

## BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK

**October 23, 2023**

**10.00 AM to 2:00 PM**

### MEETING MINUTES

#### In Person Meeting Notice

*HYBRID MEETING NOTICE Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board will have a hybrid schedule of in-person and virtual meetings. In-person meetings will resume in FY 2023, meeting dates can be found on the Board's webpage.*

*In-person meetings will be at 899 North Capitol Street, NE, 2nd Floor, Washington, DC 20002.*

*Information on how to access the public portion of the meeting virtually is listed below:*

#### **This meeting was available by Web**

Board of Social Work - Open Session

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m98cde39750bd20eaace19ba67f6a4693>

#### **This meeting was available by Phone**

Call in Number: 1-650-479-3208 Call-in number (US/Canada)

Access Code: 478 300 028

#### **BOSW Mission Statement:**

**"To provide oversight to licensed professionals and ensure the health and safety of citizens and visitors in the District of Columbia through the provision of health care services."**

<b>BOARD MEMBERS:</b>		
	VELVA SPRIGGS, LISW, CHAIRPERSON	Present
	WANDA WHEELER, LICSW, BOARD MEMBER	Present
	MARJAN SHALLAL, LGSW, BOARD MEMBER	Present
	SELERYA MOORE, CONSUMER MEMBER	Present
<b>STAFF:</b>		
	LAtrice HERNDON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Present
	MAVIS AZARIAH ARMATTOE- HEALTH LICENSING SPECIALIST	Present
	JOANNE DROZDOSKI, ESQ.- ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL	Present
	ANTHEA ISSACS, HEALTH LICENSING SPECIALIST	Present
	JENNIFER STUART, HEALTH LICENSING SPECIALIST	Present
	DEBBIE MOSS, INVESTIGATOR	Present
	GREGORY SCURLOCK, COMPLIANCE OFFICER	Present
	KERA JOHNSON, POLICY ANALYST	Present
<b>VISITORS:</b>		
	ADELE NATTER	
	AMBER RIEKE	Present
	CHRISTINE JOHNSON	Present
	WILL DOYLE	Present
	RACHEL DOYLE	Present
	GINA SANGSTER	Present
	KWAME MCINTOSH	Present

**OPEN SESSION MINUTES October 23, 2023**

	<p><b><u>Roll Call</u></b> Meeting called to order at 10:15AM and a quorum was established.</p>	VS
OS-1023-01	<p><b><u>Acceptance of the Open Session Agenda</u></b> <b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Ms. Selerya Moore to accept the October 23, 2023, Open Session Agenda. Seconded by Ms. Wanda Wheeler.  <b><u>Vote:</u></b> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Marjan Shallal, Ms. Wanda Wheeler and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously</p>	
OS-1023-02	<p><b><u>Executive Director's Report:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The hearing for confirmation of Dr. Ayanna Bennett for Director for DC Health was held on October 5<sup>th</sup> and the outcome is still pending.</li> <li>Licensure Census: Total of 5920 active Social Workers: 1,390 LGSW, 4449 LICSW, 37 LISW, and 44 LSWA</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Legislative Updates</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kera Johnson reported that the Health Occupations Revisions Act (HORA) amendments has been signed by the Mayor's office and now pending council approval. Dr. Bennett's approval as DC Health Director is pending final confirmation after the hearing held on October 5, 2023 and finally that there will be an Opioid Epidemic roundtable on October 26, 2023.</li> </ul>	LH
OS-1023-03	<p><b><u>Chairperson's Report:</u></b> Ms. Spriggs reported her attendance at the Departments meeting of interprofessional board chairs symposium that was held on September 27, 2023. The symposium was to engage the professional health Boards rebuild and strengthen workforce development. She also reported that she will be in attendance at the ASWB Annual Delegate Assembly scheduled for November 2-4, 2023.</p>	VS
OS-1023-04	<p><b><u>Boards Attorney's Report:</u></b> Ms. Joanne Drozdowski reported happily that the HORA amendments on Friday October 20, 2023 was approved by the Mayors office and now pending Council Approval.</p>	JD

OS-1023-05	<p><b><u>Open Session Minutes</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Consideration of the Open Session Minutes from the September 25, 2023, meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Ms. Marjan Shallal to approve the September 25, 2023, Open Session Minutes with amendments. Seconded by Ms. Wanda Wheeler.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Wanda Wheeler, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-1023-06	<p><b><u>Open Session Consent Agenda</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Consideration of the applications approved for purposes of review and/or ratification of Board actions taken since the last Board meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> The Consent Agenda is a record of the decisions and/or actions taken by the Board or its staff since the last meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Ms. Selerya Moore to approve the October Open session Consent Agenda as presented. Seconded by Ms. Wanda Wheeler</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Wanda Wheeler, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-1023-07	<p><b><u>OGR Updates</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Board to take appropriate action if required.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b></p>	

	<p><b>Health Occupations Revision Act (HORA) Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DC Health worked on a significant revision of the HORA. This would be the first significant revision in seventeen years.</li> <li>• The revised HORA is currently going through Mayoral approval.</li> </ul> <p><b>Opioid Epidemic Roundtable:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Committee on Health is hosting a public roundtable on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am to declare the opioid and fentanyl crisis in the District a public health emergency.</li> <li>• DC Health will provide testimony during this hearing alongside the Department of Behavioral Health.</li> <li>• You can learn more at the following <a href="#">link</a> and watch the hearing on the <a href="#">Council website</a>.</li> </ul> <p><b>DC Health Director Appointment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On June 8<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Bowser <a href="#">announced</a> the appointment of Dr. Ayanna Bennett as DC Health Acting Director. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Dr. Bennett is a healthcare and public health executive with more than 20 years of experience in clinical practice, clinical service design, system integration, and quality improvement. Dr. Bennett most recently served as Chief Health Equity Officer and Director of the San Francisco Department of Public Health's Office of Health Equity.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Committee on Health held a confirmation hearing on <a href="#">October 5<sup>th</sup></a>. During the roundtable, Acting Director Dr. Bennett expressed her eagerness and excitement to take on the role, highlighting her qualifications for the position. The hearing also included testimonies from members of the public who voiced their support for the new director and discussed the key issues they hope the Director will prioritize.</li> </ul> <p><b>No Motion was made on this. This matter was reported under the Legislative Updates by Ms. Kera Johnson.</b></p>	
OS-1023-08	<b><u>Endorsement Requirements/Reciprocity Pathway</u></b>	

	<p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> The Board to review the current endorsement checklist to update it to ensure an easy endorsement pathway.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> In Attempt to provide easier pathways to licensure we are requesting each board to discuss and evaluate the following possibilities: Endorsement requirements. ASWB Model Act Section 308. Qualifications for Licensure by Endorsement. (a) To obtain a license by endorsement at the equivalent designation and subject to Article IV of this Act, an applicant currently licensed as a social worker in another jurisdiction must provide evidence satisfactory to the Board, subject to Article III, Section 311, that the applicant: (1) Has submitted a written application and paid the fee as specified by the Board; and (2) Has presented to the Board proof of an active social work license in good standing.</p> <p><b><u>1. Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Ms. Wanda Wheeler to discuss reciprocity pathway for licensure with the VA Board of Social Work. Seconded by Ms. Selerya Moore</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Wanda Wheeler, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p><b><u>2. Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Ms. Wanda Wheeler to discuss reciprocity pathway for licensure with the MD Board of Social Work Examiners. Seconded by Ms. Marjan Shallal</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> 1. Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Wanda Wheeler, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p><b>The Board decided to keep the Endorsement checklist as is with no amendments.</b></p>	
--	--	--

OS-1023-09	<p><b><u>Request from Adele Nater</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b></p> <p>There will be no Board Action on this matter.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b></p> <p>Ms. Natter on behalf of the Greater Washington Society has submitted a request for the Board to accept group supervision towards individual hours for clinical licensure. The DC Board's policy has been group supervision are counted towards general supervision hours. The ASWB Model Law recommends that fifty percent of the required individual supervision hours towards clinical licensure can be completed via group supervision and the group supervision may contain no more than 6 supervisees. The Board has developed a proposed statement on group supervision and would like the public to review and comment.</p> <p><b><i>Group Supervision and Updated Supervision Standards DRAFT</i></b></p> <p><i>Group Supervision, as an additional mode of acquiring supervision hours for independent licensure, was recently proposed to the Board in the open session by social workers from the DC community. Both independent practitioners and representatives of community organizations presented their arguments for this addition, stating that it would reduce staffing burdens for the agencies and decrease the financial burden on the licensure applicants who often pay out of pocket for their supervision hours.</i></p> <p><i>The Board is receptive to this idea. We have, however, raised concerns about how group supervision might be operationalized and how all stakeholders - practitioners and agencies included, might be held accountable. Special consideration was given to the training and competence a practitioner must possess to effectively provide group supervision.</i></p>	
------------	---	--

*Current qualifications for those providing supervision for licensure are minimal. Supervisors are only required to hold a superior license to those who they are supervising. Specifically, those holding an independent license (LISW or LICSW) are permitted to supervise LSWA and LGSW applicants. Those applicants seeking a clinical license can only be supervised by a social worker holding an LICSW license.*

*Following the open session discussions, the Board formed a small working group to explore potential requirements for including group supervision as an acceptable modality. Using the ASWB Model Law as a guide, it became apparent that this change in regulations would be a significant undertaking. Many of the details would need thoughtful coordination of operations. Supervisors, whether providing individual or group supervision, would need adequate training as well as registration with the District. Furthermore, the potential impact on all stakeholders (HRLA, supervisors/supervisees, agencies and consumers) would also need careful examination to ensure that the best interests of the District and its constituents would be preserved.*

*The following preliminary processes were presented by the working group:*

***I. Supervision for Independent Licensure (Group format)***

- A. Group supervision shall be considered an option that is agreed upon between agency/independent supervisor and the applicant. It is not a requirement nor an entitlement.*



- B. The number of group supervision hours shall not exceed 50% of the total amount required.*
- C. Supervision groups consist of no more than 6 individuals at one time.*
- D. Supervision content shall cover core areas of social work practice with an emphasis on regulation. (Board may suggest broad areas.)*
- E. A contract for supervision between the supervisor and supervisee shall be established prior to compiling hours.*
- F. Documentation of supervision hours are to be kept by both supervisor and applicant.*

***II. Supervisor and Applicant Responsibilities (TBD)***

***III. Supervisor Qualifications*** *(The suggestions made here pertain to anyone supervising applicants seeking independent licensure regardless of individual or group modality.)*

- A. Training - one (1) graduate level course in supervision or twelve hours (12) of CEUs in social work supervision. CEU hours (12) will be an ongoing requirement at license renewal in order to maintain supervisor status.*
- B. Two years of experience after receiving independent license*
- C. Active license in good standing*
- D. The Board approval and registration with HRLA. A processing fee will be assessed for this credential.*

***IV. Stakeholders Impact***

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  | <p>A. <i>HRLA - processing supervisor applications and creating a Supervisor Registry that is searchable online.</i></p> <p>B. <i>Supervisors for Licensure - must 1) meet the education requirement, 2) register with HRLA and 3) pay the associated registration fee in order to receive the supervision credential. The registration fee may be paid by the supervisor's employer.</i></p> <p><i>Registration period (ex. 90 days) would be given at the point of adoption of amendment to the regulations. Longer grace period (the lesser of two years or by the next license renewal) could be given to for the coursework/CEUs. Those who proposed this also noted that it would reduce the amount of time in supervision, thus being a more efficient method of delivery.</i></p> <p>C. <i>Supervisees - Verify that their supervisor appears on the HRLA Supervisor Registry. Applicants may need to find a new supervisor if the current one is unwilling or unable to register in a timely manner.</i></p> <p>D. <i>Agencies - (if applicable) will need to sign supervisor's registration form verifying that the supervisor will provide services at their agency. (It may be in the interest of the agency to either provide the necessary supervision training in the form of Board-Approved CEUs or share in the supervisor registration fee.)</i></p> |  |
|--|--|--|

	<p><i>E. Consumers - Consumers shall expect to receive services from amply prepared graduate social workers who are under the supervision of seasoned supervisors who have been vetted. Consumers shall expect that the agencies where they seek services will also stand by the services that their staff members provide.</i></p> <p><i>Clearly, there are several details that remain to be settled before the regulations are updated and changes are implemented. The points above should be seen as a framework for raising a new standard for providing individual or group supervision. We hope that these changes offer a refresh to the regulations and represent our strong support for all parties involved.</i></p> <p><b>The above draft statement by the Board on Group Supervision is presented to the public for comments to be submitted by November 17, 2023, for discussion at the November Board Meeting.</b></p>	
OS-1023-10	<p><b><u>MOTION TO CLOSE</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b).</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> Pursuant to DC Official Code § 2-575(b), the Board will move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting to discuss the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To consult with an attorney to obtain legal advice and to preserve the attorney-client privilege between an attorney and a public body, or to approve settlement agreements pursuant to § 2-575(b)(4)(a).</li> <li>2. Preparation, administration, or grading of scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examinations pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(6).</li> </ol>	

	<p>3. To discuss disciplinary matters pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(9).</p> <p>4. To plan, discuss, or hear reports concerning ongoing or planned investigation of alleged criminal or civil misconduct or violations of law or regulations, if disclosure to the public would harm the investigation pursuant to section § 2-575(b) (14).</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for <b><u>November 27, 2023.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Ms. Selerya Moore to close the Open Session Meeting at 11.10am. Seconded by Ms. Wanda Wheeler.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Wanda Wheeler, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
	<b><u>Open Session Board FYI only</u></b>	
OS-1023-11	<p><b><u>Ethical Concerns with DC Sexual Assault Victim's Rights Amendment Act of 2019</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Discuss the potential impact the law will have on licensees.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> The Board received an email from Ms. Sherrod regarding the DC law on Teen advocates. The DC Sexual Assault Victims' Rights Amendment Act of 2019 included the right to an advocate for 13 to 17-year-old youth in DC who have experienced sexual assault. For youth in this age range who were specifically impacted by peer-on-peer or stranger assault, the right to an advocate comes with an exemption to mandated reporting. A licensee would like the Board's guidance since it had potential ethical implications on social workers.</p>	
OS-1023-12	<p><b><u>MOTION TO ADJOURN</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> To adjourn the meeting.</p>	

	<p><b><u>Background:</u></b> At the end of every meeting, a motion to adjourn must be made in open session to close out the business of the Board.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Ms. Wanda Wheeler to adjourn the October Meeting. Seconded by Ms. Selerya moore.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Wanda Wheeler, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
--	--	--

**This ends the Open Session Agenda.**

***This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at [opengovoffice@dc.gov](mailto:opengovoffice@dc.gov).***

**EXECUTIVE SESSION October 2023**

<b>BOARD MEMBERS:</b>		
	VELVA SPRIGGS, LISW, CHAIRPERSON	Present
	WANDA WHEELER, LICSW, BOARD MEMBER	Present
	MARJAN SHALLAL, LGSW, BOARD MEMBER	Present
	SELERYA MOORE, CONSUMER MEMBER	Present
<b>STAFF:</b>		
	LaTRICE HERNDON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Present
	MAVIS AZARIAH ARMATTOE- HEALTH LICENSING SPECIALIST	Present
	DEBBIE MOSS, INVESTIGATOR	Present
	JENNIFER STUART, HEALTH LICENSING SPECIALIST	Present
	JOANNE DROZDOSKI, ESQ.- ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL	Present
	GREGORY SCURLOCK, COMPLIANCE OFFICER	Present
<b>VISITORS:</b>	NONE	

**EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA OCTOBER 23, 2023**

	<p><b><u>CALL TO ORDER &amp; ROLL CALL</u></b></p> <p>Meeting called to order at 11.17 AM and a quorum was maintained.</p>	
ES-1023-13	<p><b><u>Acceptance of the Executive Session Agenda</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b></p> <p>Motion made by Ms. Selerya Moore to accept the October 23, 2023, Executive Session Agenda. Seconded by Ms. Marjan Shallal.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b></p> <p>Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Wanda Wheeler, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously</p>	
ES-1023-14	<p><b><u>Executive Director's Report:</u></b></p> <p>None</p>	
ES-1023-15	<p><b><u>Board Attorney's Report:</u></b></p> <p>None</p>	
ES-1023-16	<p><b><u>Chairperson's Report:</u></b></p> <p>None</p>	
ES-1023-17	<p><b><u>Executive Session Minutes:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b></p> <p>Consideration of the Executive Session Minutes from the September 25, 2023, meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b></p> <p>Motion made by Ms. Wanda Wheeler to approve the September 2023 Executive Session Minutes. Seconded by Ms. Selerya Moore.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b></p> <p>Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Wanda Wheeler, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously</p>	
ES-1023-18	<p><b><u>Executive Session Consent Agenda</u></b></p>	

	<p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Consideration of the applications approved for purposes of review and/or ratification of Board actions taken since the last Board meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> The Consent Agenda is a record of the decisions and/or actions taken by the Board or its staff since the last meeting.</p> <p><b>No Motions were made</b></p>	
ES-1023-19	<p><b><u>New Complaint Olatunde Ogunyemi, LICSW</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Board to take appropriate action.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> In October 2022 the Board received a complaint from Dr. Charles Tita against Mr. Olatunde Ogunyemi regarding allegedly using his controlled substance registration without his consent. An investigation was requested regarding the matter and a report has been received for the Boards review and decision.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Ms. Wanda Wheeler to table this item and invite Mr. Ogunyemi and Dr Tita for an interview at the November 2023 Board meeting for an interview. Seconded by Ms. Selerya Moore.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Wanda Wheeler, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously</p>	
ES-1023-20	<p><b><u>Reinstatement Application for Brandon Jackson-Mills</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Board to take a appropriate action.</p> <p><b><u>Background</u></b> Mr. Jackson-Mills submitted reinstatement of his LGSW in June 2023. He disclosed his probationary status and disciplinary action against his license by the MD Board for fraudulent activity. Upon review of his supporting documents the Board attorney recommended that hold off on his reinstatement until the Board</p>	



	<p>can interview him in either September or October of 2023 - when he has been on probation with MD Board for at least six months to see how he is doing and to ensure he has had no other issues. Then the Board can determine if they want to wait until he finishes his probation to reinstate him or reinstate him and have him submit proof of full compliance with the MD Board requirements, some of which are ongoing. The MD Board has provided an update of his compliance status with his order with the Board.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Ms. Wanda Wheeler not to grant approval for reinstatement of Mr. Jackson Mills reinstatement application at this time but to advise him to reply as soon as he completes his probationary status in the State of Maryland</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Wanda Wheeler, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously</p>	
ES-1023-21	<p><b><u>Motion to Close</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> To close the Executive Session portion of the meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Ms. Wanda Wheeler to close the Executive Session Meeting at 11.51am. Seconded by Ms. Selerya Moore</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Wanda Wheeler, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously</p>	

The Executive Session Board meeting ended at 11.51 am. The next meeting is scheduled for **November 27, 2023.**