

**THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK  
REGULATORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Friday, June 19, 2015**

The Regulatory Committee of the Virginia Board of Social Work ("Board") convened at 10:02 a.m. on Friday, June 19, 2015, at the Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia. Bernadette Winters, Chair called the meeting to order.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bernadette Winters, Chair  
Yvonne Haynes  
Dolores Paulson  
John Salay  
Joseph Walsh

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Kristi Wooten

**STAFF PRESENT:** Sarah Georgen, Licensing Manager  
Jaime Hoyle, Acting Executive Director  
Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director  
Charlotte Lenart, Licensing Specialist  
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

Dr. Winters read the mission statement of the Department of Health Professions, which was also the mission statement of the Board.

**EMERGENCY EGRESS:**

Dr. Winters announced the Emergency Egress Procedures.

**ORDERING OF AGENDA:**

Mr. Salay asked the Committee to consider discussion regarding the possible correlation between the Board of Social Work requirements and the Boards of Counseling and Psychology Regulations. Dr. Winters asked Mr. Salay to submit specific topics of discussion to Board staff for use at an upcoming Committee meeting.

Ms. Haynes moved to accept the agenda as written. The motion was seconded and carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Dr. Winters announced that each public comment would be limited to five minutes.

Joseph Lynch of the Virginia Society of Clinical Social Work provided both written and spoken public comment which summarized concerns with the current regulations.

Debra Riggs of the National Association of Social Workers, Virginia Chapter provided written public comment.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – April 24, 2015 Regulatory Committee Meeting

Dr. Paulson moved that the minutes of the April 24, 2015 meetings be approved as written. The motion was seconded and carried.

## **SUPERVISION BREAKS**

Ms. Georgen asked the Committee to clarify interruptions of the supervised experience towards licensure as it pertained to short-term breaks. Ms. Georgen stated that the proposed Regulations require notification with any change of supervision through the submission of a new registration of supervision application; however the Board does not currently specify the procedure for notification. The Committee discussed the issue and determined that it should be the responsibility of the supervisor to ensure notification to the Board of any change or termination of supervision and a notification regarding a short term interruption in supervision does not need to be reported to the board.

The Committee suggested updating Guidance Document #140-10 and requested that Ms. Georgen present the discussed changes to the full Board meeting in July 2015.

## **REVIEW OF DRAFT REGULATIONS/STAFF SUGGESTIONS – Elaine Yeatts, Sr. Policy Analyst**

Ms. Yeatts presented a draft of regulatory changes for consideration by the Committee.

The Regulatory Committee considered the following changes:

### *18VAC140-20-45 – Requirements for licensure by endorsement.*

With respect to verification of active practice in another jurisdiction, the Committee reviewed and amended 18 VAC 140-20-45(A)(6) to include the following change “at the level for which the applicant is seeking licensure for 24 out of the past 60 months.”

Dr. Paulson moved to accept the changes as amended. The motion was seconded and carried.

### *18VAC140-20-50 – Experience requirements for a licensed clinical social worker.*

With respect to the supervised experience, the Committee reviewed and amended 18 VAC 140-20-50(A) to include the following change “Supervised post-master’s degree experience without prior written board approval will not be accepted toward licensure, except supervision obtained in another U.S. jurisdiction may be accepted if it met the requirements of that jurisdiction.”

With respect to the supervised experience, the Committee reviewed and amended 18 VAC 140-20-50(A)(1) to include the following change “or whenever there is an addition or change of supervised practice, supervisor, clinical social work services or location.”

With respect to the hours towards licensure, the Committee reviewed and amended 18 VAC 140-20-50(A)(2)(a) to include the following change “Supervised experience shall be acquired in no less than two nor more than four consecutive years.”

With respect to the hours towards licensure, the Committee reviewed and amended 18 VAC 140-20-50(A)(2)(b) to include the following change “Supervisees shall obtain throughout their hours of supervised experience a minimum of 1,380 hours of work experience in face-to-face client contact in the delivery of clinical social work services.”

With respect to the requirements for supervisors, the Committee reviewed and amended 18 VAC 140-20-50(B)(3) to include the following change “The supervisor shall not provide supervision for a family member or provide supervision for anyone with whom the supervisor has a potential for a dual relationship.”

With respect to the responsibilities of supervisors, the Committee added a new requirement to 18 VAC 140-20-50(C) to include the following requirement “Ensure that the board is notified of a change in supervision or is terminated.”

Dr. Walsh moved to accept the changes as amended. The motion was seconded and carried.

*18VAC140-20-60 – Education and experience requirements for licensed social workers.*

With respect to the requirements for supervisors, the Committee reviewed and amended 18 VAC 140-20-60(D)(3) to include the following change “The supervisor shall not provide supervision for a family member or provide supervision for anyone with whom the supervisor has a potential for a dual relationship.”

Mr. Salay moved to accept the change as amended. The motion was seconded and carried.

*18VAC140-20-70 – Examination requirements.*

With respect to the examination requirements, the Committee reviewed and amended 18 VAC 140-20-70(B) to include the following change “After the applicant who has failed the examination has re-applied twice, he shall be required to complete one year as a supervisee before approval to re-take the examination is granted.”

Dr. Paulson moved to accept the changes as amended. The motion was seconded and carried.

*18VAC140-20-150 – Professional conduct.*

With respect to professional conduct, the Committee reviewed and amended 18 VAC 140-20-150(D)(1) to include the following changes “Not engage in a dual relationship with a client or a supervisee that could impair professional judgement or increase the risk of exploitation or harm to the client or supervisee.”

With respect to professional conduct, the Committee reviewed and amended 18 VAC 140-20-150(D)(2) to include the following changes “Not have any type of romantic relationship or sexual intimacies with a client or those included in collateral therapeutic services, and not provide services to those persons with whom they have had a romantic or sexual relationship. Social workers shall not engage in romantic relationships or sexual intimacies with a former client within a minimum of five years after terminating the professional relationship.”

With respect to professional conduct, the Committee reviewed and amended 18 VAC 140-20-150(D)(3) to include the following changes “Not engage in any romantic or sexual relationship or establish a therapeutic relationship with a current supervisee or student.”

Dr. Walsh moved to accept the changes as amended. The motion was seconded and carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Dr. Winters encouraged discussion regarding mid-level licensure. The Committee considered the issue and requested that the professional organizations provide feedback to the Committee prior to the next meeting regarding their position on the issue to include process, structure, timeline and feasibility.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Haynes suggested discussion in regards to the use of “psychotherapy” as it relates to the definition of “clinical social work services.” Ms. Haynes expressed that the specific use of the term may be narrowing the practice to certain therapeutic modalities. Ms. Haynes suggested the Committee discuss expanding the definition to include best practice principles.

Dr. Winters recognized the need for examining the definition of “clinical social work services” and requested that the professional organizations provide comments regarding this issue prior to the next scheduled Committee meeting.

Dr. Walsh and Mr. Salay volunteered to assemble documentation to contribute to the next discussion.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

Dr. Winters scheduled the next Regulatory Committee meeting for August 28, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

  
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Jaime Hoyle, Acting Executive Director

  
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Bernadette Winters, Chair