



South Dakota
Department of
Social Services

**South Dakota Board of
Social Work Examiners**
810 N. Main Street, Suite 298
Spearfish, SD 57783
Phone: 605.642.1600

Email: office@sdlicensing.com

Web: <https://dss.sd.gov/licensingboards/socialwork/social.aspx>

**DRAFT MEETING AGENDA
VIDEO CONFERENCE**

**South Dakota Board of Social Work Examiners
May 8, 2026-12:00PM CDT/11:00AM MDT**

The public is invited to attend the meeting via Microsoft Teams at the following link:

https://teams.microsoft.com/join/19%3ameeting_Yjg2NGM2ZWQtZDRIMC00MjM3LTgwYmltNzY4NjA2NmNmNWYx%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22e69efb98-56ef-4797-a76b-e1ec658a639c%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22ee0a24e7-6d2c-4495-ade5-4377098865d2%22%7d

Or by calling: 1-469-770-0416, Passcode: 635514488#

If members of the public would like to be sent the Microsoft Teams invitation to the meeting instead of using the above link, please contact the Board office prior to the meeting at office@sdlicensing.com.

Note: Individuals needing assistance, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, should contact the Board office at office@sdlicensing.com or 605-642-1600 in advance of the meeting to make any necessary arrangements.

Member Listing:

1. Susan Kornder, CSW-PIP, President
2. Rachel Gangle, CSW-PIP, Secretary-Treasurer
3. Kelli Willis, CSW-PIP, Member
4. Jenna Brandt, SW, Member
5. Amber Zandstra, Lay Member
6. Kristen Mion, Lay Member
7. Vacant, Member
8. Amber Bruns, EdD, BCBA, LBA-Applied Behavior Analyst Committee
9. Lisa Stanley, DVM, Lay Member-Applied Behavior Analyst Committee
10. Kimberly Marso, Applied Behavior Analyst Committee

Purpose: The Board protects the health and safety of the consumer public by licensure of qualified persons, enforcement of the statutes, rules and regulations governing the practice of social work, including the appropriate resolution of complaints.

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1. Call to Order/Welcome

2. Roll Call
3. Corrections or additions to the agenda
4. Approval of the agenda
5. Public Comment
6. Approval of the minutes from February 20, 2026
7. FY Financial Update
8. Board Member Update
9. ABA Updates
10. NASW SD Chapter- Introduction
11. Adoption of Findings of Fact & Conclusions of law in the Hearing in the Matter of the Application of Vivian Steavenson for Licensure as a Certified Social Worker
12. 2026 ASWB Education Meeting Report- Kornder
13. Schedule next meetings(s)
14. Any other business coming in between date of mailing and date of meeting
15. Executive Session Pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2
 - a. Complaints/Investigations
 - b. CSW-PIP Contract approvals
 - c. CSW-PIP Out-of-State Supervision Review
 - d. RFP Award/Executive Director Contract
16. Complaints/Investigations Report/Vote (if necessary)
17. CSW-PIP Contract Approvals-Vote
18. CSW-PIP Out-of-State Supervision Vote
19. RFP Award/Executive Director Contract
20. Adjourn



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OFFICIAL BOARD MINUTES

Video Conference

February 20, 2026-11:00AM MST / 12:00 PM CST

Members Present:

Susan Kornder, President
Kelli Willis, Member
Chantelle Blue Arm, Member
Rachel Gangle, Member
Jenna Brandt, Member
Amber Zandstra, Lay Member
Kristen Mion, Lay Member (joined at 12:03 PM CST)

Members Absent:

None

Others Present: Brooke Tellinghuisen-Geddes, Executive Secretary; Katie Funke, Executive Assistant; Amber Bruns, ABA Committee (exited at 12:30 p.m. CST); Greg Tishkoff, Legal Counsel, DSS; Tracy Mercer, DSS; Renee Stellagher, Prosecuting Counsel, SD Office of the Attorney General; Will Anderon, Vivian Steavenson, Charlene Riffel, Jody Indermuhhle, and June Hubert.

Call to Order/Welcome: Kornder called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. CST.

Roll Call: Kornder requested Tellinghuisen-Geddes call the roll. Kornder, yes; Willis, yes; Gangel, yes; Blue Arm, yes; Zandstra, yes; Brandt, yes; Mion, absent. A quorum was present.

Corrections or additions to the agenda: None.

Approval of the agenda: Gangle made a motion to approve the agenda. Willis seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED** by unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment: None.

Hearing in the Matter of the Application of Vivian Steavenson for Licensure as a Certified Social Worker: Tishkoff recognized the time and place for the Hearing in the Matter of the Application for Vivian Steavenson for Licensure as a Certified Social Worker. Renee Stellagher from the Attorney General's Office served as prosecutor. Witness testimony and exhibits were received into evidence. Following deliberation, Willis made a motion to deny the application of Vivian Steavenson for licensure as a Certified Social Worker. Gangle seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED** by roll call vote: Kornder, abstain; Willis, yes; Gangel, yes; Blue Arm, yes; Zandstra, yes; Mion, yes; Brandt, yes.

Mion exited the meeting at 1:27 p.m. CDT.

Approval of the Minutes from Board meeting December 5, 2025: Willis made a motion to approve the minutes from December 5, 2025. Brandt seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED** by unanimous voice vote.

FY Financial Update: Tellinghuisen-Geddes reported fiscal year-to-date figures as of December 31, 2025: expenses of \$71,233.54; revenue of \$151,751.01 and a cash balance of \$598,411.72.

ABA Updates: None.

Legislative Updates: Tellinghuisen Geddes mentioned two bills that were withdrawn that would have impacted Social Workers. HB1144 which would restrict the use of AI in therapy and HB1145 that would have eliminated the clinical exam requirement for CSW-PIP's. Lastly, it was reported that the Board's bill (HB 1028) to establish a provision for background check for multistate licenses under the compact passed and has been signed by the Governor.

Election of Officers: Willis made a motion to keep the slate of officers the same with Kornder as the President and Gangle as the Secretary/Treasurer. Brandt seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED** by unanimous voice vote.

Lake Area Technical College-AAS Degree in Social Work: The board discussed the request to review Lake Area Technical College AAS Degree in Social Work. This program is being re-worked from the current AAS degree in Human Services, which is a Human Services Technical program, and had previously been approved by the board as equivalent pursuant to SDCL 36-26-16, to meet the education requirements for the Associate's level license. Willis mentioned that the course outline includes foundational courses one would expect for an associate's degree in social work and licensure preparation. Gangle made a motion to approve Lake Area Technical's AAS Degree of Associate of Social Work for Associate Level testing and ultimately licensure. Willis seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED** by unanimous voice vote.

Schedule Next Meeting: The next meetings are scheduled for Friday, May 8, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. MST/ 12:00 p.m. CDT and July 17, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. MDT/12:00 p.m. CDT.

Any other business coming in between date of mailing and date of meeting: Tellinghuisen Geddes mentioned that ASWB is having their Education meeting April 17-18 in Newport, RI and asked if anyone is interested in attending. Kornder may be interested in attending and will be in touch with the board office.

Executive Session Pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2: Blue Arm made a motion to enter executive session at 1:35 p.m. CST. Willis seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED** by unanimous voice vote. All others exited the meeting. The Board exited executive session at 1:38 p.m. CST.

Complaints/Investigations: There are no pending complaints.

CSW-PIP Supervision Contracts: Willis made a motion to approve the following contracts. Brandt seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED** by unanimous voice vote.

Nelson, C.: Supervision with Van't Hul beginning December 8, 2025;

Cruz, D.: Supervision with Sivesind beginning January 9, 2026;

Mask, S.: Supervision with Shoffner beginning December 11, 2025;

Grimshaw, J.: Supervision with Johnson beginning November 21, 2025;

Seale, S.: Supervision with Van't Hul beginning November 24, 2025;

Stahl, S.: Supervision with Auch beginning December 5, 2025;

Templeton, K.: Supervision with Urlacher beginning December 15, 2025;

Mazour, C.: Supervision with Johnson beginning January 1, 2026;

Mullins, J.: Supervision with Rembold beginning January 1, 2026;

Saukel, A.: Supervision with Gray beginning January 1, 2026;

Blocker, A.: Supervision with Schulz beginning December 15, 2025;

Larson, C.: Supervision with Holbeck beginning January 5, 2026;

Scotting, A.: Supervision with Holbeck beginning January 5, 2026;

Owens, T.: Supervision with Jonson beginning January 5, 2026;

Torkelson, A.: Supervision with Jacobson beginning December 29, 2025;

Uthe, T.: Supervision with Sivesind beginning January 9, 2026;

Brower, A.: Supervision with Jacobson beginning January 12, 2026;

Brower, A.: Supervision with Bartmann beginning January 12, 2026;

Ringling Shield, N.: Supervision with Jackmon beginning February 2, 2026;

Ray, S.: Supervision with Harris beginning February 1, 2026;

Thomson, G.: Supervision with Fett beginning February 2, 2026;

Drevlow, L.: Supervision with Sanderson beginning January 21, 2026;

Conemac, A.: Supervision with Patzlaff beginning January 23, 2026;

Price, K.: Supervision with McClintic beginning January 26, 2026;

Waldner, A.: Supervision with Johnson beginning February 1, 2026;

Hoff, S.: Supervision with Barnes beginning February 1, 2026;
Hulsebus, B.: Supervision with Digatono beginning March 1, 2026;
Miller, D.: Supervision with Fortuna beginning February 1, 2026;
Anderson, J.: Supervision with Thaler beginning February 1, 2026.

Any Other Business: None.

Willis made a motion to adjourn at 1:39 p.m. CST. Blue Arm seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED** by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Brooke Tellinghuisen Geddes
Executive Secretary

1-27-1.17. Draft minutes of public meeting to be available--Exceptions--Violation as misdemeanor. The unapproved, draft minutes of any public meeting held pursuant to § 1-25-1 that are required to be kept by law shall be available for inspection by any person within ten business days after the meeting. However, this section does not apply if an audio or video recording of the meeting is available to the public on the governing body's website within five business days after the meeting. A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor. However, the provisions of this section do not apply to draft minutes of contested case proceedings held in accordance with the provisions of chapter 1-26.

BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
 REVENUE SUMMARY
 FOR MONTH ENDING 03/31/26

COMP	ACCOUNT	YEAR	BDGT	GRANT	CENTER	FUND	SRC	SUB	FISCAL	FISCAL	FISCAL	YTD	MTD
6503	4293000	0	0	0893000	719	2026	09	2026	09	MONTH	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	AMOUNT
6503	4920045			0893000	719	2026	09				\$ 176,746.00	\$ 6,005.00	
											\$ 20,055.01	\$ -	
											\$ 196,801.01	\$ 6,005.00	

BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
 EXPENDITURE SUMMARY REPORT
 FOR MONTH ENDING 03/31/26

COMP	ACCOUNT	BDGT GRANT	ACCOUNT	FUND SRC	SUB FUND	FISCAL YEAR	FISCAL MONTH	YTD AMOUNT	MTD AMOUNT
		YEAR	DESCRIPTION	CENTER					
6503	5101030	0	BOARD & COMM MBR'S FEES	0893000	719	2026	09	\$ 3,486.00	\$ -
6503	5102010	0	OASI-EMPLOYER'S SHARE	0893000	719	2026	09	\$ 266.74	\$ -
6503	5204020	0	DUES & MEMBERSHIP FEES	0893000	719	2026	09	\$ 250.00	\$ -
6503	5204090	0	MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT	0893000	719	2026	09	\$ 85,561.60	\$ 320.02
6503	5204130	0	OTHER CONSULTING	0893000	719	2026	09	\$ 6,007.50	\$ 580.00
6503	5204201	0	BFM CENTRAL SERVICES	0893000	719	2026	09	\$ 3,498.44	\$ 1,513.19
6503	5204204	0	RECORDS MGMT SERVICES	0893000	719	2026	09	\$ 257.50	\$ -
6503	5204207	0	HUMAN RESOURCES SERVICES	0893000	719	2026	09	\$ 636.22	\$ 216.16
6503	5204510	0	RENTS-OTHER	0893000	719	2026	09	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -
6503	5204740	0	BANK FEES AND CHARGES	0893000	719	2026	09	\$ 16.65	\$ 0.78
6503	5205320	0	PRINTING-COMMERCIAL	0893000	719	2026	09	\$ 45.38	\$ 45.38
6503	5205328	0	PRINTING-COMMERCIAL	0893000	719	2026	09	\$ 491.45	\$ -
								\$ 103,517.48	\$ 2,675.53

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE)	STATE'S PROPOSED
APPLICATION OF)	FINDINGS OF FACT AND
VIVIAN STEAVENSON)	CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The above-captioned matter came before the Board of Social Work Examiners (“the Board”) on Friday, February 20, 2026. Vivian Steavenson appeared personally without an attorney. Assistant Attorney General Renee Stellagher appeared representing the State. A quorum of the Board was present, and the Board’s General Counsel, Greg Tishkoff served as the Hearing Officer. The Board, being otherwise fully informed of the facts and issues pertinent to this matter, issues the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Steavenson applied for a Certified Social Worker license from the South Dakota Board of Social Work Examiners. (Exhibit 1).
2. In Steavenson’s application, she disclosed she was previously convicted of felony counts of making a false claim to the Medicaid program and obstruction of a Medicaid fraud investigation.
3. Staff for the South Dakota Board of Social Work considered Steavenson’s application for licensure as a Certified Social Worker.
4. Following a comprehensive review, Board Staff intended to recommend a denial of Steavenson’s application. (Exhibit 2). Steavenson was informed she had the right to challenge the intended Board action.
5. Steavenson indicated she wished to challenge this intended action. (Exhibit 3).
6. Steavenson’s contested case was held via Teams on Friday, February 20, 2026.

7. At the hearing, seven witnesses testified and seven exhibits were entered into evidence.
8. Susan Kornder and Brooke Tellinghuisen Geddes testified on behalf of the State.
9. Susan Kornder, Board President, testified she reviews any abnormal application and either approves for issuance or recommends it go to the Board for denial. Kornder testified that she reviewed Steavenson's application and recommend Stevenson's application go to the Board for denial.
10. Brooke Tellinghuisen Geddes, Executive Secretary, testified that after reviewing Steavenson's application materials, Board Staff intended to recommend to the Board that Steavenson's application be denied.
11. Steavenson called four witnesses, June Hubert, Charlene Riffel, Darla Warrior, and Jody Indermuehle, to testify regarding Steavenson's character.
12. Steavenson testified on her own behalf.
13. Steavenson was asked what personal steps Steavenson took to indicate she is rehabilitated and she said she received therapy from June Hubert, her previous social work supervisor.
14. Steavenson testified that making an admission of guilt regarding the prior criminal charges was inconsistent with, and prohibited by, her religion.
15. Steavenson reported she is licensed to practice social work in Montana but is not currently utilizing that license.
16. During deliberations, a Board Member voiced concerns about granting Steavenson a Certified Social Worker license. Concerns were voiced regarding the criminal conviction and the lack of discussion about rehabilitation.

Additionally, an ethical concern was raised regarding Steavenson's dual relationship with June, which violated the National Association of Social Workers' code of ethics. It was also stated that Steavenson's testimony appeared to be a claim of ignorance of the law, which is not an excuse for failing to follow the law.

17. A motion was made and seconded to deny Steavenson's license.

18. Roll call was taken and the Board unanimously denied Steavenson's application for license.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to the provisions of SDCL ch. 36-26 and 1-26.
2. The Board has authority to deny an application for licensure to practice as a Certified Social Worker based on SDCL 36-26-32.
3. The Board concluded, via the evidence introduced, that Steavenson's application for licensure as a Certified Social Worker should be denied. See SDCL 36-26-32(1) and (6).
4. Any Finding of Fact of Conclusion of law that has been improperly designated is hereby redesignated and incorporated into the appropriate section.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that these Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law are hereby adopted by the Board and incorporated into this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Steavenson's request for a license as a Certified Social Worker is DENIED. Steavenson may appeal the decision of the Board within 30 days.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Rachel Gangle, Secretary/Treasurer.

STATE'S PROPOSED ORDER

The Board of Social Work Examiners, having entered its Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is hereby

ORDERED that Steavenson's Certified Social Worker Application be DENIED.

It is further

ORDERED that this Order is public record of the Board and the State of South Dakota and shall be published on the Board's website and reported as necessary to the national practitioner data bank and all other entities deemed appropriate by the Board in compliance with State and Federal Law.

DATED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

Susan Kornder, President

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that on the ____ of _____, 2026, a true and correct copy of the foregoing State’s Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and State’s Proposed Order was served upon the following vis U.S. postal mail and email upon the following:

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