

**BOARD OF CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK, MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPY, AND  
MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING**

**GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

**AUGUST 15, 2019**

**8:00 A.M.**

**DOUBLETREE BY HILTON ORLANDO AIRPORT  
5555 HAZELTINE NATIONAL DRIVE  
ORLANDO, FL 32812**

**Participants in this public meeting should be aware that these proceedings are being recorded and that an audio file of the meeting will be posted to the board's website.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order on Thursday, August 15, 2019 at 8:01 a.m. by Lisa Bolhouse, Chair.

**A. Roll Call**

Roll call was conducted by Janet Hartman, Interim Executive Director. Those present for all or part of the meeting included the following:

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Lisa Bolhouse, LCSW, Chair  
Jamie Buller, LCSW, Vice-Chair  
Denny Cecil-Van Den Heuvel, LMFT, LMHC  
William Day, LMHC

**STAFF PRESENT**

Janet Hartman, Interim Executive Director  
Ashleigh Irving, Program Administrator  
Rebecca Lawrence, Regulatory Supervisor

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Helen Douglas, RDH (excused)

**BOARD COUNSEL**

Timothy Frizzell, Esq.  
Assistant Attorney General

**PROSECUTION SERVICES**

Mary Iglehart, Esq., Assistant General Counsel  
Chad Dunn, Esq., Assistant General Counsel

**COURT REPORTER**

Cindy Green  
Magnolia Court Reporting

**B. Mission, Vision and Values**

Lisa Bolhouse read the Florida Department of Health's mission vision and values.

Mission: To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county, & community efforts.

Vision: To be the *Healthiest State* in the Nation.

Values (ICARE):

**Innovation:** We search for creative solutions and manage resources wisely.

**Collaboration:** We use teamwork to achieve common goals & solve problems.

**Accountability:** We perform with integrity & respect.

**Responsiveness:** We achieve our mission by serving our customers & engaging our partners.

**Excellence:** We promote quality outcomes through learning & continuous performance improvement.

### **C. Welcome**

Ms. Bolhouse welcomed everyone to the meeting. She reminded the audience that the proceedings were being recorded and would later be posted on the Board's website. Ms. Bolhouse asked everyone to turn off all electronic devices and gave students an opportunity to stand and announce their school.

## **II. REVIEW OF MINUTES**

### **A. May 9, 2019 General Business Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the May 9, 2019 general business meeting were reviewed, and the following action was taken by the Board:

Motion: by Ms. Buller to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2019 meeting.

Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Den Heuvel.

Vote: unanimous.

### **B. June 4, 2019 General Business Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the June 4, 2019 general business meeting were reviewed, and the following action was taken by the Board:

Motion: by Ms. Buller to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2019 meeting.

Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Den Heuvel.

Vote: unanimous.

## **III. DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS**

### **A. Settlement Agreement**

- i. **Maureen Bond, LMFT, LCSW, Case Number 2016-1426**  
(PCP: Buller, Day, Roberts)  
Represented by Counsel

Continued until November 14, 2019 meeting due to illness.

ii. **Marsha Wilson, LMHC, Case Number 2017-22722**  
(PCP: Barlow and Bolhouse)  
Represented by Counsel

Ms. Wilson was present and sworn in by the court reporter. She was represented by Steven R. Ballinger, Esq.

Ms. Bolhouse was recused due to participation on the probable cause panel. Chad Dunn presented the case before the board. The administrative complaint charges Ms. Wilson with the following violations: Count I- section 491.009 (1)(h), Florida Statutes (2016) provides that failing to perform any statutory or legal obligation placed on the persons licensed, registered, or certified under this chapter when she failed to immediately report a known or suspected child abuse to the department's central abuse hotline. Count II- section 491.009(1)(r), Florida Statutes (2016), when she failed to meet the minimum standards of performance in professional activities when measured against generally prevailing peer performance. Count III- section 491.009(1)(w), Florida Statutes (2016) through a violation of Rule 64B4-9.002(2), Florida Administrative Codes.

A settlement agreement was presented to the board with the following terms:

- Appearance
- Reprimand
- Fine of \$1,000 to be paid within one year
- Costs of \$5,000 to be paid within one year
- Twenty-four (24) hours of ethics and boundaries and Five (5) hours of laws and rules continuing education to be completed within one year

After discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: by Dr. Day to accept the settlement agreement with amendments to the twenty-four (24) hour continuing education course of ethics and boundaries being completed within three (3) months.

Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Den Heuvel.

Vote: unanimous.

**B. Determination of Waiver**

i. **Laura M. Messer, Registered Mental Health Counselor Intern, Case Number 2017-14910**  
(PCP: Barlow and Gillespy)  
Pro Se

Ms. Messer was not present nor represented by counsel. Mr. Frizzell suggested that the case be tabled until the November 14, 2019 meeting due to a meeting notice address error.

ii. **Seneka R. Arrington, Registered Marriage and Family Therapy Intern, Case Number 2017-19542**  
(PCP: Barlow, Roberts, Gray, Buller and Otis)  
Pro Se

Ms. Arrington was not present nor represented by counsel. Ms. Buller was recused due to participation in the probable cause panel.

Mary Iglehart presented the case before the board. The administrative complaint charges Ms. Arrington with a violation of section 456.072(1)(k) for failing to perform any statutory or legal obligation placed upon a licensee. For purposes of this section, failing to repay a student loan issued or guaranteed by the state or the Federal Government in accordance with the terms of the loan or failing to comply with service scholarship obligations shall be considered a failure to perform a statutory or legal obligation and the minimum disciplinary action imposed shall be a suspension of the license until new payment terms are agreed upon or the scholarship obligation is resumed, followed by probation for the duration of the student loan or remaining scholarship obligation period, and a fine equal to 10 percent of the defaulted loan amount. Fines collected shall be deposited into the Medical Quality Assurance Trust Fund.

After discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: by Dr. Day to accept the investigative report into evidence, find that the respondent was properly served and has waived her right to a formal hearing, and to adopt material facts as set forth in the administrative complaint as the findings of the fact of the Board.

Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Den Heuvel.

Vote: unanimous.

Motion: by Dr. Cecil-Van Den Heuvel to adopt the allegations of law in the administrative complaint as the Board's conclusions of law and the conclusions of law as a violation of the practice act.

Second: by Dr. Day.

Vote: unanimous.

The Department's recommendation is:

- Reprimand
- Suspension until compliant
- Probation for the duration of the student loans
- Administrative fine of \$3,506 to be paid within 1 year
- Costs of \$560.38 to be paid within 1 year

Following discussion, the Board took the following action:

Motion: by Dr. Day to accept the recommendation as presented.  
Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Den Heuvel.  
Vote: unanimous.

iii. **Daphne M. Chaisson, Registered Marriage and Family Therapy Intern, Case Number 2016-21127**  
(PCP: Barlow and Cecil-Van Den Heuvel)  
Pro Se

Ms. Chaisson was not present nor represented by counsel. Dr. Cecil-Van Den Heuvel was recused due to participation on the probable cause panel. Mary Iglehart presented the case before the board. The administrative complaint charges Ms. Chaisson with the following violations: Count I-section 491.009(1)(w), Florida Statutes (2018), through a violation of section 456.072(1)(II), Florida Statutes (2018), by pleading guilty to a crime in any jurisdiction relating to health care fraud. Count II-section 491.009(w), Florida Statutes (2018), through a violation of section 491.009(1)(c), Florida Statutes (2018), by pleading guilty to a crime directly related to the practice. Count III- section 491.009(w), Florida Statutes (2018), through a violation of section 456.072(1)(x), F.S. when she failed to report her plea to the Board, in writing within 30 days.

Following review, the board took the following action:

Motion: by Ms. Buller accept the investigative report into evidence, find that the respondent was properly served and has waived her right to a formal hearing, and to adopt material facts as set forth in the administrative complaint as the findings of the fact of the Board.  
Second: by Dr. Day.  
Vote: unanimous.

Motion: by Ms. Buller to adopt the allegations of law in the administrative complaint as the Board's conclusions of law and the conclusions of law as a violation of the practice act.  
Second: by Dr. Day.  
Vote: unanimous.

The Department's recommendation is:

- Permanent revocation
- Administrative fine of \$10,000 to be paid within 1 year
- Costs of \$718.84 to be paid within 1 year

Following discussion, the Board took the following action:

Motion: by Ms. Buller to accept the department's recommendation.  
Second: by Dr. Day.  
Vote: unanimous.

- iv. **Gabriel L. Tito, Registered Marriage and Family Therapy Intern, Case Number 2016-08678**  
(PCP: Buller, Day and Roberts)  
Represented by Counsel

Continued to November 14, 2019 meeting due to quorum.

- v. **Victoria C. Hernandez, LMHC, Case Number 2017-17570**  
(PCP: Day and Buller)  
Pro Se

Continued to November 14, 2019 meeting due to quorum.

#### **C. Voluntary Relinquishment**

- i. **Irma I. Phillips-Maxwell, Registered Mental Health Counselor Intern, Case Number 2018-21137**  
(PCP: N/A)  
Pro Se

Ms. Phillips-Maxwell was not present nor represented by counsel.

Mary Iglehart presented the case before the board which included a violation of section 456.072(1)(k)(dd), Florida Statutes; sections 491.0045(1)(2)2.(c)(3), Florida Statutes, failure to perform a legal obligation, practicing without a supervisor.

After discussion, the Board took the following action:

Motion: by Ms. Buller to accept the voluntary relinquishment.  
Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Den Heuvel.  
Vote: unanimous.

Ms. Buller asked the Department to open an investigation on Ms. Phillips-Maxwell's Registered Marriage and Family Therapy Intern license.

#### **IV. PROSECUTION REPORT**

- A. Chad Dunn, Assistant General Counsel

Mr. Dunn presented the following report to the Board:

<b>Inventory of Cases as of July 22, 2019</b>
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Cases in hold status (48 Status)	1
Cases under legal review (60-68 Status)	130
Cases awaiting probable cause determination (70 Status)	19
Total cases where PC has been found (80 Status)	5
Cases for formal hearing request (85-88 Status)	11
Cases submitted for Board review (118 Status)	9
Cases at DOAH (110 Status)	0
Cases on appeal (140 Status)	0
+	
<b>Total Cases open/active in PSU</b>	<b>180</b>

<b>Total Number of Cases Older Than One Year:</b>
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2009	1
2010	0
2011	1
2012	0
2013	1
2014	1
2015	6
2016	11
2017	16
2018	35
+	
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>

Motion: by Ms. Buller to continue prosecution of cases one year and older.  
 Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Den Heuvel.  
 Vote: unanimous.

**V. PETITION FOR VARIANCE OR WAIVER OF RULE**

**A. Isaac Yitzhak Cohen**

Dr. Cohen was present and sworn in by the court reporter. He was not represented by counsel. Dr. Cohen filed a petition for variance or waiver of rule. He would like the Board to consider the AASSWB Intermediate Exam substantially equivalent to the ASWB Clinical Exam. Mr. Frizzell determined that Dr. Cohen did not need to file a petition, but the Board would need to determine if the exam he had taken was substantially equivalent to the required clinical exam administered by ASWB. Dwight Hymans, Chief Operating Officer for the ASWB was sworn in by the court reporter and gave testimony that the intermediate exam was comparable to the current master's level exam and the advance exam is equivalent to the current clinical exam.

Dr. Cohen requested to withdraw his petition for variance or waiver.

Following discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: by Dr. Cecil-Van Den Heuvel to accept the withdrawal.  
Second: by Ms. Buller.  
Vote: unanimous.

#### **B. Kristen Thompson**

Ms. Thompson was not present nor represented by counsel. She filed a petition for variance or waiver of rule 64B4-3.0085, Florida Administrative Codes. She would like the supervised experience completed in Florida prior to becoming a Registered Mental Health Counselor Intern to count towards the full licensure requirement.

Following discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: by Ms. Buller to deny request for variance or waiver of rule due to not meeting the purpose of the underlying statute.  
Second: by Dr. Day.  
Vote: unanimous.

#### **C. Diane Sanders**

Ms. Sanders was present and sworn in by the court reporter. She was represented by Richard Levenstein Esq. Ms. Sanders filed a petition for variance or waiver of rule 64B4-3.0085, Florida Administrative Code.

Dr. Cecil-Van Den Heuvel was recused due to being Ms. Sanders current qualified supervisor.

After discussion, the board took the following action:

Motion: by Ms. Buller to accept supervision hours obtained as a Registered Mental Health Counselor Intern contingent on receipt of the appropriate documents.  
Second: by Dr. Day.  
Vote: unanimous.

#### **D. Penny Winkle**

Ms. Winkle was not present nor represented by counsel. Ms. Winkle filed a petition for variance or waiver of rule 64B4-3.003, Florida Administrative Codes, Examination for Licensure.

After discussion, the board took the following action:

Motion: by Ms. Buller to deny the petition for variance or waiver of rule because the Board does not have the statutory authority to waive the exam requirement.

Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Den Heuvel.  
Vote: unanimous.

**E. Anissa Mitchell**

Ms. Mitchell was not present nor represented by counsel. Ms. Mitchell filed a petition for variance or waiver of rule 64B4-6.002(1)(e), Florida Administrative Codes, Approved Courses for Continuing Education.

After discussion, the Board took the following action:

Motion: by Ms. Buller to approve twenty-three (23) hours as continuing education as reviewed for Florida requirements.  
Second: by Dr. Day.  
Vote: unanimous.

**VI. APPEARANCES**

**A. Application for Registered Mental Health Counselor Intern**

**i. Sylvia Fern Faniel**

Ms. Faniel was present and sworn in by the court reporter. Her application was brought before the Board because of an affirmative answer to criminal history questions.

After discussion, the Board took the following action:

Motion: by Ms. Buller to approve the application contingent on receiving a qualified supervisor letter.  
Second: by Dr. Day.  
Vote: unanimous.

**ii. Jason Wynn**

Mr. Wynn was present and sworn in by the court reporter. He was not represented by counsel. His application was brought before the Board because of an affirmative answer to Health History questions.

Mr. Wynn provided an opening statement detailing the circumstances surrounding his answer. Dr. Alexis Polles, Medical Director of Professional Resources Network (PRN), spoke in support of Mr. Wynn's ability to practice safely with 5-year monitoring from PRN.

After discussion, the Board took the following action:

Motion: by Ms. Buller to approve the application contingent on receiving an updated qualified supervisor letter, completion of IOP and compliance with PRN contract.

Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Dan Heuvel.  
Vote: unanimous.

**iii. Betty Harvey**

Ms. Harvey was present and sworn in by the court reporter. She was not represented by counsel. Her application was brought before the board due to an affirmative answer to criminal history questions.

After discussion, the Board took the following action:

Motion: by Dr. Cecil-Van Dan Heuvel to approve application contingent on receipt of practicum letter.  
Second: by Ms. Buller.  
Vote: unanimous.

**iv. Clarence Fedd**

Mr. Fedd was not present nor represented by counsel. His application was brought before the Board due to an affirmative answer to the criminal history question.

After discussion, the Board took the following action:

Motion: by Ms. Buller to approve the application.  
Second: by Dr. Day.  
Vote: unanimous.

**v. Dwayne Douglas Tolliver**

Mr. Tolliver was present and sworn in by the court reporter. He was not represented by counsel. His application was brought before the Board due to an affirmative answer to criminal history questions.

After discussion, the Board took the following action:

Motion: by Ms. Buller to approve the application.  
Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Dan Heuvel.  
Vote: unanimous.

**vi. Susan Wilson**

Ms. Wilson was present and sworn in by the court reporter. She was not represented by counsel. Her application was brought before the Board due to an affirmative response to criminal history questions.

After discussion, the Board took the following action:

Motion: by Ms. Buller to approve the application.  
Second: by Dr. Day.  
Vote: unanimous.

**vii. Keyunda Washington**

Ms. Washington was present and sworn in by the court reporter. She was not represented by counsel. Her application was brought before the Board due to an affirmative answer to a health history question. Dr. Alexis Polles, Medical Director of Professional Resources Network (PRN), spoke in support of Ms. Washington’s ability to practice with reasonable skill and safely while being monitored by PRN.

After discussion, the Board took the following action:

Motion: by Ms. Bolhouse to approve the application with required compliance with PRN and an appearance before the Board before full licensure.  
Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Den Heuvel.  
Vote: unanimous.

**B. Application for Registered Clinical Social Worker Intern**

**i. Donna Walker Hedgepeth**

Ms. Hedgepeth was not present nor represented by counsel. Her application was brought before the Board due to an affirmative answer to criminal history questions.

After discussion, the Board took the following action:

Motion: by Ms. Buller to approve the application.  
Second: by Dr. Day.  
Vote: unanimous.

**C. Application for Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist**

**i. Vicky Primer**

Dr. Primer was present and sworn in by the court reporter. She was not represented by counsel. Her application is before the Board for review of exam equivalency. Dr. Primer also asked the Board to review the graduate level courses she taught for the Psychopathology content. After discussion Dr. Primer asked to withdraw her application.

The Board took the following action:

Motion: by Dr. Cecil-Van Dan Heuvel to accept the withdrawal.  
Second: by Ms. Buller.  
Vote: unanimous.

**D. CE Provider Complaint**

**i. Shirley Colee, Provider #50-20641**

Ms. Colee was not present nor represented by counsel. A complaint was filed against her continuing education provider status for a course for not meeting the minimum standards of length and content. Her course is before the Board for determination of compliance.

After discussion, the Board took the following action:

Motion: by Ms. Buller to withdraw approval status of course #20-704428.  
Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Dan Heuvel.  
Vote: unanimous.

**ii. ISFTA, LLC, Provider #50-11293**

Ms. Nicole Almeida was not present nor represented by counsel. Her continuing education course was brought before the Board because of a complaint filed with the Board office. The complaint went before the Board for determination of compliance.

After discussion, the Board took the following action:

Motion: by Ms. Buller to issue a letter advising course #20-512589 is no longer approved.  
Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Dan Heuvel.  
Vote: unanimous.

**VII. RULES DISCUSSION**

**A. 64B4-2.002, Definition of "Supervision" for Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy and Mental Health Counseling**

Mr. Frizzell presented the rule draft with proposed amended language for the Board's consideration and provided an overview of the amendments to the Board.

After discussion, the following action was taken by the Board:

Motion: by Ms. Buller to approve the proposed language.  
Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Dan Heuvel.  
Vote: unanimous.

Motion: by Dr. Day that a Statement of Estimated Regulatory Costs is not required as the proposed rule amendment has no impact to small businesses regarding regulatory costs and no impact over \$200,000 in the aggregate in Florida within one year of this rule being filed.

Second: by Ms. Buller.  
Vote: unanimous.

Motion: by Dr. Cecil-Van Dan Heuvel that the proposed rule amendments would not cause a net increase in regulatory costs in excess of one-million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) within five years after implementation of the final rule.  
Second: Ms. Buller  
Vote: unanimous.

Motion: by Ms. Buller that no part of this rule or a violation of this rule should be designated as a minor violation.  
Second: by Ms. Bolhouse.  
Vote: unanimous.

#### **B. 64B4-3.0085, Intern Registration**

Mr. Frizzell presented a rule draft and form for the Board's consideration. The amendments included completion of a supervision plan form for Registered Clinical Social Work Interns who did not complete a clinical practicum, internship, or field work in his or her graduate program. After discussion, the Board decided to amend the language presented. Board Counsel will work with Ms. Buller and bring draft language to the November 14, 2019 meeting.

### **VIII. REPORTS**

#### **A. Board Counsel**

##### **i. Rules Report**

Mr. Frizzell presented monthly rules reports for May 2019, June 2019, July 2019 for Board review.

##### **ii. Annual Regulatory Plan**

Mr. Frizzell asked the Board to review the Annual Regulatory Plan and submit any rules they may potentially want changed to be included in the plan. He explained the purpose of the Annual Regulatory Plan is to identify any legislative changes that require rule making, review rules that are outstanding and identify any changes that may occur in the next year, and identify any required rule making from legislative changes from the previous year. Since the deadline is prior to the next meeting, Mr. Frizzell asked the Board to allow him to work with the Board Chair while completing the plan to be presented at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Motion: by Dr. Day to delegate Ms. Bolhouse as signee of the Annual Regulatory Plan once completed with Mr. Frizzell.  
Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Dan Heuvel  
Vote: unanimous.

##### **iii. Legal Issue of the Month**

Continued to November 14, 2019 Board Meeting.

## **B. Executive Director**

### **i. Legislative Updates**

Ms. Hartman presented an overview of the legislative efforts effecting those professions licensed under Chapter 491. She spoke on the implementation of House Bill 23 which centralizes all applications and inquiries regarding telehealth. The law allows four (4) new positions which will be housed in the Bureau Chief's Office. Applications for out of state licensees will be reviewed by staff and escalated to the Board for review when necessary. Applications will be available October 1, 2019. House Bill 7067 which allowed the Department to collect fees was vetoed. Michael Holler of Florida Mental Health Counselors Association (FMHCA) asked how this would affect current licensees. Mr. Frizzell read the statute and clarified the requirements for registration.

Ms. Hartman announced that House Bill 41 had been filed. Regular session begins January 14, 2020 and Committee Week will be September 16-20, 2019.

Jim Aiken of National Association of Social Work (NASW) Florida Chapter spoke to the Board regarding Duty to Warn.

### **iv. Expenditures by Function**

Ms. Hartman informed the Board that the annual budget report was not ready to be presented. Once it has been prepared, it will be sent to all Board Members.

### **v. ASWB Special Accommodations Changes**

The Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) has changed their special accommodations form for ADA applicants and it no longer requires a notary.

## **C. Chair**

### **i. Telehealth Rules Committee Meeting**

Ms. Bolhouse led a discussion on telehealth. Per legal advisement, the Board does not have rule making authority regarding telehealth. Ms. Bolhouse suggested having information including frequently asked questions on the website for Florida licensees as well as out of state licensees to use as a guide while practicing telehealth. Ms. Bolhouse suggested adding information on definitions, practice standards, identification, client assessment, documentation, emergency services, recommended continuing education courses, and best practices.

Mary Jo Monahan, Chief Executive Officer of ASWB, spoke to the Board regarding the services and resources ASWB has to support the Board. She mentioned that their model practice act which is available on their website has language to help protect the Board as well as definitions regarding telehealth in standard regulatory language.

Michael Holler of the Florida Mental Health Counselor’s Association mentioned that telehealth certification is available through the Florida Board of Certified Counselors. Mr. Frizzell reminded Mr. Holler that the Board did not have the authority to add any additional restrictions to those offering telehealth.

Ms. Bolhouse asked the Board Members if they have any additional information that they would like added to the website. Ms. Hartman will work with those interested in working on a committee to draft frequently asked questions.

**D. Board Members**

There were no reports from Board Members.

**IX. OTHER BUSINESS**

**A. Ratification Lists**

**i. License Numbers Issued**

Motion: by Ms. Buller to ratify license numbers issued.

Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Dan Heuvel.

Vote: unanimous.

**ii. Approved Continuing Education Providers**

Motion: by Ms. Buller to ratify continuing education providers approved.

Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Dan Heuvel.

Vote: unanimous.

**iii. Committee of One Actions**

Motion: by Ms. Buller to ratify Committee of One actions.

Second: by Dr. Day.

Vote: unanimous.

**B. Annual Renewal of Delegation**

Motion: by Ms. Buller to approve the proposed Delegation of Authority.

Second: by Dr. Cecil-Van Dan Heuvel.

Vote: unanimous.

**C. Special Olympics Florida Presentation**

Continued to November 14, 2019 meeting.

**D. ASWB Presentation**

Mary Jo Monahan, Chief Executive Officer of the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) and Dwight Hymans Chief Operating Officer of ASWB, presented on the ASWB and the Exam Use Policy. Ms. Monahan opened the presentation by thanking the Board for being members and gave a brief overview and history of the organization who is celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. She spoke on the resources available to ASWB members and their services to the over 534,000 social workers across North America. Their goal is to have all social workers licensed like other healthcare professions through experience, exam and education. Mr. Hymans spoke to the Board regarding the two (2) year exception waiver submitted to the ASWB Board of Directors. Mr. Hymans described why the exception was denied. He talked about the construction and use of the exam as well as the fact that the exam has to be protected and defended on behalf of the members who use the exam. The exam is broken down into 5 categories, but he focused on the clinical category of the exam since it is the largest one used in Florida. All members have five (5) years to become compliant with the Exam Use Policy. The deadline is June 30, 2021. Mr. Hymans went into details about what makes the exam legally defensible. He also stated the exam is meant to measure minimum competence which gives it validity. The exam's practice analysis produces content, standard setting, knowledge, skill and ability (KSAs). All questions are continually evaluated by subject matter experts. Legal defensibility is also viable through reliability and measured psychometrics. Ms. Monahan expressed that the test is developed for those who have post master's experience. Those test takers will have a better chance of passing the exam than those who are taking the exam directly following graduation.

Dr. Sophia Jean Dziegielewski spoke on her experience teaching the exam and the data the ASWB provides to test takers. She expressed concerns with validity, cultural competence, and scoring.

Jim Aiken of NASW spoke on the responses received from licensees desiring to take the exam when they want to take the exam. He also raised concern that this did not affect the other professions.

Following discussion, the Board decided to submit another letter asking for an exception of 12-months. If the 12-month exception could not be accepted, the Board would ask for an 18-month exception.

Motion: by Ms. Bolhouse to draft a letter to ASWB asking for an exception of 18-months with a preference of 12-months exception preference.  
Second: by Dr. Day.  
Vote: unanimous.

## **X. FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

### **A. AMFTRB Exam Report**

**B. ASWB Exam Report**

**C. NCMHCE Exam Report**

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

After no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 3:31 pm.