

**BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES REGULATORY BOARD
SOCIAL WORK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 10, 2024**

DRAFT 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 Andrea Perdomo-Morales, Cynthia Schendel, Sarah Berens, Jasmine Cohen-Young, Mary Gill, Mike Gillet, Lee Ann Gingery, Yelando Johnson, Catherine Rech, Christy Sanders, Eric Schoenecker and Robin Unruh. Jasmine Cohen-Young and Donna Hoener-Queal were absent.

BSRB Staff Members. David Fye was present by Zoom.
- II. **Agenda Approval.** Lee Ann Gingery. Yelando Johnson seconded. The motion is approved.
- III. **Approval of Minutes from Previous Advisory Committee Meeting.** Lee Ann Gingery moved to approve the minutes from the Advisory Committee meeting on October 1, 2024. Eric Schoenecker seconded. The motion is approved.
- IV. **Executive Director's Report.** David Fye, Executive Director for the BSRB, provided updates on BSRB operations, items from the most recent Board meeting, and legislative updates.
- V. **Updates from the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Annual Meeting.** The Executive Director and Co-Chair Cynthia Schendel attended the ASWB Annual Meeting and provided updates on news and notes from licensing boards in other states. The social work multi-state compact, supervision, and technology were also discussed. Representatives from ASWB provided updates on the licensing examinations and it was noted that information on this topic will be made available by ASWB sometime during the early part of 2025.
- VI. **Annual Training for Board Members and Advisory Committee Members.** The Executive Director provided the first half of the annual training for Board and Advisory Committee members over expectations in policy documents and requirements under the law. The second part of the training will be covered at the next Advisory Committee meeting.
- VII. **Old Business**
 - A. **Continued Discussion on Recommendations to Board for 2025 Legislation.** Previously the Advisory Committee recommended the Board request statutory language to reverse changes to the requirements for applicants seeking a clinical social work license, which were enacted during the 2023 Legislative session. These legislative changes reduced the number of courses required for clinical licensure and created unusual language concerning the hours of post-graduate experience providing diagnosis and treatment. The Advisory Committee also recommended creation of a new licensed type, an advanced generalist social work license, which would allow independent practice for a category of social workers not providing diagnosis and treatment. The BSRB Board asked the co-chairs to meet with representatives from the Kansas chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW-KS), to see if the two groups could work together on these topics. It was noted that a meeting occurred, which allowed for conversation between some of the leaders of the BSRB Board, the social workers on the BSRB Board, and some of the leaders of NASW-KS.

Unfortunately, the meeting did not result in common ground for the two groups to work together on these topics, and it was noted that some of the discussion on that conversational meeting focused on whether it was the right time to propose the changes recommended by the Advisory Committee. It was noted that the state of Kansas, especially the Legislature, is focusing on ways to address a workforce shortage, so it may be challenging to re-establish standards through legislation, even though the requirements for a clinical social work license are no longer consistent with the other professions regulated by the BSRB. Advisory Committee members expressed concerns with the requirements for a clinical social work license, but agreed that the timing may not be the best to request these changes in legislation. By consensus, the Advisory Committee recommended to the Board that the previous social work recommendations be put on hold for the upcoming session, to allow time for the Advisory Committee to gain additional feedback from social workers on these topics. The Advisory Committee discussed the possibility of distributing a survey to social workers, to enable the Advisory Committee to make a more informed decision before presenting these recommendations to legislation.

- B. Continued Review and Updates for Social Work Supervision Manual and Timeline Draft.** Co-Chair Cynthia Schendel has been working with a few volunteers from the Advisory Committee on updates and revisions to the Social Work Supervision Manual. The Advisory Committee discussed possibly adding more clear language on the pace of collecting supervision hours over the time period that someone is accruing post-graduate experience towards the requirements for a clinical license. Advisory Committee members discussed possibly clarifying the responsibilities supervisors have over the work they are supervising. Further language will be discussed to reinforce the seriousness of supervision. It was noted it may be helpful to address the topic of providing services or collecting supervision via telehealth, as so many more services are being received via telehealth. Advisory Committee Members agreed to emphasize confidentiality when using technology. Terminology will be reviewed further and further discussed at a future meeting.

VIII. New Business

- A. Review and Discussion of Reports on ASWB Licensing Examinations.** The Executive Director asked Advisory Committee members to read the reports studying different components of the licensing examination, to be ready to discuss at a future meeting.
- i. Report 1 – Profile of Social Work License Examinees.** Due to time constraints, this topic was tabled to a future meeting.
 - ii. Report 2 – Determinants of Licensing Exam Outcomes.** Due to time constraints, this topic was tabled to a future meeting.
 - iii. Report 3 – Effects of Race and Ethnicity on Clinical Exam Outcomes.** Due to time constraints, this topic was tabled to a future meeting.
- B. Discussion on Standard Meeting Date and Time.** Advisory Committee members discussed a standards day and time for meetings in 2025. By consensus, the Advisory Committee supported continuing to hold meetings every other month on the second Tuesday of the month at 10am.

IX. Next Meeting. Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 10am (Remote Meeting)

X. Adjournment. Andrea Perdomo-Morales made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Eric Schoenecker seconded. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.