



STATE of OREGON
BOARD of LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS
Board Meeting
Friday, June 27th, 2025
Via Microsoft Teams
3218 Pringle Road SE, Salem, OR 97302

Board Members Present: Stephanie Manriquez, *Public Member, Chair*
Amy Ashton-Williams, *LCSW, Vice Chair*
Mollie Janssen, *LCSW*
Paddy Farr, *LCSW*
Nicole Pantley, *Public Member*
Olivia Bormann, *CSWA*
Julie Magers, *Public Member*

Board Counsel Present: Kyle Martin, *AAG, Oregon Dept. of Justice*

Staff Members Present: Ray Miller, *Executive Director*
Kim Coleman, *Legislative and Licensing Analyst*
Mindy Tucker, *Sr. Compliance Specialist*
Abe Dedek, *Investigator*
Noelle Johnson, *Licensing Assistant*
Cassie Kanaeholo, *Licensing Assistant*
Wende Thatcher, *Licensing Compliance Specialist*

Public Present: Ashley Lane, *ASWB*
Angela Sutton, *Salem Health Hospitals & Clinics*
Lori Steele, *Member of Public*
Jennifer Wells and Family, *Members of Public*
Miranda Bass, *Member of Public*
Stacey Hardy-Chandler, *ASWB*
Caitlyn Powers, *Member of Public*
Eric Bowling, *Member of Public*
Mandy Storm, *Member of Public*
Megan Battaile, *ASWB*

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Manriquez called the Board Meeting to order at 11:03 am a.m. and provided brief opening remarks.

2. BOARD MEMBER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

New Board Member Introductions – Chair Manriquez asked all new Board members to introduce themselves and provide background about themselves. **New Board members: Julie Magers – Public**

Member, Olivia Bormann – CSWA Member, and Nicole Pantley – Public Member introduced themselves.

Director Miller presented **Chair Manriquez** with certificate and Board members provided

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA:

- i. **Farr moved to approve and adopt the agenda as presented.**
- ii. **Vice Chair Ashton-Williams seconded.**
- iii. **Roll call taken as follows: Janssen, aye; Farr, aye; Bormann, aye; Ashton-Williams, aye; Manriquez, aye; Magers, aye; Pantley, aye.**
- iv. **Motion passed 7-0.**

4. MINUTES:

Chair Manriquez asked if the Board members had an opportunity to review the minutes for the April 25th, 2025, Board meeting:

- i. **Farr moved to approve the minutes for April 25th, 2025, as presented.**
- ii. **Vice Chair Ashton-Williams seconded.**
- iii. **Roll call taken as follows: Janssen, aye; Farr, aye; Bormann, aye; Ashton-Williams, aye; Manriquez, aye; Magers, abstains; Pantley, aye.**
- iv. **Motion passed 6-0; 1 abstention.**

5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jennifer Wells, LCSW, Member of Public requesting Board to consider broadening definition of “Direct Client” within rules to include other client services and tasks.

Angela Sutton, Salem Health, Member of Public requesting Board consider broadening definition of “Direct Client” and shared multiple scenarios that social workers run into the field.

Mandy Storm, Member of Public provided affidavit about personal experiences as an intern and MSW. Provided additional examples of social work experiences and requested the Board consider broadening definition of “Direct Client.”

Miranda Bass, Veteran’s Affairs, Member of Public requested Board consider broadening definition of “Direct Client” and provided additional information and examples of personal experiences.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chair Manriquez announced that the Board would now enter the Executive Session to conduct Board business, pursuant to ORS 162.660(2)(b)(f)(h)(i)(l). The Board entered the Executive Session at **11:38 a.m.** **Vice Chair Ashton-Williams** moved the Board out of Executive Session at **11:48 a.m.**

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS:

Director Miller requested to move the licensing statistics update to the end of the Committee Reports. **Farr** moved to change the agenda and place a licensing statistics update at the end of the Committee Reports. **Janssen** seconded. Roll call was taken as follows: **Janssen, aye; Farr, aye; Bormann, aye; Pantley, aye; Ashton-Williams, aye; Manriquez, aye; Magers, aye.** Motion passed 7-0.

Director Miller provided a legislative update on the following:

HB 2387 - if passed, would allow licensees of certain health professional regulatory boards to provide psilocybin services as licensed psilocybin service facilitators while providing the health care or behavioral health care services the provider is authorized to provide. **Director Miller** shared that it is expected to pass.

HB 2013 - if passed, would enact a social work licensure compact. **Director Miller** shared that the bill did not pass this session and is expected to be presented again during the next legislative session.

SB 1552 - will require the Board to make a predetermination based upon an individual's criminal conviction as to whether it would prevent them from obtaining licensure before they apply. This legislation affects multiple licensing Boards. These Boards are continuing to work together to develop a shared response and process for how these predeterminations will work. The law takes effect July 1, 2025.

Director Miller provided a Thentia update. The Board did not receive funds from general funds from legislature to complete licensing software changes. **Director Miller** shared that the Board has been tasked by legislature to come up with a plan to use its own funds to put towards purchase another licensing system. **Director Miller** is working with other Boards to collaborate to pool funds to consider purchasing a new licensing system.

Director Miller provided a staffing update. **Director Miller** shared that he has opened development opportunities within Board staff positions to provide job rotations for an investigator position and licensing compliance specialist position. **Director Miller** shared that he is working to hire a temporary six-month staff member to support staff changes.

Director Miller reviewed licensing statistics. There are currently 7,241 LCSWs, 1,956 CSWAs, 357 LMSWs, and 37 RBSWs for a total of 9,591 regulated social workers in Oregon, which is approximately 800 more licensees than this time last year. **Chair Manriquez** shared that she has observed a 125% increase in the number of licensees since she began serving with the Board.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Janssen presented the Consumer Protection Committee report.

In the matter of case 2022-27:

- i. **Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. **Farr seconded.**
- iii. **Roll call taken as follows: Ashton-Williams, aye; Bormann, abstain; Pantley, abstain; Farr, aye; Janssen, aye; Magers, abstain; Manriquez, aye.**
- iv. **Motion passed 4-0; 3 abstentions.**

In the matter of case 2023-49:

- i. **Janssen moved to close the case.**
- ii. **Farr seconded.**

- iii. Roll call taken as follows: Pantley, abstain; Bormann, abstain; Farr, aye; Ashton-Williams, aye; Manriquez, aye; Magers, abstain; Janssen, aye.
- iv. Motion passed 4-0; 3 abstentions.

In the matter of case 2025-26:

- i. Janssen moved to dismiss the case.
- ii. Farr seconded.
- iii. Roll call taken as follows: Ashton-Williams, aye; Pantley, abstain; Bormann, abstain; Farr, aye; Janssen, aye; Manriquez, aye; Magers, abstain.
- iv. Motion passed 4-0; 3 abstentions.

In the matter of case 2022-18:

- i. Janssen moved to close the case.
- ii. Farr seconded.
- iii. Roll call taken as follows: Ashton-Williams, aye; Pantley, abstain; Bormann, abstain; Farr, aye; Janssen, aye; Manriquez, aye; Magers, abstain.
- iv. Motion passed 4-0; 3 abstentions.

In the matter of case 2024-03:

- i. Janssen moved to close the case.
- ii. Farr seconded.
- iii. Roll call taken as follows: Ashton-Williams, aye; Pantley, abstain; Bormann, abstain; Farr, aye; Janssen, aye; Manriquez, aye; Magers, abstain.
- iv. Motion passed 4-0; 3 abstentions.

In the matter of case 2020-35:

- i. Janssen moved to close the case.
- ii. Farr seconded.
- iii. Roll call taken as follows: Ashton-Williams, aye; Pantley, abstain; Bormann, abstain; Farr, aye; Janssen, aye; Manriquez, aye; Magers, abstain.
- iv. Motion passed 4-0; 3 abstentions.

Joint Legislative and Rules Committee Report – Presented by Farr, announcing look at rules around following definitions: “agency,” “direct contact,” and “client” as partially spoken to during public comment. **Chair Manriquez** shared that the committee will investigate definitions and recommend a rule change based on how committee feels it would benefit the social work profession. **Farr** shared that the committee may need additional members in the future.

Continuing Education Committee Report – Presented by Farr, announcing committee approved 5 CE requests from LCSW licensees: Cara England, Kelly Sullivan, Mark Pechovnik, Rhionna Watson, and Yasuyo Tsunemine. The committee also shared that CE request from LCSW Morgan Lyons does not require approval from the board due to CE being accredited by an accredited university social work or mental health program. Topics discussed included clarification around OAR 877-025-006(1) and (2), Board requests Rules Advisory Committee to suggest any clarification or possible changes to above rules. Committee also brought to the full board discussion of “Ethics” definition for staff seeking guidance on what should or should not be counted towards “Ethics CEUs.” Committee requested RAC to suggest any clarification or possible changes OAR definition of “Ethics.”

Licensing and Examination Committee Report – Presented by Farr, announcing the committee approved one Previous Hours request for LCSW Applicants: Amy Guitierrez, Jamie Brunsch, and Carlee Hill. The Licensing and Examination Committee also decided to wait until next report has been submitted before providing guidance for Kohler concerns. The topics discussed included definitions in rule for: “agency,” “direct contact,” and “client.”

9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS (Part 2):

Director Miller reviewed applicant statistics. Celebrated staff accomplishment to keep application processing times under 30 days even with a large increase in applications.

10. SPECIAL REVIEWS

[No Special Reviews completed]

11. ASWB Presentation – Stacey Hardy-Chandler, *ASWB Chief Executive Officer* provided an overview of ASWB, licensure and registration services provided by ASWB, including testing resources for those needing to take the ASWB exams (for testing resources, refer to Oregon BLSW Website) as well as future updates and innovations coming for ASWB as an organization.

Farr expressed concerns over racial disparities in exam pass rates with no evidence that the exam protects the public.

Dr. Hardy-Chandlers responded that the exam is not predictive.

Dr. Hardy-Chandlers also emphasized that Government entities do what they can (in reference to public protection). Also, a person with the combination of the exam, a degree and experience is likely to bring professional services.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT:

[No public comment during this time, moved on to Old Business]

13. OLD BUSINESS:

Alternative Pathways to Licensure Committee Report – **Director Miller** provided background information to new Board members about Alternative Pathways to Licensure report. **Farr** shared that committee reviewed data for pass rate of national social worker exams and created report to provide a list of alternative pathways as well as a defense of those alternative pathways. **Farr** shared the top three pathways were: Provisional License – 1 extra year of supervision, then receives license, Jurisprudence Exam – Board created exam for licensees’ review and be aware of state laws and rules and Eliminate National Social Worker Exam as a requirement for licensure in Oregon. **Farr** makes motion for Board to commit to finding an alternative pathway to licensure for licensees, **Bormann** seconded. Roll call was taken as follows: Janssen, aye; Farr, aye; Bormann, aye; Pantley, abstain; Ashton-Williams, nay; Manriquez, nay; Mager, nay. Motion did not pass 3-3, 1 abstain.

Travel Meeting and Ethics Meeting Training – Board has scheduled an outreach board meeting for Saturday, October 4th, 2025, in Newport, OR at the Hallmark Resort. **Janssen** and **Vice Chair Ashton-Williams** will be providing a Ethics Training for licensees that attend virtually and in-person.

14. NEW BUSINESS:

Board Meeting Dates – Board has agreed to keep Friday, September 19th, 2025, meeting as planned to allow Board to have a shorter agenda during outreach board meeting on Saturday, October 4th, 2025.

15. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

- i. **Farr moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.**
- ii. **Bormann seconded.**
- iii. **Roll call is as follows: Janssen, aye; Farr, aye; Bormann, aye; Pantley, aye; Ashton-Williams, aye; Manriquez, aye; Magers, abstain.**
- iv. **Motion passed 6-0, 1 abstain.**

16. CORRESPONDENCE:

[No correspondence currently; Board voted to move to next meeting]

17. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

NASW update – no current updates from NASW representatives, moved on to ASWB update.

ASWB update – Vice Chair Ashton-Williams shared highlights from ASWB Education Conference.

18. TRAINING:

[No training completed at this time]

19. ADJOURNMENT:

Farr motioned adjourn the Board meeting. Janssen seconded. Roll call was taken as follows: Janssen, aye; Farr, aye; Bormann, aye; Pantley, aye; Ashton-William, aye; Manriquez, aye. Chair Manriquez adjourned the Board meeting at 3:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Noelle Johnson, *Licensing Compliance Specialist*