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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

2525 North 7th Street

CoPA HUB, Eaton Conference Room

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

as well as

VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

January 7, 2025

1 State Board of Social Workers,
2 Marriage and Family Therapists,
3 and Professional Counselors
4 January 7, 2025
5
6

7 BOARD MEMBERS:
8

9 Michelle Santiago, Psy.D., NCC, CCMHC, LPC, Chair -
10 Absent
11 Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of
12 Professional and Occupational Affairs
13 Richard Joseph Behun, Ph.D., LPC, NCC, ACS
14 Farida E. Boyer, MS, LMFT, AS
15 Eric DeCriscio, MA, LPC, ACS
16 Kimberly Early, LSW
17 Erika Evans-Weaver, Ph.D., LMFT, Vice Chair
18 Andy Gross, LCSW, MSS
19 Ling Dinse, DSW, MSW, LSW
20 Tiffany Welch, DSW, MSW, LSW
21
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23 BUREAU PERSONNEL:
24

25 Cathy A. Tully, Esquire, Board Counsel
26 Todd P. Kriner, Esquire, Senior Board Prosecutor
27 Patrick M. Greene, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
28 Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
29 Adam J. Williams, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
30 Berk V. Demiral, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
31 Adrienne Rachelle McClendon, Esquire, Board
32 Prosecutor
33 Courtney J. Restemayer, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
34 Sarah E. McNeill, Interim Board Administrator
35 Aarthi Manoharan, Board Administrator
36 Thomas Leech II, Administrative Officer 2
37 Andrew LaFratte, MPA, Deputy Policy Director,
38 Department of State
39 Carlton Smith, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel,
40 Prosecution Division
41 Holly Hoffman, Law Clerk, Department of State
42 Michael Merten, Esquire, Board Counsel, State Board
43 of Barber Examiners
44 Deena Parmelee, Legal Office Administrator 1,
45 Department of State
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State Board of Social Workers,
Marriage and Family Therapists,
and Professional Counselors
January 7, 2025

ALSO PRESENT:

- Ashley Taylor, MMT, MT-BC, Open Space Counseling,
Consulting & Wellness
- Johanna Byrd, ACSW, IOM, CAE, Executive Director,
National Association of Social Workers,
Pennsylvania Chapter
- Graziella Sanga, Counselor/Advocate, Domestic
Violence Center of Chester County
- Shelby Jackson
- Anyelina Hernandez De La Rosa
- Erin Kawa, Principal, Commercial Litigation,
Regulatory & Administrative Agency Law, and
Professional Licensure Practice Groups, Post & Schell
- Eric Stern
- Paul Springer
- Eric McCollum
- Sara Kiley
- Derek Richmond, Sargent's Court Reporting Service,
Inc.

1 ***

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

5 January 7, 2025

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 Cathy A. Tully, Esquire, Board Counsel,
10 for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial
11 deliberations on a number of matters currently
12 pending before the Board and to receive the advice of
13 counsel. The Board entered into public session at
14 11:00 a.m.]

15 ***

16 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State
17 Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family
18 Therapists, and Professional Counselors was held on
19 Tuesday, January 7, 2025. Arion R. Claggett, Acting
20 Commissioner, Bureau of Professional and Occupational
21 Affairs, on behalf of Michelle Santiago, Psy.D., NCC,
22 CCMHC, LPC, Chair, called the meeting to order at
23 11:01 a.m.

24 Erika Evans-Weaver, Ph.D., LMFT, Vice Chair, was
25 not present at the commencement of the meeting.

1 ***

2 Roll Call of Board Members/Introduction of Attendees
3 [Sarah E. McNeill, Interim Board Administrator,
4 provided a roll call of Board members and
5 introduction of attendees. A quorum of Board members
6 was present.]

7 ***

8 [Cathy A. Tully, Esquire, Board Counsel, informed
9 everyone that the meeting was being recorded, and
10 those who continued to participate were giving their
11 consent to be recorded.

12 Ms. Tully also noted the Board entered into
13 Executive Session for the purpose of conducting
14 quasi-judicial deliberations and to receive the
15 advice of counsel on the matters for which the Board
16 will later vote.]

17 ***

18 MS. TULLY:

19 Moving forward with our Acting Chair as
20 Mr. Claggett, I'd like to get a formal
21 motion to declare him Chair Pro Tem for
22 the purposes of this meeting.

23 MS. EARLY:

24 I make the motion.

25 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

1 Do we have a second?

2 DR. BEHUN:

3 I'll second.

4 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

5 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;

6 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;

7 Gross, aye; Welch, aye.

8 [The motion carried unanimously. Erika Evans did not
9 vote on the motion.]

10 ***

11 Approval of minutes of the November 26, 2024 meeting

12 MS. TULLY:

13 I believe the Chairperson would
14 entertain a motion to accept the
15 minutes from the meeting held on
16 November 26, 2024.

17 MS. EARLY:

18 I make the motion.

19 DR. BEHUN:

20 Second.

21 MS. MCNEILL:

22 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;

23 DeCriscio, abstain; Dinse, abstain;

24 Early, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, abstain.

25 [The motion carried. Eric DeCriscio, Ling Dinse, and

1 Tiffany Welch abstained from voting on the motion.
2 Erika Evans did not vote on the motion.]

3 ***

4 Report of Prosecutorial Division

5 [Adrienne Rachelle McClendon, Esquire, Board
6 Prosecutor, presented the Consent Agreements for Case
7 No. 21-69-011000 and Case No. 23-69-008314.]

8 MS. TULLY:

9 Item 2. Based upon Executive Session
10 deliberations, I believe our Chair
11 would entertain a motion to accept the
12 Consent Agreement at Case No. 21-69-
13 011000.

14 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

15 Do I have a motion?

16 MS. EARLY:

17 I make the motion.

18 DR. BEHUN:

19 Second.

20 MS. MCNEILL:

21 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
22 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;
23 Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, abstain.

24 [The motion carried. Tiffany Welch abstained from
25 voting on the motion. The Respondent's name is

1 Joanne G. Vansaun, LSW.]

2 ***

3 MS. TULLY:

4 Moving on to item 3. Based upon
5 Executive Session deliberations, I
6 believe the Chair would entertain a
7 motion to accept the Consent Agreement
8 at Case No. 23-69-008314, for which Dr.
9 Evans and Dr. Santiago are recused.

10 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

11 Do I have a motion?

12 MS. EARLY:

13 I make the motion.

14 DR. BEHUN:

15 Second.

16 MS. MCNEILL:

17 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
18 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;
19 Evans, recuse; Gross, aye; Welch,
20 abstain.

21 [The motion carried. Tiffany Welch abstained from
22 voting on the motion. Erika Evans recused herself
23 from deliberations and voting on the motion. The
24 Respondent's name is Gregory Raymer Kent, LSW.]

25 ***

1 [Courtney J. Restemayer, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
2 presented the Consent Agreement for Case Nos. 24-69-
3 006236.]

4 MS. TULLY:

5 Item 4. Based upon Executive Session
6 deliberations, I believe the Chair
7 would entertain a motion to accept the
8 Consent Agreement at Case No. 24-69-
9 006236.

10 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

11 Do I have a motion?

12 MS. EARLY:

13 I make the motion.

14 DR. BEHUN:

15 Second.

16 MS. MCNEILL:

17 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
18 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;
19 Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, abstain.

20 [The motion carried. Tiffany Welch abstained from
21 voting on the motion. The Respondent's name is
22 Crystal Marie Schmidt, LPC.]

23 ***

24 Report of Board Counsel - Matters for Deliberation

25 MS. TULLY:

1 Agenda item 5. Based upon Executive
2 Session deliberations, I believe the
3 Chair would entertain a motion to
4 direct Board Counsel to draft an
5 Adjudication and Order consistent with
6 the deliberations in the Matter of
7 Jared Helman, Case No. 23-69-008551.

8 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

9 Do I have a motion?

10 MS. EARLY:

11 I make the motion.

12 DR. BEHUN:

13 Second.

14 MS. MCNEILL:

15 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
16 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;
17 Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, abstain.

18 [The motion carried. Tiffany Welch abstained from
19 voting on the motion.]

20 ***

21 MS. TULLY:

22 Item 6 on the agenda. I believe, based
23 upon Executive Session deliberations,
24 the Chair would entertain a motion to
25 direct Board Counsel to draft an

1 Adjudication and Order consistent with
2 our deliberations in the Matter of
3 Mary-Elizabeth Grimaldi, Case No. 24-
4 69-009376.

5 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

6 Do I have a motion?

7 MS. EARLY:

8 I make the motion.

9 DR. BEHUN:

10 Second.

11 MS. MCNEILL:

12 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
13 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;
14 Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, abstain.

15 [The motion carried. Tiffany Welch abstained from
16 voting on the motion.]

17 ***

18 Report of Board Counsel - Final Adjudications and
19 Orders

20 MS. TULLY:

21 Item 7 on the agenda. Based upon
22 Executive Session deliberations, I
23 believe the Chairperson would entertain
24 a motion to adopt the Final
25 Adjudication and Order in the Matter of

1 Renee Gibson, Case No. 23-69-006776.

2 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

3 Do I have a motion?

4 MS. EARLY:

5 I make the motion.

6 DR. BEHUN:

7 Second.

8 MS. MCNEILL:

9 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;

10 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;

11 Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, abstain.

12 [The motion carried. Tiffany Welch abstained from
13 voting on the motion.]

14 ***

15 MS. TULLY:

16 Item 8 on the agenda. Based upon
17 Executive Session deliberations, I
18 believe the Chairperson would entertain
19 a motion to adopt the Final
20 Adjudication and Order in the Matter of
21 Eddily Camilo-Terrero, Case No. 24-69-
22 006627.

23 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

24 Do I have a motion?

25 MS. EARLY:

1 I make the motion.

2 DR. BEHUN:

3 Second.

4 MS. MCNEILL:

5 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
6 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;
7 Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, abstain.

8 [The motion carried. Tiffany Welch abstained from
9 voting on the motion.]

10 ***

11 Regulatory Report - January Regulatory Status Update
12 [Cathy A. Tully, Esquire, Board Counsel, provided an
13 update on behalf of Attorney Wolfgang, noting she
14 submitted a Regulatory Status Report for the Board's
15 review prior to the meeting.

16 Ms. Tully informed Board members that 16A-6928
17 regarding supervisory standards was added to the
18 report per the Board's request.

19 Ms. Tully noted the draft exposure for 16A-6927
20 regarding associate marriage and family therapists
21 (MFTs) and professional counselors (PCs) was
22 distributed on December 27, 2024, and was in the
23 comment period.]

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25 Report of Board Chairperson - No Report

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Report of Acting Commissioner - No Report

Report of Board Administrator

[Sarah E. McNeill, Board Administrator, informed Board members that this would be her last meeting as Board Administrator.]

Review of Applications

MS. TULLY:

Item 10 on the agenda. I believe, based upon Executive Session deliberations, the Chair would entertain a motion to provisionally deny the Application of Lili Baldwin, Application No. AA0005550159, to Practice as an Associate Marriage and Family Therapist.

CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

Do I have a motion?

MS. EARLY:

So moved.

DR. BEHUN:

Second.

MS. MCNEILL:

1 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
2 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;
3 Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, abstain.

4 [The motion carried. Tiffany Welch abstained from
5 voting on the motion.]

6 ***

7 MS. TULLY:

8 Moving on to item 11, the Application
9 by Candace Scheiblein, Application No.
10 AA0005070403. I believe the Board is
11 looking to table the consideration of
12 this Application.

13 ***

14 MS. TULLY:

15 Item 12 on the agenda. Based upon
16 Executive Session deliberations, I
17 believe our Chairperson would entertain
18 a motion to provisionally deny the
19 Application of KC Carpenter,
20 Application No. AA0005658605, to
21 Practice as a Licensed Clinical Social
22 Worker by Exam.

23 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

24 Do I have a motion?

25 MS. EARLY:

1 So moved.

2 DR. BEHUN:

3 Second.

4 MS. MCNEILL:

5 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
6 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;
7 Evans, aye; Gross, nay; Welch, abstain.

8 [The motion carried. Tiffany Welch abstained from
9 voting on the motion. Andy Gross opposed the
10 motion.]

11 ***

12 MS. TULLY:

13 Item 13 on the agenda. Based upon
14 Executive Session deliberations, I
15 believe the Chairperson would entertain
16 a motion to provisionally deny the
17 Application of Anya Angeloni,
18 Application No. AA0005352295, to
19 Practice as a Licensed Professional
20 Counselor by Exam.

21 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

22 Do I have a motion?

23 MS. EARLY:

24 So moved.

25 DR. BEHUN:

1 Second.

2 MS. MCNEILL:

3 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
4 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;
5 Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, aye.

6 [The motion carried unanimously.]

7 ***

8 MS. TULLY:

9 Item 14 on the agenda. Based upon
10 Executive Session deliberations, I
11 believe the Chairperson would entertain
12 a motion to provisionally deny the
13 Application of Anyelina Hernandez De La
14 Rosa, Application No. AA0005587964, to
15 Practice as a Licensed Professional
16 Counselor by Exam.

17 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

18 Do I have a motion?

19 MS. EARLY:

20 So moved.

21 DR. BEHUN:

22 Second.

23 MS. MCNEILL:

24 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
25 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;

1 Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, aye.

2 [The motion carried unanimously.]

3 ***

4 MS. TULLY:

5 Item 15 on the agenda. Based upon
6 Executive Session deliberations, I
7 believe the Chairperson would entertain
8 a motion to grant the Application of
9 Arnold Tilden, Application No.
10 AA0005439164, to Practice as a Licensed
11 Professional Counselor by Exam.

12 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

13 Do I have a motion?

14 MS. EARLY:

15 So moved.

16 DR. BEHUN:

17 Second.

18 MS. MCNEILL:

19 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
20 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;
21 Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, aye.

22 [The motion carried unanimously.]

23 ***

24 MS. TULLY:

25 Item 16 on the agenda. Based upon

1 Executive Session deliberations, I
2 believe the Chairperson would entertain
3 a motion to provisionally deny the
4 Application of Kendra Cox, Application
5 No. AA0005680704, to Practice as a
6 Licensed Professional Counselor by
7 Exam.

8 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

9 Do I have a motion?

10 MS. EARLY:

11 So moved.

12 DR. BEHUN:

13 Second.

14 MS. MCNEILL:

15 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
16 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;
17 Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, aye.

18 [The motion carried unanimously.]

19 ***

20 MS. TULLY:

21 Item 17 on the agenda. Based upon
22 Executive Session deliberations, I
23 believe the Chairperson would entertain
24 a motion to provisionally deny the
25 Application of Madison Godek,

1 Application No. AA0005545524, to
2 Practice as a Licensed Professional
3 Counselor by Exam.

4 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

5 Do I have a motion?

6 MS. EARLY:

7 So moved.

8 DR. BEHUN:

9 Second.

10 MS. MCNEILL:

11 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
12 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;
13 Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, aye.

14 [The motion carried unanimously.]

15 ***

16 MS. TULLY:

17 Item 18 on the agenda. I believe,
18 based upon Executive Session
19 deliberations, the Chairperson would
20 entertain a motion to provisionally
21 deny the Application of Sheila
22 Dietrich, Application No. AA000580870,
23 to Practice as a Licensed Professional
24 Counselor by Exam.

25 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

1 Do I have a motion?

2 MS. EARLY:

3 So moved.

4 DR. BEHUN:

5 Second.

6 MS. MCNEILL:

7 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
8 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;
9 Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, aye.

10 [The motion carried unanimously.]

11 ***

12 Applications - Act 41 Review

13 MS. TULLY:

14 Item 19 on the agenda. Based upon
15 Executive Session deliberations, I
16 believe the Chairperson would entertain
17 a motion to provisionally grant the
18 Application of Alexandra Weinfeld,
19 Application No. AA0005574125, to
20 Practice as a Licensed Professional
21 Counselor.

22 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

23 Do I have a motion?

24 MS. EARLY:

25 So moved.

1 DR. BEHUN:

2 Second.

3 MS. MCNEILL:

4 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
5 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;
6 Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, aye.

7 [The motion carried unanimously.]

8 ***

9 MS. TULLY:

10 Item 20 on the agenda. Based upon
11 Executive Session deliberations, I
12 believe the Chair would entertain a
13 motion to grant the Application of
14 Hilton Morris, Application No.
15 AA0005229497, to Practice as a
16 Professional Counselor through Act 41.

17 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

18 Do I have a motion?

19 MS. EARLY:

20 So moved.

21 DR. BEHUN:

22 Second.

23 MS. MCNEILL:

24 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
25 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early,

1 abstain; Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch,
2 aye.

3 [The motion carried. Kimberly Early abstained from
4 voting on the motion.]

5 ***

6 MS. TULLY:

7 Item 21 on the agenda. Based upon
8 Executive Session deliberations, I
9 believe the Chair would entertain a
10 motion to grant the Provisional License
11 of Jennifer Britten, Application No.
12 AA0006033729, to Practice as a
13 Professional Counselor by Endorsement.

14 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

15 Do I have a motion?

16 MS. EARLY:

17 So moved.

18 DR. BEHUN:

19 Second.

20 MS. MCNEILL:

21 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
22 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early,
23 abstain; Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch,
24 aye.

25 [The motion carried. Kimberly Early abstained from

1 voting on the motion.]

2 ***

3 MS. TULLY:

4 Item 22 on the agenda. Based upon
5 Executive Session deliberations, I
6 believe the Chair would entertain a
7 motion to provisionally deny the
8 Application of Jessica Lego,
9 Application No. AA0005561455, to
10 Practice as a Professional Counselor
11 through Endorsement.

12 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

13 Do I have a motion?

14 MS. EARLY:

15 So moved.

16 DR. BEHUN:

17 Second.

18 MS. MCNEILL:

19 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
20 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early,
21 abstain; Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch,
22 aye.

23 [The motion carried. Kimberly Early abstained from
24 voting on the motion.]

25 ***

1 MS. TULLY:

2 Item 23 on the agenda, at the request
3 of the Board, is going to be tabled.
4 That's the consideration of the
5 Application of Kevin O'Boyle.

6 ***

7 MS. TULLY:

8 Item 24 on the agenda. It is my
9 understanding, based upon Executive
10 Session deliberations, the Chair would
11 entertain a motion to grant a
12 Provisional License to Shelby Jackson,
13 Application No. AA0005596528, to
14 Practice as a Professional Counselor by
15 Endorsement.

16 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

17 Do I have a motion?

18 MS. EARLY:

19 So moved.

20 DR. BEHUN:

21 Second.

22 MS. MCNEILL:

23 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
24 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early,
25 abstain; Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch,

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aye.

[The motion carried. Kimberly Early abstained from voting on the motion.]

MS. TULLY:

Item 25 on the agenda. Based upon Executive Session deliberations, I believe the Chair would entertain a motion to grant a Provisional License to April McCall Lamb, Application No. AA0005533132, to Practice as a Marriage and Family Therapist by Endorsement.

CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

Do I have a motion?

MS. EARLY:

So moved.

DR. BEHUN:

Second.

MS. MCNEILL:

Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye; DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, abstain; Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, aye.

[The motion carried. Kimberly Early abstained from voting on the motion.]

1 ***

2 MS. TULLY:

3 Item 26 on the agenda. Based upon
4 Executive Session deliberations, I
5 believe the Chair would entertain a
6 motion to provisionally deny the
7 Application of Clare Martin,
8 Application No. AA0004766370, to
9 Practice as a Marriage and Family
10 Therapist by Endorsement.

11 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

12 Do I have a motion?

13 MS. EARLY:

14 So moved.

15 DR. BEHUN:

16 Second.

17 MS. MCNEILL:

18 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
19 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early,
20 abstain; Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch,
21 aye.

22 [The motion carried. Kimberly Early abstained from
23 voting on the motion.]

24 ***

25 MS. TULLY:

1 Item 27 on the agenda. Based upon
2 Executive Session deliberations, I
3 believe the Chair would entertain a
4 motion to grant a provisional license
5 to Jason Powell, Application No.
6 AA0004819292, to Practice as a Marriage
7 and Family Therapist by Endorsement.

8 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

9 Do I have a motion?

10 MS. EARLY:

11 So moved.

12 DR. BEHUN:

13 Second.

14 MS. MCNEILL:

15 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
16 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early,
17 abstain; Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch,
18 aye.

19 [The motion carried. Kimberly Early abstained from
20 voting on the motion.]

21 ***

22 MS. TULLY:

23 Item 28 on the agenda. Based upon
24 Executive Session deliberations, I
25 believe the Chair would entertain a

1 motion to provisionally deny the
2 Application of Sarah Kate Venison,
3 Application No. AA0005264433, to
4 Practice as a Marriage and Family
5 Therapist by Endorsement.

6 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

7 Do I have a motion?

8 MS. EARLY:

9 So moved.

10 DR. BEHUN:

11 Second.

12 MS. MCNEILL:

13 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
14 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early,
15 abstain; Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch,
16 aye.

17 [The motion carried. Kimberly Early abstained from
18 voting on the motion.]

19 ***

20 Applications - Preapproved Provider of CE

21 MS. TULLY:

22 Item 29 on the agenda. Based upon
23 Executive Session deliberations, I
24 believe the Chair would entertain a
25 motion to approve the request of

1 ***

2 MS. TULLY:

3 Item 31 on the agenda. The Board has
4 received a request from Brittany
5 Littlejohn Maxshure to Practice with
6 the Fictitious Name of Medical Social
7 Work Practice.

8 Based upon Executive Session
9 deliberations, I believe the Chair
10 would entertain a motion to deny that
11 request.

12 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

13 Do I have a motion?

14 MS. EARLY:

15 So moved.

16 DR. BEHUN:

17 Second.

18 MS. MCNEILL:

19 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
20 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;
21 Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, aye.

22 [The motion carried unanimously.]

23 ***

24 New Business - Annual Elections

25 [Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of

1 Professional and Occupational Affairs, noted annual
2 elections would be tabled.]

3 ***

4 New Business - Annual Sunshine Act and Recusal
5 Guidelines Review

6 [Cathy A. Tully, Esquire, Board Counsel, stated the
7 purpose of the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act is the right
8 of the public to be present at meetings of all
9 agencies and to witness the deliberations, policy
10 formations, and the decision-making. She noted it is
11 vital for the enhancement and the proper functioning
12 of the democratic process, and secrecy in public
13 affairs undermines the faith of the public in
14 government.

15 Ms. Tully provided an overview of when the
16 Sunshine Act Law is applied. She discussed public
17 notice, noting an agency includes boards and all the
18 committees of the various boards. She also discussed
19 official action, which is the agency's recommendation
20 made pursuant to the statute, ordinance, or executive
21 order.

22 Ms. Tully addressed public notice of regular
23 meetings, special meetings, and rescheduled meetings.
24 She explained that public notice would not be
25 required for an emergency meeting or conference. She

1 addressed public notification to include the place,
2 date, and the time of the meeting in a newspaper of
3 general circulation in the political subdivision
4 where that meeting will be held.

5 Ms. Tully also addressed the posting of the
6 meeting in the principal office of the agency holding
7 the meeting or at the public building where the
8 meeting is to be held. She discussed public notice
9 under Act 65 of 2021.

10 Ms. Tully noted the recording of the votes must
11 also be publicly cast, and minutes must include the
12 date, time, and place of the meeting; name of the
13 members present; the substance of all official
14 actions; a record of the individual member of the
15 roll call votes; and names of the citizens who appear
16 officially with the subject of their testimony.

17 Ms. Tully noted the exceptions to the open
18 meeting requirements are conferences and executive
19 sessions. She addressed conferences, which would
20 include any training program or seminar organized for
21 the sole purpose of providing information to the
22 members on matters that directly relate to their
23 official responsibilities. She mentioned that
24 members are also precluded from deliberating on any
25 agency business while at a conference.

1 Ms. Tully noted exceptions for executive session
2 include personnel issues, consulting with legal
3 counsel or another professional advisor, and to
4 review or discuss agency business that would violate
5 some sort of lawful privilege or lead to the
6 disclosure of information that is protected by law if
7 conducted in public.

8 Ms. Tully reported that executive sessions can be
9 held immediately before, during, or after the opening
10 of the meeting and also be announced to occur on a
11 future date. She addressed reasons for holding an
12 executive session and the announcement of executive
13 session.

14 Ms. Tully explained that any potential violations
15 of the Sunshine Act must be filed within 30 days from
16 the date of the open meeting or 30 days from the
17 discovery of the action that occurred that was not
18 open in violation of the Sunshine Act. She reported
19 that no action alleging a violation of the Sunshine
20 Law can be commenced more than a year from the date
21 of the meeting where the alleged violation occurred.

22 Ms. Tully stated a violation of the Sunshine Act
23 could be a criminal sanction resulting in a
24 conviction and a potential fine. She noted that all
25 action taken at the official meeting could be

1 considered invalid, and the party bringing the
2 challenge would also have a claim to their attorney
3 fees.

4 Ms. Tully emphasized that Board business should
5 be conducted in open meetings and should not be
6 discussed, especially executive session matters,
7 outside of the official meetings.

8 Ms. Tully stated committee meetings formulating
9 policy or regulations should also take place at a
10 public open meeting with the appropriate public
11 notifications. She noted committees performing
12 administrative functions, such as reviewing
13 applications or performing prosecutorial functions,
14 are not subject to open meeting requirements.

15 Ms. Tully explained that recusals are mandatory
16 whenever the Board member has a prosecutorial role in
17 the matter or have a direct personal financial
18 interest in the outcome of the matter. She noted
19 recusals are strongly suggested if a Board member has
20 a personal affection for someone directly involved in
21 the subject at issue. She mentioned that knowing a
22 person or knowing of a person involved with a pending
23 matter is not necessary enough to warrant recusal.

24 Ms. Tully noted that recusals are also strongly
25 suggested when the Board member has knowledge from

1 outside of the case that they cannot set aside in
2 order to make a fair and unbiased determination.

3 Ms. Tully stated recusals are discretionary when
4 Board members feel they cannot hear or dispose of the
5 case or participate in a decision on a subject fairly
6 and without prejudice. She encouraged Board members
7 to contact Board Counsel privately prior to the
8 meeting, so they could provide advice and guidance.

9 Ms. Tully addressed the differences between
10 abstaining and refusing. She explained that
11 abstaining would not affect the vote or quorum
12 because they are withholding their vote. She noted
13 the Board member would not be able to vote with
14 recusal and could affect the quorum.

15 Ms. Tully addressed conflicts of interests, where
16 no member of any professional examining or licensing
17 board shall at the same time be an officer or an
18 agent of any statewide association or an organization
19 representing the profession or the occupation subject
20 to the board's actions.

21 Ms. Tully further explained that a member of the
22 licensing board or commission designated as
23 representing the public at large shall be a private
24 citizen and shall not be a member of any profession
25 or occupation regulated by the licensing board,

1 commission, or Bureau of Professional and
2 Occupational Affairs. She noted they also shall not
3 be related to or part of an immediate family of any
4 member of the profession or occupation to be licensed
5 or regulated by that particular board.

6 Ms. Tully stated Board members may not be
7 affiliated in any way with the profession or
8 occupation to be licensed or regulated or hold any
9 other appointed or elected public office or position
10 within the commonwealth, another state, or the United
11 States government during their appointed terms. She
12 noted that any person not meeting the standard shall
13 be ineligible for membership on the board or
14 commission as a public member.]

15 ***

16 New Business - 2026 Meeting Dates Approval
17 [Sarah E. McNeill, Board Administrator, provided 2026
18 Board meeting dates for approval.]

19 MS. TULLY:

20 I believe the Chairperson would
21 entertain a motion to accept the
22 proposed 2026 meeting dates as
23 presented.

24 MS. EARLY:

25 So moved.

1 DR. BEHUN:

2 Second.

3 MS. MCNEILL:

4 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Boyer, aye;
5 DeCriscio, aye; Dinse, aye; Early, aye;
6 Evans, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, aye.

7 [The motion carried unanimously.]

8 ***

9 New Business - Travel Request - 2025 ACA Conference &
10 Expo

11 [Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of
12 Professional and Occupational Affairs, noted the
13 travel request was withdrawn.]

14 ***

15 Appointment - Annual Prosecution Report

16 [Carlton Smith, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel,
17 Prosecution Division, presented the Annual
18 Prosecution Report for 2024. He noted the total
19 number of complaints received and processed by the
20 Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs
21 (BPOA) is up from around 19,000 to 22,930 in 2024.

22 Mr. Smith reported a little over 37,000 active
23 licensees. He noted 512 cases were opened in 2024
24 with 653 current open cases and 385 closed cases.
25 He noted the goal to close a case is 365 days.

1 Mr. Smith addressed discipline and noted 6 fines
2 were imposed with 3 instances of cost. He reported 5
3 reinstatements were granted and 1 was denied. He
4 noted 4 reprimands, 2 revocations, 3 suspensions, and
5 some voluntary surrenders.

6 Mr. Smith stated the most common way to dispose
7 of cases is by way of prosecution not warranted,
8 where prosecution considers the strength of the
9 evidence, disciplinary history, and what the in-house
10 expert in the field has to say about the violations
11 or conduct.

12 Mr. Smith addressed cases with no discipline and
13 referred to prosecution not warranted under Z02. He
14 also addressed warning letters under Z18. He
15 explained that Z28 and Z30 are Voluntary Recovery
16 Program (VRP) cases, where someone is entering or
17 being discharged from the VRP.

18 Mr. Smith referred to the 653 open cases and
19 provided a breakdown by license type, noting most of
20 them fall under professional counselor at 292 and
21 then the clinical social worker, followed by the
22 general social worker at 135.

23 Mr. Smith provided a license type breakdown of
24 prosecution not warranted cases. He noted the vast
25 majority are professional counselors at 97, clinical

1 social workers at 54, and social workers at 267.]

2 ***

3 Public Comment

4 [Ashley Taylor, MMT, MT-BC, Open Space Counseling,
5 Consulting, & Wellness, requested information
6 concerning the next meeting discussing associate
7 licenses and related fields.

8 Ms. Tully informed Ms. Taylor that no additional
9 meetings have been scheduled at this time but would
10 be posted on the website with the regular Board
11 meeting dates once those are established.]

12 ***

13 [Richard Joseph Behun, Ph.D., LPC, NCC, ACS, exited
14 the meeting at 11:56 a.m.]

15 ***

16 [The Board recessed from 11:56 a.m. until 12:15 p.m.]

17 ***

18 [A Formal Hearing was held from 12:19 p.m. until
19 1:56 p.m. in the Matter of the Provisional Denial to
20 Practice as a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
21 of Larissa Evans, Case No. 24-69-016052.]

22 ***

23 [A Formal Hearing was held from 1:56 p.m. until
24 2:37 p.m. in the Matter of the Application to
25 Practice as a Licensed Professional Counselor by

1 Endorsement of Grazia DiMauro, Case No. 24-69-
2 013286.]

3 ***
4 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act,
5 at 2:38 p.m., the Board entered into Executive
6 Session with Cathy A. Tully, Esquire, Board Counsel,
7 for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial
8 deliberations and to receive the advice of counsel on
9 the two hearings. The Board entered into public
10 session at 3:26 p.m.]

11 ***

12 MS. TULLY:

13 With regard to item 38 of the agenda,
14 which is the hearing in the Matter of
15 Larissa Evans, Case No. 24-69-016052, I
16 believe the Chair would entertain a
17 motion to rescind the provisional
18 denial and grant licensure as a
19 Marriage and Family Therapist by Exam.

20 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

21 Do I have a motion?

22 MS. EARLY:

23 So moved.

24 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

25 Do I have a second?

1 MS. BOYER:

2 Second.

3 CHAIR PRO TEM CLAGGETT:

4 Roll call.

5

6 Claggett, aye; Boyer, aye; Dinse, aye;

7 Early, aye; Gross, aye; Welch, aye.

8 [The motion carried. Eric DeCriscio and Erika Evans
9 did not vote on the motion.]

10 ***

11 MS. TULLY:

12 With regard to item 39 of the agenda,
13 which is the hearing in the Matter of
14 Grazia DiMauro, Case No. 24-69-013286,
15 I believe the Board is going to table
16 this matter until the March 11 meeting.

17 ***

18 MS. TULLY:

19 The Board is also going to revisit item
20 22 on the agenda. Earlier during the
21 meeting, the Board did issue a vote to
22 do a provisional denial of the
23 Application of Jessica Lego,
24 Application No. AA0005561455.

25 I believe the Board is prepared to

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CERTIFICATE

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



Derek Richmond,
Minute Clerk
Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

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

January 7, 2025

	TIME	AGENDA
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9		
10	9:00	Executive Session
11	11:00	Return to Open Session
12		
13	11:01	Official Call to Order
14		
15	11:02	Roll Call of Board Members
16		
17	11:02	Introduction of Attendees
18		
19	11:04	Approval of Minutes
20		
21	11:04	Report of Prosecutorial Division
22		
23	11:12	Report of Board Counsel
24		
25	11:15	Regulatory Report
26		
27	11:16	Report of Board Administrator
28		
29	11:17	Review of Applications
30		
31	11:32	Miscellaneous
32		
33	11:33	New Business
34		
35	11:45	Appointment - Annual Prosecution Report
36		
37	11:55	Public Comment
38		
39	11:56	Recess
40	12:15	Return to Open Session
41		
42	12:19	Appointment - Hearing - Larissa Evans
43	1:56	
44		
45	1:56	Appointment - Hearing - Grazia DiMauro
46	2:37	
47		
48	2:38	Executive Session
49	3:26	Return to Open Session
50		

STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKERS,
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS,
AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS
REFERENCE INDEX
(cont.)
January 7, 2025

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TIME	AGENDA
3:26	Motions
3:31	Adjournment