



# MARYLAND Department of Health

---

## MARYLAND BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

4201 Patterson Avenue,  
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Phone Number: 410-764-4788

Toll Free: 1-877-526-2541

Website: <http://www.health.maryland.gov/bswe> Fax: 410-358-2469

### OPEN SESSION MINUTES

June 13, 2025

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Adrienne Ekas, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 11am.  
There were no changes or adjustments to the agenda. Leslie Iampieri,  
Secretary called the roll.

#### **Board Members:**

Susan Coppage, Board Chair (ABSENT); Adrienne Ekas, Vice Chair; Jamie  
Wilson, Board Member; Kevin Meenan, Board Member; Kori Olszewski,  
Board Member; Tonya Hill, Board Member; Shannon Webb, Board Member;  
Barbara Tunstall, Board Member, Vernon Smith, Consumer Member  
(ABSENT); Leslie Iampieri, Board Secretary/Treasurer

#### **Board Staff:**

*PRESENT:* Karen Richards, Executive Director; Kara Brooks Tyson, Director of Compliance;  
Joshua Frazer, Board Counsel; Gail Wowk, Director of Planning and Continuing Education;  
Marianne Graham, Director of Licensing & Certification; Ulysses Preston, Health Investigations  
Administrator; Johnta Gray, Health Investigator; Adam Yate, Health Investigator; Mary  
McLaughlin, Health Investigator; Kellie Peay, Administrative Asst.; Pamela Price-Murray,  
Licensing Coordinator; Brenda McCoy, Staff Social Worker; Joey Orlandi, CE Coordinator;  
Stacie Rigby, Continuing Education Associate; Louise Bohle, License Coordinator; Lillian  
Reese, Legislative and Regulations Coordinator; Jean James, Staff Social Worker

*ABSENT:* Tyrone Willoughby, Staff Social Worker; Deborah Evans, License Coordinator;  
Glendia Cook, Licensing Coordinator; Lee Nyguen, Database Specialist; Jacqueline Monroe-Moore  
Administrative-Fiscal

**Community:** Megan Co, LICSW, LCSW-C; Zakiyyah Holmes, MDH; Crystal Williams,  
LMSW; Gail Martin; Giselle Ferretto, LCSW-C; Amy Gessler, LCSW-C; Tawana Lee, LMSW

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made Jamie Wilson and seconded by Shannon Webb to approve the Open Session  
minutes from May 9, 2025. All in favor and minutes approved.

#### **BOARD CHAIR REPORT**

Adrienne Ekas, Vice Chair, was filling in for Susan Coppage. She welcomed members, staff and  
the public to the June Open Session meeting. Reminder that the July meeting will be in person at

the Board office – 4201 Patterson Avenue, Room 110. Two new Board Members are starting July 1<sup>st</sup> – Stephen Liggett-Creel – Department of Human Services representative and Kevin Daniels, LMSW – Educational Representative from Morgan State University.

Adrienne reported that Susan Coppage had not received any further nominations for the Executive Committee positions. She made a motion to accept the following nominations: Kevin Meenan – Board Chair; Adrienne Ekas – Vice Chair; and Leslie Iampieri – Secretary/Treasurer. Jamie seconded the motion, and all Board Members voted in favor.

**Continuing Education (CE) Committee:** Following the Board Chair report, Adrienne presented the CE Committee report. The committee did not meet in May and the next meeting is June 17. Adrienne had one questions submitted in advance of the meeting from Gail Martin. The question was about the regulation change – 10.42.06 which will authorize certain Maryland entities to be authorized sponsors. The regulation is posted on the Continuing Education page of the website. The registration form is complete and will be reviewed at the June 17 meeting. The form will be a Smartsheet form like the “Online Sponsor Update” that is on the website. This form is created by the MD Dept. of Information Technology (DOIT). The Board hopes to have it posted on the website by July/August. For clarification as given as to what would be needed beyond the registration form. As the criteria for who qualifies as a Sponsor under this regulation – it is important to review the regulation. Sponsors must be in Maryland. They must be a government entity or a non-profit that employs social workers. They will have to attest to this on the form and provide the Board with verification. There is no fee involved for those who meet this criterion.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Karen Richards reported on office updates. Mary McLaughlin started on May 14, and this completes the staffing for the Compliance Unit. Due to addition of two new positions, the Board has four full time staff members with three Health Investigators and one Health Investigator Administrative working with the Director of Compliance. The Board continues to have a backlog of Compliance cases due to prior staffing vacancies. With all the positions filled and the two new positions, it is hoped that Compliance will be able to address the backlog while also addressing new issues.

The office continues to work on preparing boxes for digital archiving. The focus has been on old Compliance files. The first group of boxes were sent to Maryland State Archives who are scanning and digitally archiving the files for the Board. Staff has been preparing a second group of boxes to be sent out later this summer.

The CE unit has been updating Board Approved Sponsor files and working to digitally archive them. Licensing continues to work on scanning and moving LBSW and LMSW applications to being all digital – away from paper files.

Licensing worked with Lee and Joey to create online forms for the “Inactive Status” application and the “Supervisor Registration” form. Inactive status involves a \$15 fee and is used by licensees who want to place their license in an “inactive” status. They will still get correspondence from the Board and have up to five years to “reactivate” their license without

having to re-apply. There is a \$20 fee to register as a Board Approved Supervisor. Both applications involved sending in a check to the Board. Licensees can now pay online for these applications.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Statutes and Regulations Committee:** Kevin reported that the Stats and Regs Sub-Committee met on June 12. There was a discussion of the 8-year Regulatory Review. The following sections are under review: 10.42.04- board hearing procedures, 10.42.05, 10.42.07- compelling disclosures requirements, 10.42.09-disciplinary actions. Members discussed and determined there are no major changes needed. Further evaluations to be completed. No concept papers for Legislation in upcoming session. Regulation 10.42.02 was approved by Governor's Office - submitted to AELR on May 6 – will publish in Maryland Register on July 11, 2025. Regulation 10.42.01 published May 30, 2025 in Maryland Register with a final effective date of June 9, 2025.

### **PRESENTATION**

Marette Monson, LCSW, MBA, did a presentation on "Disability Equity and Accountability in Social Work Licensing." She is a clinical social worker in Utah and has a disability. She shared her story and her perspective on accommodations and addressing barriers to licensure.



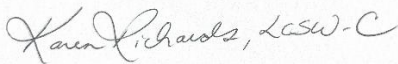
July 11, 2025

---

**Kevin Meenan, LCSW-C, Board Chair**

---

**Date**



July 11, 2025

---

**Karen Richards, LCSW-C, Executive Director**

---

**Date**