



State of Nevada

Board of Examiners for Social Workers

4600 Kietzke Lane, #O-264, Reno, NV 89502

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On Wednesday, November 20, 2024, the board meeting for the State of Nevada Board of Social Work Examiners was called to order by Dr. Esther **Langston** at 9:03 a.m. A roll call was taken. Board members in attendance: Esther **Langston**, Michelle **Rubinstein Meadows**, Linda **Holland Browne** and Abby **Klimas**. Jamie **Vaughn** was not in attendance at this board meeting. Board staff in attendance were Vikki **Erickson** and Sandy **Lowery**. Harry **Ward** was present as the Deputy Attorney General. Guests in attendance were Nick **Vander Poel** from Flynn Guidici Government Affairs, LLC, and Sabrina Schner from Belz Public Affairs and Suzanne Olsen from Casey **Neilon**.

Langston moved to Agenda Item 2. Public Comment. **Erickson** announced that the Zoom Meeting ID is 92024751336 with a passcode of 552303. **Erickson** indicated that there was nobody present in person, no public comment via email and nobody present via phone. There as no public comment via Zoom.

Langston moved to Agenda Item 3A. Board Operations: Review and Discuss October 16, 2024 Meeting and Hearing Minutes (For Possible Action). **Holland Browne** made a motion to accept the October 16, 2024 Meeting and Hearing Minutes. **Rubinstein Meadows** provided a second to the motion. There was unanimous approval of the October 16, 2024, meeting minutes.

Langston moved to Agenda Item 3B. Board Review of Hearing for Virgilio DeSio, License No 6200-C (For Possible Action). Deputy Attorney General Harry **Ward** reports that he would like this agenda item moved to the next board meeting.

Langston moved to Agenda Item 3C. BESW 2024 Audit Report, Suzanne Olsen, Casey **Neilon** (For Possible Action). Suzanne presented the audit report, reporting there are no major issues, and the report is ready to be sent to the LCB if is approved by the board. **Holland Browne** made a motion to approve the 2024 Audit Report. **Klimas** provided a second to the motion. There as unanimous approval of the 2024 Audit Report.

Langston moved to Agenda Item 3D. Executive Director Meeting with Director Sanchez and Deputy Director Hagg, of Business and Industry. **Erickson** discussed that she and Nick **Vander Poel** met with the Director and Deputy Director about SB78 to discuss their plans reformation of Boards and Commissions in the State of Nevada, eliminating several boards and commissions and combining other boards and commissions. **Erickson** discussed that the Director and Deputy Director stated this would be a 2-3 legislative session process if approved by legislation. No vote was needed by the board since this for discussion only.

Langston moved to Agenda Item E. Legislative Update – Nick **Vander Poel** (For Discussion). **Vander Poel** and **Erickson** discussed that they continue to watch BDR 54-403 “revises provisions relating to Behavioral Health” from the Rural Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board (Social Work Interstate Compact), BDR 40-353 – “Makes revisions relating to health professions” From the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services.

Proposal for Health Care Workforce. Proposing combining the Behavioral Health Board under Division of Public and Behavioral Health. **Vander Poel** and **Erickson** are also watching BDR 352 – “Revises provisions relating to social work” From the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services: Proposing Social Work Apprenticeship Program, and BDR 54-301 “Revises provisions relating to boards and commissions from Department of Business and Industry”. This is proposing consolidating most Nevada Boards and is now renamed SB78.

There was no vote because this was an item for discussion.

Langston moved to Agenda Item F. Accounting Policy – Sandy **Lowery** (For Possible Action). As requested in the recent audit report, the staff at the Board of Examiners for Social Workers created an accounting policy which was reviewed by the Board. **Klimas** made a motion to approve the Board of Examiners for Social Workers Accounting Policy. **Holland Browne** provide a second. There was unanimous vote for approval of the accounting policy, and the board is now in compliance with having an active accounting policy.

Langston moved to Agenda Item G. Language Access Plan – Sandy **Lowery** (For Possible Action). Another policy was created specifying the requirement and the procedure for utilizing translation services if needed by the State of Nevada Board of Examiners for Social Workers. Board members were provided a copy and if approved it will be sent to show compliance to the Language Access Coordinator in the Governor’s Office for New Americans. **Klimas** provided a motion to approve the Language Access Plan Policy and **Holland Browne** provided a second. There was unanimous approval of the policy. **Erickson** state she will send the approved policy to the Governor’s Office for New Americans, which is consistent across Boards and Commissions.

Langston moved to Agenda Item H. ASWB Delegate Assembly Update. November 7-9, 2024. This was a discussion item providing an update that **Erickson** was elected to the Board of Directors, Administrator for the ASWB for a term that will last for 2 years. **Langston** attended as the delegate for the State of Nevada and **Rubinstein Meadows** attended as the alternative delegate. There was no vote since this was an item for discussion.

Langston moved to Agenda Item I. Executive Director’s Report (Informational). **Erickson** expressed gratitude to Sandy **Lowery** for her work with the auditing firm in completing an audit. **Lowery** worked with the auditing firm, accountant and bookkeeper to show compliance with required accounting procedures which resulted in an audit to provide to the LCB. **Erickson** discussed that she would be attending the Board of Directors meetings as a newly elected member of the board for the ASWB and will continue to work with the legislative consultant to follow legislation that comes up pertinent to the Social Work Board. **Erickson** encouraged board members to provide agenda items that they would like to see on the board agenda in upcoming meetings.

Langston moved to agenda item 4. Public Comment. **Erickson** stated that the public can join the Zoom meeting with the ID 92024751336 with a passcode of 552303. There was no public comment verbalized on the Zoom call, nobody on the phone, no public comment in person, and no email with comment.

Langston moved to Agenda Item 5. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.