



Mississippi Board of Examiners for Social Workers and Marriage & Family Therapists

Minutes for April 12, 2024, Board Meeting

In accordance with the Miss. Code Ann. § 73-53-8 and the Open Meetings Act § 25-41-1 and 25-41-17, the Board of Examiners for Social Workers and Marriage & Family Therapists (Board) held a Board meeting on Friday, April 12, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. through Zoom.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Gerard Tarrant, LMFT, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m. A quorum of Board members was present.

Opening Remarks

Roll Call

Members Present: Gerard Tarrant, LMFT, Board Chair
Dr. Valerie Joiner, LCSW, Board Vice-Chair
Catherine Jones, LMFT, Chair of MFTDSC
Rosalind Yarber, LSW, Chair of SWDSC
Dr. Jeff Hinton, LMFT
Bobby Scott, LMFT
Veronica Knowles, LCSW
Valerie Burnett, LSW
Carrie Coggins, LMSW

Members Absent: All members were present.

Staff and Guests: Erica Allen, Executive Director, MBOE
Sarah Mann, Special Assistant Attorney General
Britney Mangum, Executive Director, MAMFT
Gwen Bouie-Haynes, Executive Director NASW-MS
Tangela Sheppard
Yolanda Mahafey
Debra Braddock
Desmond Griffith
Loreal Walker
LaToya Braxton
Kimberly Hill

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Veronica Knowles moved and 2nd by Carrie Coggins to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Bobby Scott moved and 2nd by Valerie Joiner to approve the March 2024 Board minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

II. LICENSURE VOTES

Social Work

The following candidate(s) were presented for licensure:

LSW Level

Valerie Joiner moved and 2nd by Carrie Coggins to approve the following candidate for licensure at the LSW level. The motion carried unanimously.

Margaret Griffin

LSW Level by Universal Recognition Reciprocity

Valerie Joiner moved and 2nd by Carrie Coggins to approve the following candidate for licensure at the LSW level by Universal Recognition. The motion carried unanimously.

Latoya Braxton

LSW Reinstatement Application

Valerie Joiner moved and 2nd by Veronica Knowles to approve the following candidates for reinstatement at the LSW level. The motion carried unanimously.

*Janice Johnson
Georgia Lindley*

LMSW Level

Valerie Joiner moved and 2nd by Veronica Knowles to approve the following candidates for licensure at the LMSW level. The motion carried unanimously.

*Venus Amezcua
Sal Bailey
Christy Cuning
Karlnequa Dantzler
Jennifer Eubanks
Cheryl Gray
Kimberly Hill*

*Kaila Jefferson
Tammy Martin
Jordan Parker
Alex Oakes
Cherrell Stuckey
Elleeanna Lawson*

LMSW Level by Universal Recognition Reciprocity

Valerie Joiner moved and 2nd by Bobby Scott to approve the following candidates for licensure at the LMSW level by Universal Recognition. The motion carried unanimously.

*Jennifer Benson
Katrina Shelby
Phyllis Thompson
Tamaria Walters*

*Latrina Wright
Nateshia Young
Latonya Goudy*

LMSW Reinstatements

Valerie Joiner moved and 2nd by Carrie Coggins to approve the following candidate for reinstatement at the LMSW level. The motion carried unanimously.

Avery McNair

LCSW Level

Valerie Joiner moved and 2nd by Veronica Knowles to approve the following candidates for licensure at the LCSW level. The motion carried unanimously.

*Kristen Adams
Karla McCarthy
Colby Roberts*

LCSW Level by Reciprocity

Valerie Joiner moved and 2nd by Veronica Knowles to approve the following candidates for licensure at the LCSW level by Reciprocity. The motion carried unanimously.

*Robin Dewhirst
Courtney LaFont
Ashley Madry*

*Gina Nepa
Lisa Moffett
Jamine Mosely*

Marriage and Family Therapy

The following candidate(s) were presented for licensure:

LMFT Licensure by Endorsement

Catherine Jones moved and 2nd by Jeff Hinton to approve the following candidate for licensure at the LMFT level by Endorsement. The motion carried unanimously.

Stephanie Garrett

LMFT Reinstatements

Catherine Jones moved and 2nd by Jeff Hinton to approve the following candidate for licensure at the LMFT level for Reinstatement. The motion carried unanimously.

Byron Galloway

III. REPORTS

Executive Director – Erica Allen

Office Updates

Erica Allen gave an update on the relocation to the new agency office space.

Financial Report

Erica Allen presented the Expenditure Report. A copy of the report is attached.

Jeff Hinton moved and 2nd by Valerie Joiner to accept the Expenditure Report for March 31, 2024, subject to audit. The motion carried unanimously.

Board Chair – Gerard Tarrant

Gerard Tarrant, Chairman, welcomed Kenya Gatlin-Gray to the Board.

Board Vice-chair – Dr. Valerie Joiner

There was no report given.

Chair of Social Work – Rosalind Yarber

Rosalind Yarber gave a Social Work committee update.

Chair of Marriage & Family Therapy – Catherine Jones

There was no report given.

Board Member(s)

There was no report given.

Legal Counsel – Sarah Mann

There was no report given.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Social Work CE Report

There were four continuing offerings approved.

MFT CE Report

There were two continuing offerings approved.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Britney Mangum gave an update on Board appointments for Dr. Jeff Hinton's position.

V. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Reports on New and Current Complaints

Erica Allen discussed the Complaints File Report, updating the Board on the status of pending complaints and investigations. A copy of the report is attached.

Reports on Disciplined Licensees' Progress

The subject of SW18-183/184 submitted a satisfactory quarterly report.

The subject of SW22-229 has begun supervision and counseling with his appointed Board approved LCSW.

The subject of 19-201 will submit a request to return to active status next month. He has satisfied all requirements of the consent order.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board did not go into executive session.


VII. CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

Valerie Joiner moved and 2nd by Carrie Coggins to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The next Board meeting will be held May 10, 2024 in Suite 205 at 5 Old River Place, Jackson, MS 39202 at 10:30 a.m. and also be available via Zoom. Please see the website for more information under Board Information.



Chair



Recorder