



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
BUREAU OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS  
RAE RAMSDELL  
ACTING DIRECTOR

STEVEN H. HILFINGER  
DIRECTOR

## MICHIGAN BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK SEPTEMBER 27, 2011 MEETING

### APPROVED MINUTES

In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA 267, as amended, the Michigan Board of Social Work met in regular session on September 27, 2011 at 9:30 a.m., in the Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Upper Level Conference Center, Conference Room 4, Lansing, Michigan.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Matthew Wojack, LMSW, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Matthew Wojack, LMSW, Chairperson  
Anwar Najor-Durack, MSW, LMSW, Vice Chairperson  
Eleanor Blum, Public Member  
Michele Brock, LMSW  
Pamela Manela, LMSW  
Michelle Woods, Public Member  
Merry Battles, LMSW, CAAC  
Heather Adams Bell, Public Member  
E. Jane Hayes, LMSW

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Kristen Kinney, Board Secretary, Health Regulatory Division  
Rae Ramsdell, Director, Health Regulatory Division  
Danielle Burk, Analyst, Health Regulatory Division  
Robert Jenkins, Assistant Attorney General  
Norene Lind, Policy Manager, Health Regulatory Division  
Kelly Hugh, Analyst, Health Regulatory Division

**Others Present:** Robin Mingus – NASW-Michigan  
Carol Holmes – Attorney representing Alexander & Vedrody  
Leslie Bateman – Grand Valley State University

Jamie Langlous – Grand Valley State University  
Vince Craci – NASW – Michigan  
Michele Brock – Michigan State University  
Howard Spence – Spence & Associates

## ***APPROVAL OF MINUTES***

*MOTION* by Woods, seconded by Najor-Durack to approve the minutes of the July 26, 2011 meeting with the following corrections on the second page under Continuing Education:

*MOTION PREVAILED*

## ***APPROVAL OF AGENDA***

*MOTION* by Bell, seconded by Woods, to approve the agenda as presented.

*MOTION PREVAILED*

## ***OLD BUSINESS***

### **Committee Reports**

#### **CE Committee and Collaborative Reports**

Brock stated that the CE Collaborative Body meeting has been postponed until November. She advised that the approved provider audit will be addressed at the meeting and that she intends to request a Continuing Education Subcommittee, as well.

Ramsdell will send a letter today, defining the role of the CE Collaborative Body and the Department.

Brock deferred the remaining conversation to Robin Mingus of NASW – MI. Mingus provided a report on the number of Continuing Education Applications by county. Mingus reported that there were 533 applications since her last report. Mingus also provided the Board with copies of the Provider Report from January 2011 – August 2011, a report of the number of CE applicants by county and a handout listing the current number of courses offered by county.

Mingus advised that the CE Collaborative Body did not meet due to a low response. She stated that there will be more focus on outreach to more employers. Mingus also advised that the audit is complete and that it will soon be provided. She advised that the main problem in the audit is that the bibliographies are out of date and that there was no huge increase in online CE.

### **Committee on Scope and Impact of Social Work Licensing**

Najor-Durack stated the Social Work Collaborative Body had the following questions: What is the grace period? - Is there a proactive process for unresolved matters? How can one request approval of the bylaws? Ramsdell advised Brock to direct the questions to the Department.

Najor-Durack spoke in regards to the possibility of a curriculum that will encompass all accredited schools. Najor-Durack also commented on the ethical practice of social workers.

Wojack inquired of Ramsdell if there could be a meeting set up to determine a variety of ways to impact students entering the field of Social Work, i.e. ethical issues, continuing education, etc. Ramsdell stated that she will try to get a meeting set up for November.

Wojack shared his thoughts of possibly using the DHS infrastructure and forming an Ethics Committee.

### **Addiction Counselor Certification Update**

Battles advised that there was no report.

### **ASWB Meeting DVD Reports**

Wojack asked the members of the Board who participated in reviewing the ASWB Meeting reports to give their feedback. The discussion started with Najor – Durack, who commented on DVD #1 and #2. She advised that the ASE had 150 vendors to review and discussed items mentioned in the meeting regarding Pearson Vue, passing rates of the Social Work Exam and more. She also commented on the section of the meeting that referred to boundary crossings and case vignettes, in particular, as they relate to technology.

Wojack gave report from DVD #3. He stated that during this segment the question of the Board's mercy to Social Workers who have done good or bad arose. He reminded the Board that as a regulatory body, it was their job to protect the public. Wojack stated that boundaries are most problematic between friends and students. He also spoke about the gray area of practicing through technology.

Woods gave input about DVD #4 stating that it was worth watching and highlighting the areas of interest throughout the section that she watched, focusing on staying in the scope of practice.

Brock asked that her report of DVDs # 5 & 6 be heard at the next meeting.

## ***NEW BUSINESS***

### **ASWB Exam Policies**

Manela stated that she will review the ASWB Exam Policies handout and advised that she will represent the Board at the upcoming National ASWB meeting. She will give report at the next meeting.

Brock voiced concern over the oral accommodations on testing.

Ramsdell advised the Board that copies of the bylaws will be sent to all members.

Wojack stated that the Board should support the exam.

### **Department Update**

Ramsdell advised the Board that as of October 1, 2011 the Department budget will officially be transferred from Department of Community to Health to Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.

Ramsdell stated that the Department hopes to fill the vacant Bureau Director position soon.

Ramsdell briefed the Board on the Governor's Office decision to review all regulated professions rules.

## ***REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS***

### **Robert John Kohn, LMSW – Petition for Reinstatement**

*MOTION* by Najor-Durack, seconded by Hayes to deny the reinstatement in the matter of Robert John Kohn, LSMW.

Discussion was held.

A roll call vote followed: Yeas: Brock, Manela, Blum, Bell, Wojack, Woods, Hayes, Battles

Najor-Durack recused herself.

***MOTION PREVAILED***

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Attorney Carol Hayes addressed her concern about the \$30,000 price of a three year HPRP agreement.

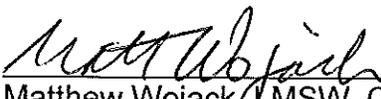
Ramsdell advised Hayes that the price of an HPRP agreement can vary depending on what the order entails. Ramsdell also advised that the program manager is compiling cost figures that can be shared in the near future.

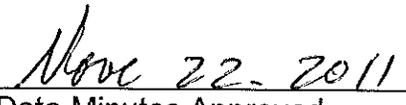
## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

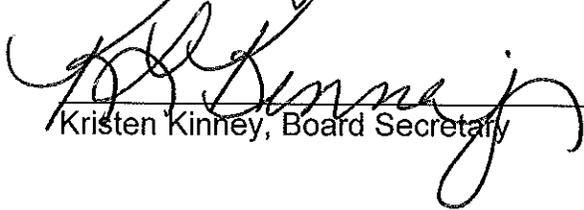
The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held November 22, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. at the Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Upper Level Conference Center, Conference Room 4, Lansing, Michigan.

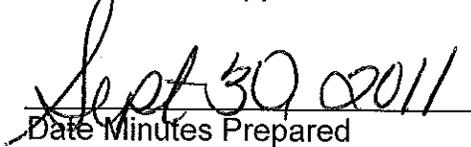
## **ADJOURNMENT**

*MOTION* by Najor – Durack, seconded by Brock to adjourn the meeting at 10:21 a.m.

  
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Matthew Wojack, LMSW, Chairperson

  
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Date Minutes Approved

  
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Kristen Kinney, Board Secretary

  
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Date Minutes Prepared