



Your board in action

A summary of the work of ASWB's Board of Directors at its April 28, 2016, meeting in Jersey City, New Jersey

The ASWB Board of Directors met in person on Thursday, April 28, 2016, at the Hyatt Regency in Jersey City, New Jersey. Here is a recap of the activities of the Board at that meeting.

Treasurer's report: Board members reviewed and accepted financial statements and statements from ASWB's investment accounts through March 31, 2016, and reviewed and approved the draft audit for the year ending December 31, 2015. The Board received the report of the Finance Committee. Topics reviewed by the committee:

- **Dues structure.** The committee discussed a request from a member jurisdiction to review the current dues structure. The committee acknowledged the sensitivity of the topic and the fact that while dues comprise a small percentage of ASWB's budget, the amount collected may be significant for members. The committee requested that more research be conducted into the issue. The committee will reconvene by conference call prior to the August Board meeting to discuss ways that the organization might help member jurisdictions that are having difficulty.
- **New headquarters.** The committee toured the site of the new headquarters during its meeting in Culpeper.

- **Reserve funding allocations.** The committee requested that the funding allocation formula for the reserve funds be re-searched for further discussion during its conference call prior to the August Board meeting.

Strategic discussions: Board members participated in strategic discussions about the following subjects.

Examination policy follow-up. The Board voted to set July 1, 2016, as the date for implementing a formal review process for considering use of the exams outside exam use policy. Those members currently using the exams outside policy will be notified and given up to five years from the implementation date to request a waiver, make jurisdictional laws and regulations consistent with ASWB exam use policy, or stop using the exams in ways that are outside policy. Member jurisdictions wishing to use exams outside policy must request a waiver by submitting a request to the Board. (See [related article](#).)

Board evaluation instruments. The Board discussed tools available for conducting Board meeting evaluations in order to assess progress toward Board governance goals and to evaluate Board performance. The Board reviewed a survey instrument provided

by BoardSource as well as other options. The Board determined that an annual evaluation and shorter post-meeting surveys would provide the best assessment methodology. The Executive Committee was tasked with reviewing possible tools and bringing a recommendation to the August Board meeting.

Regulatory advocacy initiative. The Board discussed ASWB's participation in supporting a consortium of regulatory boards that is lobbying "to limit antitrust remedies through relevant federal regulation," as explained by the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB). This legislative strategy was developed in response to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in the case of the FTC v. the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners. ASWB's Board voted to contribute \$6,000 over six months to the consortium to support legislative efforts.

Review and adjustment of strategy: The Board discussed its upcoming professional development retreat in August as well as preparing for the expansion of the Board from eight to 11 following 2016 elections in November. The Board reviewed the agenda for the 2016 Education Conference.

Policy, public and operational:

ASWB Policy Manual. The Board reviewed and approved updates to the ASWB Policy Manual related to sections II. Examinations, III. Meetings & Travel, and VII. Methods of Operation.

Emergency communication plan during CEO absence. The Board requested that staff revise the draft communication policy.

Building project update. The Board

received a report about the new headquarters building. Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has completed its review. The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is completing its review.

Approval of minutes: The Board approved as corrected the minutes of the January 27 and 28, 2016, Board of Directors meetings in Clearwater Beach, Fla. The Board approved the minutes of the 2015 Delegate Assembly in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Confirmation of decisions made in email meetings: The Board confirmed the decisions made in email meetings conducted on February 2, 9, and 29 and March 16, 2016.

Consent agenda: Reports approved via consent agenda included: leadership reports from the President and CEO, the Executive Vice President's report, Examination Services report, the Examination Committee report, and New Board Member Training evaluations from the March 2016 training in San Diego, Calif., and Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Committee/Task Force/Meetings reports: The following summarizes the highlights of the committee, task force, and meeting reports made to the Board of Directors.

NABSW meeting report. ASWB's President M. Jenise Comer and Secretary Fran Franklin presented at the National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSW) conference with former Board member Saundra Starks. Two copies of ASWB's Guide to the Social Work Exams were given away to presentation attendees. ASWB placed two ads in the

NABSW souvenir program, a full-page ad on the inside back cover about the exam guide and a half-page ad about ASWB's Path to Licensure program.

BPD meeting report. ASWB President M. Jenise Comer and ASWB Executive Vice President Dwight Hymans presented a session on ASWB's Mobility initiative during the Baccalaureate Program Directors (BPD) annual conference. ASWB exhibited at the conference, taking a double booth to promote the Path to Licensure program and the free Registry for students.

Recap of the Foundation Board Meeting

Immediately following adjournment of the Board of Directors meeting on April 28, the Board reconvened to hold a board meeting of the American Foundation for Research and Consumer Education in Social Work Regulation (the Foundation). The Foundation is ASWB's 501(c)3 organization that sponsors a grant program for research on topics relevant to social work regulation, consumer protection, and related areas. The Foundation Board of Directors comprises the members of ASWB's Board of Directors.

Path to Licensure Institute: Staff presented a white paper about holding a summer institute to orient a Path to Licensure cohort to the Path to Licensure program. Cohort members would be required to develop research projects related to regulation or Path to Licensure activities and would be monitored by their schools for compliance. Publication of research or presentation at an ASWB Delegate Assembly would be requirements for completion. The Foundation

Board voted to approve the request for funding one Path to Licensure institute as a pilot project to be completed in summer 2017.

Approval of minutes: The Foundation Board approved the minutes of the January 28, 2016, meeting held at the Sandpearl resort in Clearwater Beach, Fla.

Future of the Foundation: The Foundation Board discussed the need for reviewing the purpose and scope of the Foundation for future viability. Foundation President M. Jenise Comer appointed two Board members to work with staff to develop a report and SWOT analysis.

Foundation Editorial Review Committee: The Foundation Board reviewed and approved the members of the 2016 Editorial Review Committee.