

SW Rules Committee – Minutes

Date: April 9th, 2025 at 10:00am – 11:00 am ET

Location: [Zoom](#)

Welcome & Call to Order

Chair

- The Chair welcomes everyone and calls the meeting to order.

Roll Call

CSG

- CSG takes role of the committee members. All but one members are present.

Name	Present
Dr. Hyacinth Mckee - Louisiana	X
Youa Yang – Minnesota	X
Angela Fileccia – Maine	X
Bethany Cottrell – New Hampshire	
David Fye – Kansas	X
Jaime Hoyle – Virginia	X
Justin Bennett - Missouri	X

Review and Adopt Agenda*

Chair

- The Chair reviews the agenda and asks for a motion to adopt it.
- Jaime Hoyle (VA) moves to adopt the agenda.
- David Fye (KS) seconds the motion.

Public Questions and Comment

Chair

- Matthew DeCarlo – MSW Program Director at St. Joseph’s (speaking in a personal capacity) comments about ASWB’s testing standards. Written comments can be found in the meeting documents.
- Andrea Jensen – Advocated for an alternative licensing route. She hopes the Commission will consider a provisional path to licensure for those unable to pass the exam, noting that many capable therapists are lost due to exam challenges.
- Justin Bennett (MO) – Asked questions directed to both Matthew and Andrea:
 - For Matthew: Asks if there is another common measurement other than DIF not used by ASWB.
 - Matthew DeCarlo: Referenced NCLEX and the concept of conditional standard error of measurement, emphasizing the

importance of an exam being precise at the cut score. ASWB does not require this in the standards.

- For Andrea: Asked for clarification on whether a provisional license is tied to an alternative licensure pathway or is simply a preparatory step.
 - Andrea Jensen – Explained that she holds an LGSW and has completed 4,000 hours of clinical work along with 200 hours of supervised licensing practice. She currently holds a provisional LICSW while working toward full LICSW. She views the provisional license as an alternative pathway and an opportunity to continue practicing while completing requirements.

Review Role of Rules Committee and Explanation of Rulemaking Process

Chair/ Interim Legal Counsel

- Samantha Nance (Interim Legal Counsel) gave a brief overview of the Rules Committee's role and the rulemaking process, highlighting its responsibilities in drafting and reviewing rules, ensuring transparency, and incorporating public input.

Review Sample Language for Proposed Rule on Qualifying National Exam*

Chair/ Interim Legal Counsel

- Samantha Nance (Interim Legal Counsel) reviewed the statutory need for the rule, which includes:
 - Approval of a national licensing examination.
 - Adoption of a rule to define and clarify that requirement.
 - Publishing the rule in advance of the February meeting, referring it to the Rules Committee as a logical starting point.
- Justin Bennett (MO) raised concerns about the ASWB exam being the only named national exam, suggesting the language feels too restrictive. He noted that future exams could address equity concerns and that ASWB should be more transparent.
 - Samantha Nance clarified that the rule is intentionally flexible, avoiding naming a specific exam in the statute. This allows for evolution in the profession without needing to amend state laws. It's standard practice to define such details in rules, not statutes.
- Justin Bennett (MO) asked about room for alternative pathways in future rulemaking, noting several states already recognize such routes.
 - Angela Fileccia (ME) emphasized that the Compact Commission is ongoing and adaptive, with annual meetings to address evolving topics.
 - Matt Shafer (CSG) referenced Section 4 of the compact, outlining three competency criteria: passage of a national exam, continuous licensure before a state's adoption of the compact, and substantial equivalency. He noted that the language is flexible enough to consider alternative pathways.

- Samantha Nance added that the rule is intended to be narrow but leaves room for future evaluation of alternative pathways.
- David Fye (KS) raised a technical question about referencing sections in the proposed rule. He suggested using "Section" instead of "Article" to align with model language.
 - Samantha Nance agreed and supported the edit.
- Exam Clarifications: Master's vs. Advanced Generalist
 - Youa Yang (MN) asked if both master's-level and advanced generalist exams would qualify under the rule.
 - Dr. McKee (LA) inquired about the requirements for advanced generalist exams.
 - Samantha Nance explained that advanced generalist exams fall under the master's category and that this could be clarified in the rule. She noted that advanced generalist candidates must have completed a master's program.
 - Justin Bennett (MO) questioned whether the advanced generalist exam is equivalent to the master's for Compact purposes.
 - Matt Shafer (CSG) said that from a drafting perspective, the advanced generalist exam was excluded due to its limited use across states, emphasizing uniformity.
 - Samantha Nance confirmed that advanced generalists could access the compact through their master's credentials but supported clarification to avoid confusion.
- David Fye (KS) and Youa Yang (MN) agreed on the need to specify that the master's exam qualifies, with the advanced generalist falling under that umbrella.
- Samantha Nance proposed to draft clarifying language for the next meeting.
- Motion and Voting
 - Angela Fileccia (ME) made a motion to adopt the sample language.
 - David Fye (KS) offered a friendly amendment to replace "Article" with "Section," which Angela accepted.
 - Jaime Hoyle (VA) seconded, with the understanding that clarification on the advanced generalist issue would be addressed at the next meeting.
 - The motion carried with one "nay" vote from Justin Bennett (MO).
 - Samantha Nance noted the rule would be recirculated with technical amendments and a notation added to Section 1.1(b), then sent to the Executive Committee and full Commission.

- Dr. McKee (LA) supported clarifying the advanced generalist language.

Delegate Questions and Comments

Chair

- The Chair asks if any of the other committee members have any further questions and received none.

Adjourn*

Chair

- The Chair asks for a motion to adjourn.
- David Fye (KS) makes a motion to adjourn the meeting which is seconded by Angela Fileccia (ME).
- The meeting adjourns.

* Indicates agenda item requires Rules Committee vote