

**BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES REGULATORY BOARD
SOCIAL WORK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 5, 2023**

Approved Minutes

- I. Call to order and Roll Call** The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Cynthia Schendel at 10am.
- Social Work Advisory Committee Members.** Advisory Committee members present by Zoom included: Cynthia Schendel, Angi Heller-Workman, Jane Holzrichter, Andrea Perdomo-Morales, Eric Schoenecker, Mary Gill, Mike Gillet, Catherine Rech, Sarah Berens, Robin Unruh, and Lee Ann Gingery. Cristin Stice will no longer be a part of this committee.
- BSRB Staff Members** present by Zoom included David Fye and Leslie Allen.
- Guests:** None
- II. Agenda Approval.** Eric Schoenecker moved to approve the agenda. Mike Gillet seconded. The motion passed.
- III. Review and Approval of Minutes from Previous Advisory Committee Meeting on October 20, 2023.** Mike Gillet moved to approve the minutes. Eric Schoenecker seconded. The motion passed.
- IV. Updates from Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Annual Meeting November 2-4, 2023.** The Executive Director attended the ASWB Annual Meeting with Co-Chair Andrea Perdomo-Morales and both individuals provide a summary of the topics discussed at the conference. It was noted that ASWB is planning to release a new report on examination passage rates and other demographic information for 2023 in June 2024. ASWB will also be working with independent researchers to determine what factors might be impacting test taking performance. “Community Conversations” were held by ASWB to collect feedback from individuals concerning the test taking experience. Fifth Theory, a pilot program with test mastery, will be a free tool for individuals who take the exam, but do not pass, so that they can improve their skills in an effort to pass the examination in the future. ASWB is also working on a social work census to be released in 2024, along with a practice analysis to re-design the exam for the future. For this to happen, ASWB will be collecting information on current practices for the social work profession. ASWB will be changing exam vendors to PSI beginning in January 2024.
- V. Executive Director’s Report** Executive Director, David Fye, of the BSRB, reported on agency operations, items from past BSRB Board meetings, and legislative updates.
- VI. Old Business**
- A. Review of Possible Survey Questions.** At the previous Advisory Committee meeting, the Advisory Committee discussed creating a survey for social workers. The Executive Director presented 15 draft questions that covered topics the committee previously discussed. Advisory Committee members discussed alternative language for certain questions and there was a consensus to keep the survey to a small number of questions, so that more licensees will complete the survey.
- B. Continued Discussion on Proposed Changes to Unprofessional Conduct Regulations for Other Professions.** A list of recommended changes to the unprofessional conduct regulations for all professions under the BSRB was sent to Advisory Committee members for review. One item

that all professions have been discussing as part of this process is a licensee's responsibility to clients who are in crisis after hours. Advisory Committee members reviewed potential draft language on this topic. By consensus, the Advisory Committee recommended adding additional language that it is unprofessional conduct if the licensee fails to provide each client with a description of what the client can expect in services, including, but not limited to, having a clearly defined policy plan for appropriate after-hours crisis resources, which should include different options for care based on the severity of the situation, along with age and other relevant factors.

VII. Committee Discussion on Items for 2024

A. Workforce Issues

- i. Continued Review and Discussion on ASWB Exam Release Data.** ASWB plans to release new data in June 2024.
 - ii. Continued Consideration of Associate Social Work License.** The Advisory Committee discussed whether to look at other states that have an associate license, concerning scope of practice and practical jobs those individuals hold. Some members noted a license at this level may not be useful if some individuals are already providing these tasks in positions that do not currently require licensure. No recommendation was made on this topic.
 - iii. Consideration of Possible New Student Temporary License Model Similar to Student Temporary Addiction Counselor License.** Advisory Committee members discussed the possibility of creation of a student license, but noted other complicating factors and did not make a recommendation on this topic.
 - iv. Future Roundtables with Educators & Employers.** Advisory Committee members spoke positively of the Informational Forums offered by staff of the BSRB in October 2023 and encouraged the agency to have additional opportunities for feedback from groups in the future.
- B. Possible Language in Regulations on Coursework Requirements for Applicants from Non-CSWE Accredited Programs.** The Executive Director noted that Kansas has a licensure system that is flexible to accept applicants from CSWE accredited programs or to consider applicants from non-accredited program that meet other equivalent requirements in the regulations for the profession. However, unlike other professions under the BSRB, there is no specific language to evaluate coursework for applicants from non-accredited programs. The Executive Director noted the Advisory Committee could consider recommending coursework requirements for applicants from non-accredited programs in 2024.
- C. Review and Update BSRB Social Work Supervision Manual** Due to time constraints, this item was tabled and will be further discussed in 2024.
- D. Review of ASWB Model Social Work Practice Act** Due to time constraints, this item was tabled and will be further discussed in 2024.

VIII. Next Meeting: February 13, 2024, at 10am

- IX. Adjournment** Jane Holzrichter motioned to adjourn the meeting. Lee Ann Gingery seconded. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.