complaint and could not regulate her until she was caught. Valeri White made the same motion to deny her

request. The motion passed four (4) in favor one (1) opposed. Jennifer Venable-Humphrey voted to oppose.

- b. Jennifer Venable-Humphrey made the motion to approve Ms. Whaley's request due to the understanding that the school was in the process of becoming CSWE approved. Valeri White seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) in favor one (1) opposed. Shea Cobb-England voted to oppose.

PIP Applications

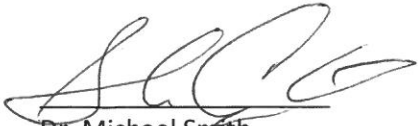
- a. Ajomale, Uzezi – Approved for Social Casework and Clinical Social Work
- b. Ball, Sarah – Approved Social Casework and Clinical Social Work. Denied Social Work Administration
- c. Eubanks, Raquel – Denied Social Casework. Approved Clinical Social Work. Denied Social Work Administration
- d. Hubbard, Tiki – Approved Social Casework, Clinical Social Work, Social Work Administration and Community Organization
- e. Jones, Ruthie – Approved Social Casework and Clinical Social Work. Denied Social Work Administration
- f. Murphy, Stephen – Approved Social Casework, Social Work Administration, and Clinical Social Work. Denied Community Organization and Social Work Research
- g. Norwood, Mary Elizabeth – Approved Clinical Social Work
- h. Padalino, Lauren – Approved Social Casework
- i. Rampy, Kelly – Approved Clinical Social Work and Social Work Administration
- j. Rhodes, Jennifer – Approved Social Casework, Clinical Social Work, and Social Work Administration. Denied Community Organization and Social Work Research
- k. Salter, Nathan – Denied Social Casework and Clinical Social Work. Approved Social Work Research and Social Work Administration
- l. Sharp, Giselle – Approved Social Casework and Clinical Social Work
- m. Strawn, Stephani – Approved Social Casework. Denied Community Organization, Social Work Research and Social Work Administration
- n. Thomas, Melissa – Denied Clinical Social Work
- o. Wade, Dana – Approved Clinical Social Work
- p. Wood, Kristen – Approved Social Casework and Clinical Social Work
- q. Woodfin, Anthony – Approve Social Casework and Clinical Social Work
- r. Yonta, Emilio – Approved Clinical Social Work

Requesting Reconsideration or Addition

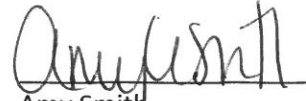
- s. Murry, Tenisha – Denied Clinical Social Work

The date for the next Board meeting will be October 2019 but the Board agreed to wait to set a date until ASWB responds.

Jennifer Venable-Humphrey moved to adjourn at 11:50am. Dr. Michael Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.



Dr. Michael Smith
Board Chair



Amy Smith
Secretary