



STATE OF NEVADA
BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR SOCIAL WORKERS
4600 Kietzke Lane, Suite C121, Reno, Nevada 89502
775-688-2555

MINUTES OF BOARD WORKSHOP - RENO
November 3, 2017

The meeting of the Board of Examiners for Social Workers was called to order by Sandy Lowery, Interim Executive Director at 10:30am. The meeting was held at Mojave Mental Health, 745 West Moana Laner, #100, Reno, Nevada, 8950. This meeting was not videoconferenced to Las Vegas. Ms. Lowery noted that the meeting had been properly posted and that a quorum was not needed as this was a Public Workshop. Roll call was initiated by Ms. Lowery, with the following individuals present:

Members Present:

Susan Nielsen, Public Member (**Nielsen**)

Staff Present

Sandy Lowery, LCSW, LADC, Interim Executive Director (**Lowery**)

Public Attendees

Paula Berkley, Lobbyist
Leah Cartwright, Lobbyist
Rota Rosaschi, LSW
Carol Landry, LCSW

*Board members and Board staff will be identified by the above **bolded** means throughout the minutes.*

PUBLIC COMMENT (*Agenda Item 2*)

No public comment was offered at this time.

AGENDA ITEM

Introduction of Open Workshop (*Agenda Item 3*)

- A. Solicitation of Public Comment Pertaining to Proposed Additions, Amendments and /or Repeal of Regulations Pertaining to Chapter 641B of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). The Purpose of the Workshop is to Solicit Comments From Interested Persons on the Following General Topics that May be Addressed in the Proposed Regulations by the Board of Examiners for Social Workers, LCB File No. R110-17:
- i. Reducing the amount of time an application is considered open.
 - ii. Removal of "Provisional C" licensure based on legislative changes in endorsement.
 - iii. Expanding clinical hours allowed per quarter for clinical internships.
 - iv. Telecommunication options for supervision of clinical / independent internships.
 - v. Expanding content areas for ethics CEUs and increasing ethics CEUs to 4 per renewal period for all licensees.
 - vi. Removal of the 1-year grace period for CEUs post-graduation.
 - vii. Removal of limitation of the number of CEUs that can be earned online.
 - viii. Changes for Board approved CEU vendors.
 - ix. Development of a professional will for social workers in independent practice.

Lowery reviewed the process of the workshop, indicated that this meeting was an arena in which interested parties were able to provide feedback regarding regulation changes proposed by the Board. She indicated

that that this meeting was being recorded via a court reporter and that the information from this meeting would be reviewed at the December 15, 2017 meeting. She noted that there was a corresponding meeting being held in Las Vegas, NV to do the same thing. Additionally, information regarding this Workshop was sent out via the Board listserv and licensees were invited to provide comments about the changes via an email to Lowery. To date, Lowery has not received any comments from licensees regarding the proposed regulation changes.

Lowery then opened the meeting up for comments regarding the proposed regulation changes.

Rota Rosaschi provided both written and verbal feedback. The written feedback is included as an attachment. In summary, Rota Rosaschi expressed concern about changes to NAC 641B.044 which seeks to clarify the definition of the arena in which a Licensed Social Worker (LSW) can practice. The language in the proposed regulation specifies that a LSW can “engage in the practice of social work as a social worker *under the supervision of an agency.*” **Lowery** explained that the intent of the changes to NAC 641B.041, NAC 641B.042, NAC 641B.043 and NAC 641B.044 were to differentiate between levels of licensure that will allow for independent practice (outside of an agency) and practice restricted to an agency setting. Currently, Licensed Independent Social Workers (LISW) and Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW) are the only levels of licensure allowed practice outside of an agency setting. Only the LCSW and LISW can have a business license based on their licensure. Rota Rosaschi expressed concern that this will limit her ability to call herself a social worker if she leaves her agency. She gave the example of possibly volunteering for her church after she leaves her employment. She requests that no changes be made to the definition of a LSW.

Rota Rosaschi also addressed concern about the plan to increase the number of Continuing Education Units (CEUs) being required for ethics (NAC 641B.187). She indicates that she does not believe that there needs to be an increase in the number of CEUs that licensees need related to ethics. **Lowery** reported that the purpose of these proposed changes were as follows – (1) to make the number of CEUs on ethics consistent across all levels of social work licensures; and (2) in conjunction with the increase in the number of units required, the Board has broadened the number of topics that will be allowed as related to “ethics.” Lowery noted that across the behavioral boards in Nevada, the social work Board has the lowest number of CEUs required related to ethics. Rota Rosaschi expressed some concerns about specific wording regarding to the options for ethics CEU content.

PUBLIC COMMENT (*Agenda Item 4*)

No public comment was offered at this time.

ADJOURNMENT (*Agenda Item 5*)

Lowery adjourned the meeting at 12:07.

Meeting Minutes Respectfully Submitted,
Sandy Lowery, LCSW, LADC, Interim Executive Director