

The University of the State of New York
State Education Department
Office of the Professions

**New York State Board of Social Work
Draft Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, June 17, 2026

This meeting was held in-person at the State Education Building, 89 Washington Avenue, EB 146, Albany, NY 12234 and was also held via WebEx at the following locations:

Office of the Professions, 1411 Broadway, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10018
Syracuse Regional Office, 333 East Washington Street, Suite 211, Syracuse, NY 13202
Buffalo ACCESS Office, 508 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14202

Board members present:

Tracyavon Ford LCSW
Austen LaBarge LCSW
Michelle Manley Belge LMSW
Robyn Wiktorski-Reynolds LMSW
Mohini Mishra LMSW
Susan Nayowith LCSW
Virginia Spielman LMSW

Staff present:

Evan Seiden, Executive Secretary (Albany)
Kathleen Letzelter, Associate in Professional Education (Albany)
Annie Connors, Education Program Assistant 1 (Albany)
Amy Viscusi, Education Program Assistant 1 (Albany)

Welcome and Review of the Agenda

Executive Secretary called the meeting to order at 01:02PM. The meeting was held in person and also streamed live and recorded. Board members and staff introduced themselves. Members of the public and stakeholders attended to observe the meeting. Questions can be emailed to SWBD@nysed.gov. There were no changes in the agenda.

Introductions

No new board members introduced.

Review of the March 4th, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

A quorum of Board members were present. One edit proposed by Mohini Mishra to correct a name. Motion to accept minutes was made. Firsted by Virginia Spielman; seconded by Susan Nayowith. Motion passed and minutes accepted.

Executive Secretary's Report

- a. Staffing and Processing: Introduction of Amy, the new evaluator hired on by the Board Office. The Board Office is currently exploring internal process improvements in partnership with the Division of Professional Licensing's modernization project. Recommendations for improvements to processing will be reported to the Board in the Fall meeting.
- b. Board Member Recruitment: Looking for LMSW Board members and Public Members. Reminder that Board member responsibilities can also include availability for consultation during Office of Professional Discipline hearings. There is space for two additional Public Members (non-licensed individuals who have used SW services). Board members can refer those interested to Executive Secretary for further information. Board member applications can be found online.

Legislation and Regulation Affecting Social Work

Executive Secretary presented the following proposals for discussion:

→S9123-A9566 An Act to extend the duration of limited permits to practice licensed clinical social work. Passed both houses.

- Discussion on clinical skills required for clinical settings, versus those required in non-clinical settings.

→A9560A/S9124 Internship extension for MSW (Bridge Act)

- Discussion on how this would be particularly helpful for staffing and the provision of services within OMH, OASAS, OCFS, etc. settings.

→15318-01-6 ASWB Exam before Graduation Not yet introduced

- Discussion on ensuring educational requirements can be standardized across programs

→S9303/A 10555 Social Worker- 90-day post-graduation supervised practice

- Purpose is to allow Master of Social Work graduates to engage in supervised social work practice for up to 90-days post-graduation while awaiting state licensure processing to complete.

→S988 - Proposal to repeal the requirement that applicants must pass an examination to qualify as a LMSW referred to higher education committee.

→S8899-A9321 AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to supervision by certain marriage and family therapists and mental health counselors.

Discussion Topics

Diagnostic Privilege

- Clarification made that LCSWs may supervise LMHCs, LMFTs and LPs to earn their diagnostic privilege.

Other Business

Scheduling for future board meetings was discussed. The Fall board meeting will take place either in the beginning or middle of November.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn. Chair Tracyavon Ford firsted. Seconded by Mishra Mohini. The meeting was adjourned at 2:52PM.