

1 State of Alaska
2 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
3 DIVISION OF CORPORATION, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING
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5 BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK LICENSE EXAMINERS
6 Minutes of the meeting September 15, 2025
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9 By the authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and AS 08.95.020, and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.62,
10 Article 6, the scheduled meeting of the Board of Social Work Examiners originated via Zoom.
11

12 **Agenda Item – Call to Order/Roll Call**

13 The Chair brought the meeting to order at 9:00 am
14

15 On record: 9:00am
16

17 **Board Members Present Constituting a Quorum**

18 Anne Wells, Chair

19 Amber Taylor

20 Stacey Stone

21 Ivy Villani
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23 **Board Members Absent**

24 None
25

26 **Staff Members Present**

27 Alyssa Castles, Occupational Licensing Examiner III

28 Amberly Northcutt, Occupational Licensing Examiner III
29

30 **Members of the Public Present**

31 Kevin Mellis
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33 **Agenda Item - New Board Member Introduction (Ivy Villani)**

34 Ivy Villani, the new board member, introduced herself.
35

36 **Agenda Item – Ethics Disclosures**

37 All members said they had no potential ethics conflicts to disclose.
38

39 **Agenda Item – Review/Approve Agenda**
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41 In a motion duly made by Stacey Stone, seconded by Amber Taylor with unanimous consent, it was
42 resolved to approve the 09/15/2025 agenda as presented.

Board Member	Approve	Deny	Recuse	Absent
Anne Wells, Chair	X			
Stacey Stone	X			
Amber Taylor	X			

Ivy Villani	X			
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Agenda Item – Public Comment

Kevin Mellis – I am coming from the Yukon, Canada, and I am in the process of applying for my LMSW license. It appears that there is a bit of a snag with approving my Canadian education, so my application is now on hold. My question is what process needs to be in place to confirm the current and existing memorandum of understanding? I understand there is one word in the memorandum that is holding this up. I do not have the memorandum in front of me at the moment, but maybe you already know what I’m talking about.

Board Chair Response—this item is on today’s agenda

Agenda Item – Division Report (Melissa Dumas)

- a. **Quarterly Report FY2025** – Melissa Dumas reviewed the third quarter report covering until the end of March 31, 2025. In this report, she discussed revenue, expenditures, indirect expenditures, and license count.

Agenda Item – New Business

- a. **Ballot Review Frequency (Stacey Stone)** – Brought a question to the board regarding the possibility of switching from a biweekly to a monthly deadline for reviewing ballots. After discussion, the board decided to keep the current schedule of reviewing ballots every two weeks.

Agenda Item - ASWB Educational Meeting Report (Amber Taylor) – discussed the ASWB Educational meeting, which covered the Code of Ethics, regulations, and the impact on therapy. Overall, the meeting was very informative.

Agenda Item – Investigations (Jasmin Bautista)

- a. **Investigative Report:** Jasmin reviewed the investigation period from May 20, 2025, through September 03, 2025. This period has 25 open cases, and 5 cases closed this period.
- b. **Investigations Board Member Training** – board declined refresher training; Ivy met with Jasmine separately.

In a motion made by Stacey Stone, seconded by Amber Taylor, in unanimous consent it was resolved to move the Alaska State Board of Social Work Examiners into executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c), and Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of discussing matters which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be confidential. Board staff members to remain during the session: Alyssa Castles, Amberly Northcutt, Jasmin Bautista, Josh Hardy, Kim Lilly, and Jeanne Pace.

Board Member	Approve	Deny	Recuse	Absent
Anne Wells, Chair	X			
Stacey Stone	X			
Amber Taylor	X			
Ivy Villani	X			

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Off Record – 9:31 am
On Record – 10:24am

In a motion made by Stacey Stone, seconded by Amber Taylor, in unanimous consent it was resolved to accept the voluntary surrender of license CSW185, Ann Yaros, case number 2025-000225.

Board Member	Approve	Deny	Recuse	Absent
Anne Wells, Chair	X			
Stacey Stone	X			
Amber Taylor	X			
Ivy Villani	X			

In a motion made by Stacey Stone, seconded by Amber Taylor, in unanimous consent it was resolved to accept the voluntary surrender of license CSWS991, Windy Russ, case number 2018-001315-Prb.

Board Member	Approve	Deny	Recuse	Absent
Anne Wells, Chair	X			
Stacey Stone	X			
Amber Taylor	X			
Ivy Villani	X			

In a motion made by Stacey Stone, seconded by Amber Taylor, in unanimous consent it was resolved to reject the consent agreement for purpose of public safety and precedent for Case numbers 2021-000299 and 2024-000617.

Board Member	Approve	Deny	Recuse	Absent
Anne Wells, Chair	X			
Stacey Stone	X			
Amber Taylor	X			
Ivy Villani	X			

Anne Wells, Chair, called for a 10 minute recess.

Off record 10:27am
On record 10:38am

Agenda Item – Old Business

- a. **HB110 Review (Anne Wells, Chair)** –The board did not write a statement of support at this time. Agenda item tabled for next meeting.
- b. **HB131 + SB 124** – The board did not write a statement of support at this time.
- c. **HB 158 + SB 145** – The board did not write a statement of support at this time. Tabled for the next meeting.

Agenda Item – Regulation Review

- a. **Review All Projects (Anne Wells, Chair)** - The board reviewed all in-process projects. Due to an administrative order, no regulations projects can be started, but the board assessed urgency

114 and importance with an emphasis on minimal competency standards. Priorities for next meeting
115 include: CEU details at renewal, supervision regulation gaps, and licensure required under
116 supervision.
117

118 **In a motion made by Stacey Stone, seconded by Amber Taylor, in unanimous consent it was resolved**
119 **to, once the ability to have a regulations project is available to the board, consider these and other**
120 **ways to streamline the regulations.**

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122 **Agenda Item – New Business**

123 a. **SCRA Ballot – Division Update (Alyssa Castles)** – Discussed the federal requirement for
124 approving Federal Service Members Civil Relief Act, SCRA, ballots, provided that all
125 requirements are met. The board agreed to delegate the approval process to the division to
126 expedite this process.
127

128 In a motion made by Amber Taylor, seconded by Stacey Stone, in unanimous consent, it was resolved to
129 allow licenses applied for under the Federal Service members Civil Relief Act’s (or “SCRA”) licensure
130 portability laws to be reviewed, approved, and issued by the division, rather than by the board, in order
131 to comply with federal law requiring expediency and due to the fact that the board’s authority and
132 requirement to approve and issue licenses is under Alaska Statute Title 8, rather than federal law. Once
133 licenses are issued pursuant to the SCRA, these licensees will be subject to the requirements of Title 8 of
134 Alaska Statutes and subject to the board’s authority, same as all other Alaska professional licensees
135 under the board’s jurisdiction.
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Board Member	Approve	Deny	Recuse	Absent
Anne Wells, Chair	X			
Stacey Stone	X			
Amber Taylor	X			
Ivy Villani	X			

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139 b. **CSWE MOU with CASWE (Alyssa Castles)** - Discussed the memorandum of understanding
140 between CSWE and CASWE (Canadian social work education accrediting body). The
141 memorandum states that one recognizes the other’s accreditation. This is an opportunity for the
142 board to make a motion saying whether they agree to recognize this or not.
143

144 **In a motion made by Stacey Stone, seconded by Amber Taylor, with unanimous consent, it was**
145 **resolved to accept degrees accredited by CASWE as equivalent to degrees accredited by CSWE per the**
146 **MOU between CSWE and CASWE, previously known as CASSW, as meeting the requirement of AS**
147 **08.95.110(a)(1) and 12 AAC 18.990(1)(A) to meet the educational requirement for applications by**
148 **exam.**

Board Member	Approve	Deny	Recuse	Absent
Anne Wells, Chair	X			
Stacey Stone	X			
Amber Taylor	X			
Ivy Villani	X			

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- 150 c. **Random Audit Form (Alyssa Castles)** – Random audit form was presented to the board and no
- 151 edits were suggested.
- 152 d. **CEU Approval Form Update (Alyssa Castles)** – Discussed the CEU approval form, which has been
- 153 in use for multiple licensing programs. However, social work regulations don't contain any
- 154 process for approval or reasons for denial of CE courses. Until language is put into regulation,
- 155 the division will remove this form from the social work website.
- 156 e. **(agenda item addressed earlier)**
- 157 f. **Board Correspondence (Alyssa Castles)** –
- 158 a. **Industrial Hemp Notice** – Notified the board that this information is available on every
- 159 professional license program's website.
- 160 b. **Clinical Supervision Clarification** – Board provided a response to the liaison.
- 161 c. **CSWE Doctorate Accreditation** – Discussed that CSWE has begun accrediting doctorate
- 162 programs. They have requested not to penalize individuals who hold doctorates that are
- 163 not accredited.
- 164 d. **Retiree Limited License** – Board provided a response to the liaison.
- 165 e. **Social Work and Coaching** – Board provided a response to the liaison.
- 166 g. **Tabled Application** – The board discussed exam extensions, and their intent to issue consistent
- 167 one-year extensions at a time. Additional exam extensions may be granted for good cause
- 168 shown. Board to reconsider exam approval length at a future meeting.
- 169

170 **I Stacey Stone, move that this extension be granted for the time period of one year and that the one-**
 171 **year time period be communicated to the applicant.**

Board Member	Approve	Deny	Recuse	Absent
Anne Wells, Chair	X			
Stacey Stone	X			
Amber Taylor	X			
Ivy Villani	X			

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 173 **Agenda Item – Future Meetings and Travel**

- 174 A. **Administrative Order 358, 359, and 360** – Discussed each administrative order and what they
- 175 entail. Went over how the governor has specifically asked that we cut unnecessary regulations.
- 176 B. **Delegate to the 2025 ASWB Annual Meeting** – Travel is restricted. If the travel restriction is
- 177 lifted then we will send someone, but we will need to know that by October 07, 2025. If the
- 178 restriction is lifted, then Ivy Villani will attend.
- 179 C. **Future Board Meetings** – Next dates were set for: Monday, March 23, 2026; Monday, June 01,
- 180 2026; Monday, September 21, 2026; Monday, December 07, 2026.
- 181

182 **Agenda Item - Adjourn**

183 **Anne Wells, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 11:49am.**

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 185 Off Record – 11:49 am

Date final minutes approved by the board:	10/03/2025
<input type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onboard	