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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

**F I N A L M I N U T E S**

MEETING OF:

**STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKERS,  
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS,  
AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS**

TIME: 11:01 A.M.

Held at

**PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

2601 North Third Street

One Penn Center, Board Room C

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

as well as

**VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

March 14, 2023

1                   State Board of Social Workers,  
2                   Marriage and Family Therapists,  
3                   and Professional Counselors  
4                   March 14, 2023

5  
6  
7 BOARD MEMBERS:

8  
9 Michelle Santiago, Psy.D., LPC, Chair  
10 Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of  
11 Professional and Occupational Affairs  
12 Eric DeCriscio, MA, LPC, ACS  
13 Kimberly Early, LSW  
14 Erika Evans, Ph.D., LMFT, Vice Chair  
15 Linda A. Martin, LCSW, RN  
16 Cindy Moyer, LCSW  
17 Mayte Redcay, LCSW, LCADC, SAP, CEAP  
18  
19

20 BUREAU PERSONNEL:

21  
22 Carole Clarke Smith, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel  
23 Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel  
24 J. Karl Geschwindt, Esquire, Acting Senior Board  
25 Prosecutor  
26 Nathan C. Giunta, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison  
27 Adam J. Williams, Esquire, Board Prosecutor  
28 Kelsey B. Ashworth, Esquire, Board Prosecutor  
29 Jonelle Harter Eshbach, Esquire, Board Prosecutor  
30 Sarah E. McNeill, Board Administrator  
31 Carolyn A. DeLaurentis, Esquire, Executive Deputy  
32 Chief Counsel, Department of State  
33 Andrew LaFratte, MPA, Executive Policy Specialist,  
34 Department of State  
35 Holly Hoffman, Law Clerk, Department of State  
36  
37

38 ALSO PRESENT:

39  
40 Cynthia Rish, Operations Manager, Rish Law Office,  
41 LLC  
42 Carlton Smith, Social Work Services Manager,  
43 Department of Human Services, Children and Youth  
44 Division  
45 Jill Schlossberg, LAC, LCADC  
46 Teo Estepani  
47 Amy Lohr, LCSW  
48 David Gamble-Moore  
49 Summer Wilderman  
50 Benjamin Morrow

1 \*\*\*

2 State Board of Social Workers,  
3 Marriage and Family Therapists  
4 and Professional Counselors

5 March 14, 2023

6 \*\*\*

7 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act,  
8 at 9:00 a.m., the Board entered into Executive  
9 Session with Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board  
10 Counsel, for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial  
11 deliberations and to have attorney-client  
12 consultation. The Board entered into public session  
13 at 11:00 a.m.]

14 \*\*\*

15 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State  
16 Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family  
17 Therapists, and Professional Counselors was held on  
18 Tuesday, March 14, 2023. Michelle Santiago, Psy.D.,  
19 LPC, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.

20 Erika Evans, Ph.D., LMFT, Vice Chair, was not  
21 present at the commencement of the meeting.

22 Chair Santiago reminded everyone the meeting was  
23 being recorded, and those who continued to  
24 participate were giving their consent to be recorded.

25 \*\*\*

1 Introduction of Board Members

2 [Chair Santiago requested an introduction of Board  
3 members.]

4 \*\*\*

5 Introduction of Attendees

6 [Sarah E. McNeill, Board Administrator, provided an  
7 introduction of attendees.]

8 \*\*\*

9 Approval of minutes of the January 24, 2023 meeting

10 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

11 First on our agenda is our draft  
12 minutes. Do I have a motion to approve  
13 the draft minutes?

14 MS. EARLY:

15 So moved.

16 MR. DECRISCIO:

17 Second.

18 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

19 Any discussion?

20

21 Santiago, aye; Claggett, aye;

22 DeCriscio, aye; Early, aye; Martin,

23 aye; Moyer, aye; Redcay, aye.

24 [The motion carried unanimously.]

25 \*\*\*

1 Report of Prosecutorial Division

2 [J. Karl Geschwindt, Esquire, Acting Senior Board  
3 Prosecutor and Prosecution Liaison, presented the  
4 Consent Agreement for Case No. 16-69-13871.]

5 \*\*\*

6 [Nathan C. Giunta, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,  
7 presented the Consent Agreements for Case No. 19-69-  
8 010872, Case No. 21-69-008826, and Case No. 22-69-  
9 007543.]

10 \*\*\*

11 Report of Board Counsel

12 [Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted the  
13 Board entered into Executive Session for the purpose  
14 of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations on a  
15 number of matters currently pending before the Board  
16 and to receive the advice of counsel. She stated the  
17 Board discussed the consent agreements presented,  
18 along with agenda items 6 through 9 and 11 through  
19 33.]

20 MS. WUCINSKI:

21 I believe the Board would entertain a  
22 motion to approve the Consent  
23 Agreements and Orders in the following  
24 case numbers: Agenda item 2, Case No.  
25 16-69-13871; agenda item 4, Case No.

1 21-69-008826; agenda item 5, Case No.  
2 22-69-007543.

3 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

4 Could I have a motion, please?

5 MS. EARLY:

6 So moved.

7 MR. DECRISCIO:

8 Second.

9 MS. MCNEILL:

10 Santiago, aye; Claggett, aye;  
11 DeCriscio, aye; Early, aye; Martin,  
12 aye; Moyer, aye; Redcay, aye.

13 [The motion carried unanimously. The names in those  
14 cases are Alexis Anna-May Koutroulakis, LCSW; Charles  
15 Jason Jacob; and Peter John Faunce, LPC.]

16 \*\*\*

17 MS. WUCINSKI:

18 At agenda item 3, I believe the Board  
19 would entertain a motion to deny as too  
20 lenient the Consent Agreement and Order  
21 at agenda item at Case No. 19-69-  
22 010872.

23 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

24 Could we have a motion, please?

25 MS. EARLY:

1                   So moved.

2 MR. DECRISCIO:

3                   Second.

4 MS. MCNEILL:

5                   Santiago, aye; Claggett, aye;  
6                   DeCriscio, aye; Early, aye; Martin,  
7                   aye; Moyer, aye; Redcay, aye.

8 [The motion carried unanimously.]

9   \*\*\*

10 Report of Board Counsel - Matters for Deliberation

11 MS. WUCINSKI:

12                   Moving on to agenda item 6, I believe  
13                   the Board would entertain a motion to  
14                   grant the Application for a License to  
15                   Practice as a Social Worker by  
16                   Examination of Jerome Williams.

17 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

18                   Could I have a motion, please?

19 MS. EARLY:

20                   So moved.

21 MR. DECRISCIO:

22                   Second.

23 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

24                   Any discussion for item 6? No  
25                   discussion.

1

2

Santiago, aye; Claggett, aye;

3

DeCriscio, aye; Early, aye; Martin,

4

aye; Moyer, aye; Redcay, aye.

5

[The motion carried unanimously.]

6

\*\*\*

7

MS. WUCINSKI:

8

At agenda item 7, I believe the Board

9

would entertain a motion to direct

10

Board Counsel to draft an Adjudication

11

and Order at Case No. 22-69-013902

12

consistent with discussions in

13

executive session. That is the appeal

14

of the provisional denial of Neeka

15

Noje-Murray.

16

CHAIR SANTIAGO:

17

Could I have a motion, please?

18

MS. EARLY:

19

So moved.

20

MR. DECRISCIO:

21

Second.

22

CHAIR SANTIAGO:

23

Any discussion?

24

25

Santiago, aye; Claggett, aye;

1 DeCriscio, aye; Early, aye; Martin,  
2 aye; Moyer, aye; Redcay, aye.

3 [The motion carried unanimously.]

4 \*\*\*

5 MS. WUCINSKI:

6 At agenda item 8, I believe the Board  
7 would entertain a motion to direct  
8 Board counsel to draft an adjudication  
9 and order adopting the hearing  
10 examiner's Proposed Adjudication and  
11 Order and addressing exceptions for Amy  
12 Lohr, LCSW, at Case No. 19-69-003779  
13 and to rescind their prior vote in this  
14 case.

15 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

16 Could I have a motion, please?

17 MS. EARLY:

18 So moved.

19 MR. DECRISCIO:

20 Second.

21 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

22 Is there any discussion for item 8?

23 Seeing none. Sarah.

24

25 Santiago, aye; Claggett, aye;

1 DeCriscio, aye; Early, aye; Martin,  
2 aye; Moyer, aye; Redcay, aye.

3 [The motion carried unanimously.]

4 \*\*\*

5 Report of Board Counsel - Draft Adjudication and  
6 Order

7 MS. WUCINSKI:

8 At agenda item 9, I believe the Board  
9 would entertain a motion to adopt as  
10 final the Draft Adjudication and Order  
11 for Michael Bradley at Case No. 22-69-  
12 002380.

13 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

14 Could I have a motion, please?

15 MS. EARLY:

16 So moved.

17 MR. DECRISCIO:

18 Second.

19 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

20 Is there any discussion for this item?

21 Seeing none. Could we have the vote,  
22 please?

23

24 Santiago, aye; Claggett, aye;

25 DeCriscio, aye; Early, aye; Martin,

1                   aye; Moyer, aye; Redcay, aye.

2 [The motion carried unanimously.]

3   \*\*\*

4 Review of Applications

5 MS. WUCINSKI:

6                   Agenda item 11. The Application will  
7                   be tabled for Board staff to obtain  
8                   additional information to verify the  
9                   supervised experience of Robert  
10                  Bearfield and just noting that Board  
11                  staff has the authority to grant it  
12                  upon receipt.

13   \*\*\*

14 MS. WUCINSKI:

15                  Moving on to agenda item 12. I believe  
16                  the Board would entertain a motion to  
17                  grant the Application for a License to  
18                  practice Professional Counseling by  
19                  Examination of Walka D. Estevez.

20 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

21                  May I have a motion, please?

22 MS. EARLY:

23                  So moved.

24 MR. DECRISCIO:

25                  Second.

1 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

2 Is there any discussion about item 12?

3 Okay, if we could have the roll call,  
4 please?

5

6 Santiago, aye; Claggett, aye;

7 DeCriscio, aye; Early, aye; Martin,

8 aye; Moyer, aye; Redcay, aye.

9 [The motion carried unanimously.]

10

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11 [Erika Evans, Ph.D., LMFT, Vice Chair, entered the  
12 meeting at 11:20 a.m.]

13

\*\*\*

14 Review of Applications - Act 41 Review

15 MS. WUCINSKI:

16 Moving on to agenda items 13 through  
17 18. I am going to do these in three  
18 separate votes.

19

20 I believe the Board would entertain  
21 a motion to grant a provisional license  
22 to the following applicants for a  
23 License to Practice as a Professional  
24 Counselor to allow them to complete two  
25 years of licensed practice under Act  
41. Agenda item 13, Alexandra Szotka;

1 agenda item 14, Brittney Hack; agenda  
2 item 17, Laura Hannifan; and agenda  
3 item 18, Teo Estepani.

4 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

5 May I have a motion, please?

6 MS. EARLY:

7 So moved.

8 MR. DECRISCIO:

9 Second.

10 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

11 Is there any discussion from members?

12 Okay, could we have the roll, please?

13

14 Santiago, aye; Claggett, aye;

15 DeCriscio, aye; Early, aye; Evans, aye;

16 Martin, aye; Moyer, aye; Redcay, aye.

17 [The motion carried unanimously.]

18

\*\*\*

19 MS. WUCINSKI:

20 Going to agenda item 15. I believe the  
21 Board would entertain a motion to grant  
22 the Application for a License to  
23 Practice as a Professional Counselor by  
24 Endorsement under Act 41 for Jill  
25 Schlossberg.

1 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

2 May I have a motion, please?

3 MS. EARLY:

4 So moved.

5 MR. DECRISCIO:

6 Second.

7 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

8 Any discussion about item 15. Okay,  
9 let's take a vote.

10

11 Santiago, aye; Claggett, aye;  
12 DeCriscio, aye; Early, aye; Evans, aye;  
13 Martin, aye; Moyer, aye; Redcay, aye.

14 [The motion carried unanimously.]

15 \*\*\*

16 MS. WUCINSKI:

17 At agenda item 16, I believe the Board  
18 would entertain a motion to  
19 provisionally deny the Application for  
20 a License to Practice as a Professional  
21 Counselor by Endorsement under Act 41  
22 for Kimberly Warne.

23 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

24 May I have a motion, please?

25 MS. EARLY:

1 So moved.

2 MR. DECRISCIO:

3 Second.

4 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

5 Is there any discussion, Board members?

6 Okay, let's have the vote, please.

7

8 Santiago, aye; Claggett, aye;

9 DeCriscio, aye; Early, aye; Evans, aye;

10 Martin, aye; Moyer, aye; Redcay, aye.

11 [The motion carried unanimously.]

12

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13 Review of Applications - Renewals of Preapproved

14 Providers of Continuing Education

15 MS. WUCINSKI:

16 We are going to do agenda items 19

17 through 31 altogether.

18 I believe the Board would entertain

19 a motion to approve the following

20 Renewals of Preapproved Provider of

21 Continuing Education: Center for Loss

22 and Bereavement; Companions in Healing

23 and Lancaster School of Psychodrama and

24 Experiential Psychotherapies; Family &

25 Play Therapy Center Inc.; Gift of Life

1                   Family House; Helio Health; Holcomb  
2                   Behavioral Health Systems; Lehigh  
3                   Valley Health Network; Pennsylvania  
4                   Association of School Social Work  
5                   Personnel; Pennsylvania Council of  
6                   Children, Youth & Family Services;  
7                   Phoenix Center of Experiential Trauma  
8                   Therapy, LLC, Support Center for Child  
9                   Advocates - Center for Excellence in  
10                   Advocacy; Children's Hospital of  
11                   Philadelphia; The Meadows Psychiatric  
12                   Center/UCBH.

13 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

14                   Could I have a motion, please?

15 MS. EARLY:

16                   So moved.

17 MR. DECRISCIO:

18                   Second.

19 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

20                   Is there any discussion about items 19  
21                   through 31? Okay, great. Sarah, could  
22                   we have the roll, please?

23

24                   Santiago, aye; Claggett, aye;

25                   DeCriscio, aye; Early, aye; Evans, aye;

1 Martin, aye; Moyer, aye; Redcay, aye.

2 [The motion carried unanimously.]

3 \*\*\*

4 MS. WUCINSKI:

5 I believe the Board would entertain a  
6 motion to approve an NCE Accommodation  
7 for the following: Agenda item 32,  
8 Joseph Grau; agenda item 33, Noelia  
9 Ortiz-Lightner.

10 Dr. Santiago is recused from agenda  
11 item 33.

12 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

13 Could we have a motion, please?

14 MS. EARLY:

15 So moved.

16 MR. DECRISCIO:

17 Second.

18 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

19 Is there any discussion about items 32  
20 and 33? Seeing none. Sarah, could you  
21 call the vote for item 32 first?

22  
23 Santiago, aye; Claggett, aye;  
24 DeCriscio, aye; Early, aye; Evans, aye;  
25 Martin, aye; Moyer, aye; Redcay, aye.



1 complaints boards are facing across the United States  
2 include child custody complaints, boundary  
3 violations, and people lodging complaints about  
4 telehealth delivery of services. She noted  
5 exploitation of supervisees is also an issue, where  
6 supervisors are charging fees upfront and then not  
7 providing supervision to their supervisees.

8 Chair Santiago mentioned discussion concerning  
9 supervision at the board level and what boards are  
10 asking people to do. She reported the counseling  
11 compact currently has 17 states. She addressed a  
12 report from the American Association of State  
13 Counseling Boards (AASCB) affiliates, which include  
14 the American Counseling Association (ACA), who are  
15 proud of the Medicare reimbursement for the  
16 Association of Counselor Education and Supervision  
17 (ACES). She mentioned that their national conference  
18 would be held in October 2024.

19 Chair Santiago announced the American Medical  
20 Certification Association (AMCA) would be having  
21 their annual conference in June. She noted Chi Sigma  
22 Iota is compiling data on supervisees and licensure  
23 for over 400 programs. She reported that the  
24 National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) also  
25 supported and celebrated the acceptance of the

1 Medicare omnibus and the mental health programs. She  
2 noted discussion concerning minority fellowship  
3 programs.

4 Chair Santiago informed Board members that the  
5 Masters in Psychology and Counseling Accreditation  
6 Council (MPCAC) discussed assessment of competence in  
7 graduates and how MPCAC is now in more than 23  
8 states. She also noted Counselors for Social Justice  
9 discussed their recent undertaking of engaging in  
10 supervision research and diversity, equity, and  
11 inclusion initiatives.

12 Ms. Martin wanted to clarify that all of the  
13 information in Chair Santiago's report is specific to  
14 LPCs, although some of it may crossover to some of  
15 the other professional disciplines.

16 Chair Santiago explained that everyone at the  
17 meetings are LPC board members, LPC administrators,  
18 or LPC board counsel and discussion applies to  
19 professional counseling.]

20 \*\*\*

21 Report of Acting Commissioner  
22 [Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of  
23 Professional and Occupational Affairs, informed  
24 everyone that licensees are currently not notified  
25 when their license expires and notification is being

1 created for May to alert licensees when their license  
2 expires.]

3 \*\*\*

4 Report of Board Administrator - No Report

5 \*\*\*

6 New Business

7 [Sarah E. McNeill, Board Administrator, provided an  
8 overview of the Association of Social Work Boards  
9 update on the Social Work Interstate Compact. She  
10 stated the Social Work Interstate Compact offers  
11 important advantages to social workers who live and  
12 work in different states, plan to relocate, or hope  
13 to expand the services they offer.

14 Ms. McNeill mentioned that the individuals served  
15 by social workers would benefit from increased access  
16 to quality care. She noted the National Association  
17 of Social Workers (NASW) issued a statement on  
18 February 3 opposing the use of the one and only  
19 element in the professional licensure equation that  
20 offers common ground across all United States and  
21 Canadian jurisdictions, which is the competency  
22 examination.

23 Ms. McNeill noted their position is clear, where  
24 the compact would need to contain some measure of  
25 exam requirements consistent with the common

1 standards among states, and it is not feasible that  
2 the exam requirements would be wholly removed in a  
3 manner that would be consistent with NASW's position  
4 as stated in its most recent press release. She  
5 noted that ASWB is committed to supporting the  
6 interstate compact as a valuable foundation for  
7 cross-jurisdictional common ground benefiting their  
8 members, the profession, and the public.

9 Ms. Martin informed everyone that the final  
10 regulation for the Social Work Licensure Compact  
11 could be found at [www.swcompact.org](http://www.swcompact.org).]

12 \*\*\*

13 Adjournment

14 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

15 Could I have a motion for adjournment?

16 MS. EARLY:

17 So moved.

18 MR. DECRISCIO:

19 Second.

20 CHAIR SANTIAGO:

21 We are adjourned.

22 \*\*\*

23 [There being no further business, the State Board of  
24 Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and  
25 Professional Counselors Meeting adjourned at

1 11:35 a.m.]

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CERTIFICATE

6

7

I hereby certify that the foregoing summary  
8 minutes of the State Board of Social Workers,  
9 Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional  
10 Counselors meeting, was reduced to writing by me or  
11 under my supervision, and that the minutes accurately  
12 summarize the substance of the State Board of Social  
13 Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and  
14 Professional Counselors meeting.

15

16

17

Benjamin Morrow

18

Benjamin Morrow,

19

Minute Clerk

20

Sargent's Court Reporting

21

Service, Inc.

22

23

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26

1 STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKERS,  
2 MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS,  
3 AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS  
4 REFERENCE INDEX  
5

6 March 14, 2023  
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8	9	10
11	12	13
14	15	16
17	9:00	Executive Session
18	11:00	Return to Open Session
19	11:01	Official Call to Order
20	11:01	Introduction of Board Members
21	11:02	Introduction of Attendees
22	11:03	Approval of Minutes
23	11:04	Report of Prosecutorial Division
24	11:11	Report of Board Counsel
25	11:20	Review of Applications
26	11:26	Miscellaneous
27	11:27	Report of Board Chairperson
28	11:31	Report of Acting Commissioner
29	11:33	New Business
30	11:35	Adjournment
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