

**BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES REGULATORY BOARD
SOCIAL WORK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 20, 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, and Robin Unruh. Sarah Berens, Lee Ann Gingery, and Cristin Stice were absent.

BSRB Staff. Staff members present by Zoom included David Fye and Leslie Allen.

Other Attendees: None

- II. Agenda Approval.** Andrea Perdomo-Morales moved to approve agenda. Robin Unruh seconded. Motion Passed.
- III. Review and Approval of Minutes from Previous Advisory Committee Meeting on August 15, 2023.** Catherine Rech moved to approve. Angi Heller-Workman seconded. The motion passed.
- IV. Executive Director's Report.** David Fye, Executive Director of the BSRB, reported on agency operations, BSRB Board meetings, and many legislative updates.
- V. Old Business**
- a. Continued Review and Discussion on Changes to Clinical Training Plans in K.A.R. 102-2-8.** Previously, Advisory Committee members discussed the 45-day requirement for social workers pursuing their clinical license to submit any major changes. Advisory Committee members proposed changing language so that the Board would determine what constitutes a significant change, without risking someone losing their hours that a person has already accumulated. BSRB staff members suggested to retain the requirement that changes should be made within 45-days, but to strike the language that states, that the Board shall strike the hours if individuals fail to submit changes with 45-days. This will allow a person to notify the Board of changes later and would allow staff to review the changes and verify the requirements are met, thus finalizing the decision with the Board. Advisory Committee member suggested that if the changes were not submitted within the 45-days, the licensee needs to provide an explanation as to why the requirement was not met. By consensus, the Advisory Committee decided to eliminate specific language on the striking of hours, but to change unreported hours that do not meet standards, so those hours will not be allowed.
- b. Continued Review and Discussion on Regulations**
- i. K.A.R. 102-2-4a Continuing Education.** Advisory Committee discussed possible changes and agreed to eliminate self-directed projects and updated terminology on technology. The Executive Director provided information on total required continuing education hours in Kansas compared to other states. Advisory Committee members would continue to review this topic at a future meeting.
- ii. K.A.R. 102-2-5 Documentation for Continuing Education.** Advisory Committee agreed to eliminate language regarding the self-directed projects and to update references concerning technology.

VI. New Business

- a. **Discussion on Social Work Multi-State Compact.** Advisory Committee members discussed whether to forward a recommendation to the Board requesting support for passage of the multi-state compact by the Kansas Legislature. It was noted that, due to the way this compact is structured, traditional licensure would be replaced with a model in which states could issue single-state licenses and multi-state licenses. It was noted that Kansas is anticipated to lose revenue from out-of-state licensees discontinuing to purchase a Kansas license, in favor of purchasing a multi-state license in their home states. Also, the compact has authority to charge the state of Kansas a cost to be a member of the compact, though whether that will be implemented is unknown at this time. It was noted that the BSRB could balance these costs by charging a higher fee for a multi-state license. The Advisory Committee recommended forwarding a positive recommendation to the Board, encouraging the Board to be supportive of Kansas joining the multi-state compact for social work if this compact is introduced in legislation during the 2024 Legislative session.
- b. **Discussion on Survey of Social Workers.** Advisory Committee member discussed a desire for a survey to be provided to all permanently licensed social workers. Advisory Committee members requested questions to determine level of interest of licensees in obtaining multi-state licenses if Kansas were to pass the multi-state compact. Advisory Committee members requested questions on whether national exams should continue to be a requirement for licensure and whether two-years of additional practice is an adequate alternative to requiring passage of a national examination for different levels of social work license. Advisory Committee members were supportive of asking whether social workers are supportive of a requirement of three hours of continuing education in the categories of diversity, equity, and inclusion each license renewal period. Advisory Committee members also requested questions on supervision, specifically whether increased flexibilities in remote supervision have led to greater access of supervisors. Advisory Committee Members were asked to notify the Executive Director of any additional survey questions by October 30, 2023. The Executive Director will attempt to send out the survey in late November.
- c. **Discussion on Dates and Format for Meetings in 2024.** Advisory Committee Members discussed setting a standard date and time for meetings. By consensus, meetings in 2024 will be held the second Tuesday of each month at 10am. (It was noted that December will be held the 1st Tuesday of the month.
- d. **Discussion on Unprofessional Conduct Regulations for Other Professions.** Due to time constraints, Advisory Committee members will discuss this topic at the next meeting. The Executive Director noted he would bring draft language for the Committee to review concerning care of clients while those clients are in crisis situations.

VII. Committee Discussion on Items for 2023

a. Workforce Issues

- i. **Meeting with Contacts from Academia.** The Executive Director of the BSRB held an informational forum for representatives from schools on October 17, 2023, providing an update on BSRB operations, summarizing changes in recent legislation during the 2021, 2022, and 2023 legislative sessions, and answering questions from contacts from schools.
- ii. **Meeting with Employing Agencies.** The Executive Director of BSRB held an informational forum for employers on October 18, 2023, providing an update on BSRB operations, summarizing changes in recent legislation during the 2021, 2022, and 2023 legislative sessions, and answering questions from contacts from employers of mental health providers licensed by the BSRB.
- iii. **Continued Review and Discussion on ASWB Exam Release Data.** Due to time constraints, the Advisory Committee deferred discussion on this topic, though it was noted the BSRB will invite representatives from ASWB to attend the December Advisory Committee meeting to provide updates on the examination.

- iv. **Continued Consideration of Associate Social Work License.** The Advisory Committee plans to discuss this topic at a future meeting, including a possible scope of practice for this level of license.
- v. **Consideration of Possible New Student Temporary License Model Similar to Student Temporary Addiction Counselor License.** Advisory Committee Members implemented this new licensure, and a discussion will be held later to possibly make this change for social work licensure.
- b. **Possible Language in Regulations on Coursework Requirements for Applicants from Non-CSWE Accredited Programs.** Due to time constraints, no discussion.

VIII. Next Meetings. Tuesday, December 5, 2023, at 10am.

IX. Adjournment. Mary Gill moved to adjourn. Eric Schoenecker seconded. Motion Passed.