

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES LICENSING BOARD

Minutes August 24, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Mr. Jon Ferguson called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. in the Indiana Government Center South, 402 West Washington Street, Room W064, Indianapolis, Indiana, and declared a quorum with Indiana Code § IC 25-23.6-2.

Board Members Present:

Jon Ferguson, LMFT, LCAC, Board Chair
Stephan Viehweg, MSW, LCSW, Vice Chair, Section Chair
C. Martin Justice, LMHC, LCAC, Board Designee, Section Chair
Kelley Gardner, LMFT, Section Chair
Dr. Dianna Cooper-Bolinskey, LCAC, LCSW, Section Chair
Angela Levingston, LCSW
Michele Hadley, LMHC
Sara Collins, LCAC, LCSW
Peter Karalis, MD, Physician Member
Kelli Heuer, Consumer Member

Board Members Not Present:

State Officials Present:

Cindy Vaught, Board Director, Professional Licensing Agency
Kelsey Smith, Assistant Board Director, Professional Licensing Agency
Bradley Repass, Litigation Specialist, Professional Licensing Agency
Adam Harvey, Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda as amended.

Cooper-Bolinskey/Justice
Motion carried 9-0-0

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the minutes of July 27, 2026, as amended.

Cooper-Bolinskey/Gardner
Motion carried 9-0-0

V. ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

A. Megan Erwin, LMHCA, License No. 88002481A

Cause No. 202601-BHS-0002

Re: Administrative Complaint

Parties Present:

Respondent was not present

Counsel was not present

State was represented by Ryan Eldridge

Lindy Meyer, Court Reporter, Accurate Court Reporting

Board Members Present:

Jon Ferguson, LMFT, LCAC, Board Chair

Stephan Viehweg, MSW, LCSW, Vice Chair, Section Chair

C. Martin Justice, LMHC, LCAC, Board Designee, Section Chair

Kelley Gardner, LMFT, Section Chair

Dr. Dianna Cooper-Bolinskey, LCAC, LCSW, Section Chair

Angela Levingston, LCSW

Michele Hadley, LMHC

Sara Collins, LCAC, LCSW

Peter Karalis, MD, Physician Member

Case Summary: On or about January 6, 2026, an administrative complaint was filed in this matter. A hearing notice of the date, time and place of this hearing was sent by email on August 7, 2026. A Proposed Settlement Agreement was filed on August 17, 2026. Mr. Eldridge went over the proposed settlement agreement with the Board.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve the Proposed Settlement Agreement in the matter of Ms. Erwin. The agreement would place Ms. Erwin on indefinite probation for a period of at least six months with the following terms:

- Keep the board informed of residential address and telephone number.
- Keep the Board informed of behavioral health employers, addresses, and telephone numbers.
- Signed board order by employer(s).
- Employer quarterly reports.
- Self reports quarterly if no longer employed.
- No supervisory role or unsupervised employment.
- \$5 Health Records Fee.

Justice/Cooper-Bolinskey

Motion carried 9-0-0

B. Megan Knies, LCSW, License No. 34009051A

Cause No. 202606-BHS-0024

Re: Administrative Complaint

Parties Present:

Respondent was not present

Counsel was not present

State was represented by Ryan Eldridge

Lindy Meyer, Court Reporter, Accurate Court Reporting

Board Members Present:

Jon Ferguson, LMFT, LCAC, Board Chair

Stephan Viehweg, MSW, LCSW, Vice Chair, Section Chair

C. Martin Justice, LMHC, LCAC, Board Designee, Section Chair

Kelley Gardner, LMFT, Section Chair

Dr. Dianna Cooper-Bolinskey, LCAC, LCSW, Section Chair

Angela Levingston, LCSW

Michele Hadley, LMHC

Sara Collins, LCAC, LCSW

Peter Karalis, MD, Physician Member

Kelli Heuer, Consumer Member

Case Summary: On or about June 16, 2026, an administrative complaint was filed in this matter. A hearing notice of the date, time and place of this hearing was sent by email on June 29, 2026. Ms. Knies has failed to appear or have counsel present for her administrative hearing.

At this time Mr. Eldridge requested the Board to issue a Notice of Proposed Default in this matter for Ms. Knies's failure to appear.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to issue a Notice of Proposed Default in the matter of Ms. Knies.

Viehweg/Cooper-Bolinskey

Motion carried 10-0-0

C. Erica Underwood, LMHC, License No. 39005385A

Cause No. 202604-BHS-0016

Re: Administrative Complaint

Parties Present:

Respondent was present

Carol Dillon, Counsel for the Respondent

State was represented by Ryan Eldridge

Lindy Meyer, Court Reporter, Accurate Court Reporting

Board Members Present:

Jon Ferguson, LMFT, LCAC, Board Chair
Stephan Viehweg, MSW, LCSW, Vice Chair, Section Chair
C. Martin Justice, LMHC, LCAC, Board Designee, Section Chair
Kelley Gardner, LMFT, Section Chair
Dr. Dianna Cooper-Bolinskey, LCAC, LCSW, Section Chair
Angela Levingston, LCSW
Michele Hadley, LMHC
Sara Collins, LCAC, LCSW
Peter Karalis, MD, Physician Member
Kelli Heuer, Consumer Member

Case Summary: On or about April 16, 2026, an administrative complaint was filed in this matter. A hearing notice of the date, time and place of this hearing was sent by email on August 3, 2026. A Proposed Settlement Agreement was filed on August 21, 2026.

Mr. Eldridge stated that the proposed settlement agreement would issue a letter of reprimand to Ms. Underwood.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to accept the Proposed Settlement Agreement and issue a letter of reprimand in the matter of Ms. Underwood.

Justice/Cooper-Bolinskey

Roll call vote was requested:

Mr. Ferguson	No
Mr. Viehweg	Yes
Mr. Justice	Yes
Mr. Gardner	No
Ms. Cooper-Bolinskey	Yes
Ms. Levingston	Yes
Ms. Hadley	Yes
Ms. Collins	Yes
Dr. Karalis	Yes
Ms. Heuer	Yes
Motion carried 8-2-0	

D. Victoria Buchheit, LCSW, License No. 34009354A

Cause No. 202605-BHS-0020

Re: Administrative Complaint

Parties Present:

Respondent was not present
Bradley Keffer, Counsel for the Respondent

State was represented by Ryan Eldridge
Lindy Meyer, Court Reporter, Accurate Court Reporting

Board Members Present:

Jon Ferguson, LMFT, LCAC, Board Chair
Stephan Viehweg, MSW, LCSW, Vice Chair, Section Chair
C. Martin Justice, LMHC, LCAC, Board Designee, Section Chair
Kelley Gardner, LMFT, Section Chair
Dr. Dianna Cooper-Bolinskey, LCAC, LCSW, Section Chair
Angela Levingston, LCSW
Michele Hadley, LMHC
Sara Collins, LCAC, LCSW
Peter Karalis, MD, Physician Member
Kelli Heuer, Consumer Member

Case Summary: On or about May 27, 2026, an administrative complaint was filed in this matter. A hearing notice of the date, time and place of this hearing was sent by email on August 3, 2026. A Proposed Settlement Agreement was filed on August 23, 2026.

Mr. Eldridge went over the proposed settlement agreement with the Board.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve the Proposed Settlement Agreement in the matter of Ms. Buchheit. The agreement would place Ms. Buchheit on indefinite probation for a period of at least one year with the following terms:

- Keep the board informed of residential address and telephone number.
- Keep the Board informed of her places of social work employment, addresses, supervisor names, Email addresses and telephone numbers.
- Must have a behavioral health supervisor and shall submit the supervisors' names.
- Shall not have a solo practice during probation.
- Signed board order by employer(s).
- Employer quarterly reports.
- Quarterly reports from the person evaluating her practice.
- Quarterly self-reports quarterly if no longer employed.
- Monthly counseling sessions with quarterly reports.
- Semi-annual appearances.
- 24 hours of continuing education in professionalism/ethics and boundaries.
- \$5 Health Records Fee

Cooper-Bolinskey/Justice
Motion carried 10-0-0

E. Heather Davis, LMHC, License No. 39003766A
Cause No. 202606-BHHS-0026
Re: Amended Administrative Complaint

The hearing in the matter of Ms. Davis was continued.

F. Joseph Adams, Jr.

Cause No. 202604-BHS-0015

Re: Motion for Order to Cease and Desist

The hearing in the matter of Mr. Adams was continued.

G. Laura Dolph, LMHC, License No. 39001734A

Cause No. 202603-BHHS-0012

Re: Administrative Complaint

Parties Present:

Respondent was present

Respondent was not represented by Counsel

State was represented by Carah Rochester

Lindy Meyer, Court Reporter, Accurate Court Reporting

Board Members Present:

Jon Ferguson, LMFT, LCAC, Board Chair

Stephan Viehweg, MSW, LCSW, Vice Chair, Section Chair

C. Martin Justice, LMHC, LCAC, Board Designee, Section Chair

Kelley Gardner, LMFT, Section Chair

Dr. Dianna Cooper-Bolinsky, LCAC, LCSW, Section Chair

Angela Levingston, LCSW

Michele Hadley, LMHC

Sara Collins, LCAC, LCSW

Peter Karalis, MD, Physician Member

Kelli Heuer, Consumer Member

Case Summary: On or about March 3, 2026, an administrative complaint was filed in this matter. A hearing notice of the date, time and place of this hearing was sent by email on August 6, 2026. A Proposed Settlement Agreement was filed on August 20, 2026.

Mr. Eldridge went over the proposed settlement agreement with the Board.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to accept the Proposed Settlement Agreement and issue a letter of reprimand in the matter of Ms. Dolph.

Justice/Gardner

Motion carried 10-0-0

H. Taylor Downey

Cause No. 202603-BHS-0011

Re: Petition for Withdraw of Probation

Parties Present:

Respondent was present

Respondent was not represented by Counsel

State was represented by Carah Rochester

Lindy Meyer, Court Reporter, Accurate Court Reporting

Board Members Present:

Jon Ferguson, LMFT, LCAC, Board Chair

Stephan Viehweg, MSW, LCSW, Vice Chair, Section Chair

C. Martin Justice, LMHC, LCAC, Board Designee, Section Chair

Kelley Gardner, LMFT, Section Chair

Dr. Dianna Cooper-Bolinsky, LCAC, LCSW, Section Chair

Angela Levingston, LCSW

Michele Hadley, LMHC

Sara Collins, LCAC, LCSW

Peter Karalis, MD, Physician Member

Kelli Heuer, Consumer Member

Case Summary: Ms. Rochester stated that Ms. Downey is not engaged in the practice of mental health counseling. She requested a continuance of the hearing in order to engage in prehearing settlement conference.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to grant Ms. Rochester's request for a continuance of the hearing in the matter of Ms. Downey.

Cooper-Bolinsky/Gardner

Motion carried 10/0/0

I. Mandi Barger, LSW, License No. 33009502A

Cause No. 202507-BHS-0032

Re: Petition for Withdraw of Probation

Parties Present:

Respondent was present

Respondent was not represented by Counsel

State was not represented

Lindy Meyer, Court Reporter, Accurate Court Reporting

Board Members Present:

Jon Ferguson, LMFT, LCAC, Board Chair

Stephan Viehweg, MSW, LCSW, Vice Chair, Section Chair

C. Martin Justice, LMHC, LCAC, Board Designee, Section Chair

Kelley Gardner, LMFT, Section Chair

Dr. Dianna Cooper-Bolinsky, LCAC, LCSW, Section Chair

Angela Levingston, LCSW
Michele Hadley, LMHC
Sara Collins, LCAC, LCSW
Peter Karalis, MD, Physician Member
Kelli Heuer, Consumer Member

Case Summary: On or about September 6, 2024, an Order Renewing License on Probation was filed in the matter of Ms. Barger whose license was placed on indefinite probation with terms and conditions. A Petition to Withdraw Probation was filed on May 13, 2026. A hearing notice of the date, time and place of this hearing was sent by email on August 7, 2026. Ms. Barger has failed to appear for her hearing.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to issue a Notice of Proposed Dismissal in the matter of Ms. Barger.

Viehweg/Levingston
Motion carried 10/0/0

J. Denise Wells, LCSW, License No. 39001734A
Cause No. 202603-BHHS-0012
Re: Administrative Complaint

Parties Present:

Respondent was present by Zoom
Respondent was not represented by Counsel
State was represented by Carah Rochester
Lindy Meyer, Court Reporter, Accurate Court Reporting

Board Members Present:

Jon Ferguson, LMFT, LCAC, Board Chair
Stephan Viehweg, MSW, LCSW, Vice Chair, Section Chair
C. Martin Justice, LMHC, LCAC, Board Designee, Section Chair
Kelley Gardner, LMFT, Section Chair
Dr. Dianna Cooper-Bolinskey, LCAC, LCSW, Section Chair
Angela Levingston, LCSW
Michele Hadley, LMHC
Sara Collins, LCAC, LCSW
Peter Karalis, MD, Physician Member
Kelli Heuer, Consumer Member

Case Summary: On or about May 12, 2026, an administrative complaint was filed in this matter. A Proposed Settlement Agreement was filed on July 15, 2026.

Ms. Wells was present by Zoom, however there was no video. Ms. Wells was sworn in and stated on the record that she waived notice in this matter. Ms. Rochester stated that she also waives notice of this matter.

Mr. Rochester went over the proposed settlement agreement with the Board.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to accept the Proposed Settlement Agreement and issue a letter of reprimand in the matter of Ms. Wells.

Levingston/ Cooper-Bolinsky
Motion carried 10-0-0

VI. PERSONAL APPEARANCES

A. Reinstatement

There were no reinstatement appearances.

B. Probation

1. Nicole Gaunt, LCSW, License No. 34008302A

Ms. Gaunt appeared at the request of the Board to discuss her ongoing probation. A Final Order Accepting Proposed Settlement Agreement was issued on November 6, 2024, which placed her license on probation with terms and conditions. She is currently working at CNS and has been working since 2019 on a full-time basis. She meets with Dr. Barbara Gelder, supervisor, on a monthly basis and as needed. The Board stated that it is her responsibility to make sure she has everything completed per her Board Order when she submits her request to withdraw probation.

C. Application

1. Roberta Brady (LMHCA)

Ms. Brady appeared as requested to discuss her current application and positive response. She provided a statement and documentation of her arrest and conviction of a criminal misdemeanor. She was questioned regarding her current employment. She was told that she cannot do clinical work without a permit or license.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve Ms. Brady's application for a temporary permit and require a substance use evaluation to be reviewed by the section, and written documentation that her practice has been adjusted until then. Upon submission and approval of the additional items the application will be approved.

Justice/Madley
Motion carried 10/0/0

2. Kinsley Castro, LMHCA (LMHC)

Ms. Castro appeared as requested to discuss her application and positive response of termination of employment. She provided a statement and supporting documentation for the Board to review. She stated that she was terminated on June 2, 2026, from Circle City Play Therapy. She is currently employed at Cabin counseling under the supervision of Rob Kern.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve Ms. Castro's mental health counselor application and to sit for the NCMHCE examination.

Justice/Gardner
Motion carried 10-0-0

3. Mathew McClure (LSW)

Mr. McClure appeared as requested to discuss his positive response regarding an arrest. He provided a statement and supporting documentation for the Board to review. Since that time all matters have been dismissed. At this time, he is not working in order to study for his examination

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve Mr. McClure's social work application for licensure and to sit for the ASWB examination.

Viehweg/Levingston
Motion carried 10-0-0

4. Zarifa Nazarov (LSW)

Ms. Nazarov appeared as requested to discuss her request to sit for the examination for the fourth time. She explained what she is doing in order to pass the examination and she will be requesting accommodations.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve Ms. Nazarov's application to sit for the ASWB examination for the fourth time.

Viehweg/Justice
Motion carried 10-0-0

5. John Thomas (LMHCA)

Mr. Thomas did not appear. He will be rescheduled for September 28, 2026.

VII. DISCUSSION

VIII. APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW

There were no applications for review.

IX. FORMAL ADOPTION OF APPLICATION REVIEWS

A motion was made and seconded to formally adopt the application reviews.

Viehweg/Cooper-Bolinskey
Motion carried 10/0/0

X. CONTINUING EDUCATION SPONSOR APPLICATION REVIEW

There were no continuing education applications for review.

XI. REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Ryan Eldridge provided the report from the Office of the Attorney General. Currently the average age of an investigative file is 7.35 months with 166 open complaints, and the average age of a litigation file is 8.72 months with 36 open litigation files.

XII. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Viehweg provided information that the new version of the ASWB examination was now available. The ASWB is offering free resources online to help applicants be prepared for the examination.

ASWB has suspended the virtual examination due to someone cheating.

Dr. Cooper-Bolinskey stated that she is now on the ASWB Forms Committee.

XIII. ADMINISTRATORS' REPORT

There was no administrator's report.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and having completed its duties, the meeting of the Behavioral Health and Human Services Licensing Board adjourned at 12:21 p.m. by general consensus.