

Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 25, 2011

The meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (Board) was called to order at 8:30 a.m., Friday, February 25, 2011, at 8280 YMCA Plaza Drive, Building 8-B, Baton Rouge, LA 70810. Present were Board Members, Drs. Joseph Comaty, Tony Young, Rita Culross, and Lee Matthews; and, Executive Director, Jaime Monic. Board Member, Dr. John Courtney and Complaints Coordinator, Dr. C. Gary Pettigrew, were in partial attendance.

Dr. Culross moved to accept the minutes of January 14-15, 2011. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Pettigrew requested to add a Complaint Review Item: "SS vs. LC" to the agenda. The Board agreed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows Comaty – yea, Young – yea, Courtney – yea, Culross – yea and Matthews - yea

Pursuant to LSA R.S.42:6.1(4), Dr. Young moved to enter Executive Session to conduct file reviews, oral examinations and interview for the contract position of Investigating Officer . The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows Comaty – yea, Young – yea, Courtney – yea, Culross – yea and Matthews - yea

Dr. Young moved to close Executive Session to enter the following:

P07-08-05B - The Board reviewed the documentation presented by Dr. Richard M. McWhirter, as fulfillment of the requirements of the Consent Order. Dr. Culross moved in favor of closing this matter and returning Dr. McWhirter's license to good standing. The Board unanimously accepted this motion by roll call vote as follows: Comaty – yea, Young – yea, Courtney – yea, Culross – yea and Matthews - yea

VP vs. MB - Dr. Pettigrew requested that the Board table this item because additional information was received that he had not reviewed. The Board unanimously agreed.

BW vs. LH - Dr. Pettigrew presented this case and recommendations to the Board. Dr. Culross moved to dismiss the matter. The motion unanimously passed.

SS vs. LC – Dr. Pettigrew reported that he reviewed this case and found no violations that would fall within the jurisdiction of this Board. He recommended the information be forwarded to the LA Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners for handling. The Board unanimously accepted this recommendation.

The Board conducted interviews for the contract position of Investigating Officer from 9 a.m. – noon. Dr. Courtney moved that the contract be offered to Dr. Constance Patterson. The motion unanimously passed.

Supervision and Credentials Recommendations:

The Supervision/Credentials Committee conducted file reviews and made recommendations as follows:

Dr. Courtney, upon review of the application for reinstatement of licensure of **Sandra Brindamour, Psy.D.**, finding that all requirements for reinstatement had been met, moved that **Dr. Brindamour's** license be reinstated as of February 25, 2011. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Culross, upon review of the application file for licensure of **Sumer N. Ledet, Ph.D.**, recommended that the Board confirm the candidacy of Dr. Ledet and invite her to sit for the oral examination for licensure. The Board unanimously accepted this recommendation.

Dr. Culross, upon review of the application file for licensure of **Lisa L. Arceneaux, Psy.D.**, recommended that the Board confirm the candidacy of Dr. Arceneaux and invite her to sit for the oral examination for licensure. The Board unanimously accepted this recommendation.

Dr. Culross, upon review of the application file for licensure of **Ira G. Adams, Ph.D.**, recommended that the Board confirm the candidacy of Dr. Adams and invite him to sit for the oral examination for licensure. The Board unanimously accepted this recommendation.

Dr. Courtney, upon review of the application file for licensure of **Marianne H. Walsh, Psy.D.**, recommended that the Board confirm the candidacy of Dr. Walsh and invite her to sit for the oral examination for licensure. The Board unanimously accepted this recommendation.

Dr. Courtney, upon review of the Temporary Registrations of **Gustave F. Sison, Jr., Ph.D.**, recommended that Dr. Sison be granted a Temporary Registration in Louisiana effective February 15, 2011. The Board unanimously accepted this recommendation.

Dr. Courtney, upon review of the Temporary Registration of **Timothy F. Branaman, Ph.D.**, recommended that Dr. Branaman be granted a Temporary Registration in Louisiana effective January 1, 2011. The Board unanimously accepted this recommendation.

Dr. Young, upon review of Dr. Danielle A. Weiss' request to respecialize along with supporting credentials, recommended that Dr. Weiss be invited to sit for an oral examination for Respecialization in Clinical Psychology. The Board unanimously accepted this recommendation.

The Board unanimously approved the request of Dr. Ernest Ellender to continue his oral examination in March 2011.

After reviewing the application file for licensure of **Peggy L. Pack, Ph.D.**, Dr. Comaty moved that the file, having no activity over a five-year period, be withdrawn from the application process (ref. PPM #4101). The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Executive Director Report: Ms. Monic reported that the new contract for web design was approved and that the changes would be implemented within the next months.

Ms. Monic also announced her resignation as Executive Director and explained her need to take time off for her family at this time. She expressed her commitment to remaining in the position until the end of April, unless the position was filled sooner, and further expressed her willingness to train the incumbent on a part-time/intermittent basis as the Board saw fit.

Finance Committee: The Board reviewed the December 2010 Financial Statements prepared by Ouida Nugent.

Long Range Planning/Awards Ceremony: Dr. Comaty reported that the Board concluded its LRP Discussion on February 24, 2011 and that the Awards Ceremony will be held Friday, March 18, 2011.

Continuing Education: - Dr. Young reported that he is making progress on the rules, policies, and procedures for implementing new requirements to assess psychologists continuing competencies. The Board further discussed piloting the requirements for the 2011 renewal.

Ad hoc Committee: Behavioral Health Professionals Working Group (BHPWG) Representatives: Drs. Young and Comaty provided the Final Report of the BHPWG submitted to the Joint Health and Welfare Committee. Dr. Comaty commended Dr. Jessica Brown of the Louisiana Psychological Association and Mike Gootee of the Louisiana Counselors Association for their work on the final report.

There was no report from the following committees: Oral Examination; Liaison to Professional Organizations and Boards; Legislative Coordinator; Complaints Committee; Supervision and Credentials Review Committee.

Michelle Bacon Moore, Psy.D. appeared before Board members Young and Courtney for an oral examination for licensure. The results were presented to the Board. Dr. Young moved that the Board grant Dr. Moore a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Psychology. The motion unanimously passed.

Lacey M. LeBlanc Seymour Ph.D. – appeared before Board members Comaty, Matthews and Culross for an oral examination for licensure. The results were presented to the Board. Dr. Comaty moved that the oral examination of Dr. Seymour be continued a minimum of six months. The motion passed by majority roll call vote as follows: Comaty – yea, Young – yea, Courtney – abstained, Culross – yea and Matthews - yea

Cathy A. Word, Ph.D. appeared before Board members Comaty, Courtney, Young, Culross and Matthews for an oral examination for licensure. The results were presented to the Board. Dr. Courtney moved that the Board grant Dr. Word a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Counseling Psychology. The motion passed. Dr. Young recused.

Discussion Items

Sunset, July 1, 2012 – The Board reviewed R.S. 49:191(4)(e) pertaining to Sunset of DHH and all statutory entities made a part of the department by law. The Board agreed to create an Ad Hoc Committee to address issues and make recommendations to the Board on matters that come up as a result of this event. Dr. Comaty appointed Drs. Young and Matthews to co-chair this committee.

Administrative Complaint Procedures – The Board reviewed the standard notice of receipt sent to individuals who file Requests for Investigation with the Board. Ms. Monic recommended revisions to the letter to more accurately reflect the Board's procedures. The Board unanimously approved revisions to the letter.

Oral Examination Procedures – Ms. Monic recommended revisions to the Candidate Information Sheet that would eliminate the need for the candidate to re-file information that was previously submitted on the candidates Application for Licensure form. The Board agreed to remove the duplicate information from the Candidate Information Sheet.

Hypnotherapy – The Board reviewed R.S. 37:2352(5) and requested that Ms. Monic request that Attorney Lloyd Lunceford provide an opinion to the Board regarding its authority/obligation to regulate hypnotherapy.

ASPPB: EPPP Fee Increase – The Board reviewed the February 14, 2011 letter from ASPPB Executive Director, Steve DeMers, Ed.D. Dr. Comaty proposed sending a letter to address the fee increase and request that ASPPB consider assuming all fees related to special accommodations provided to candidates given that the Boards are on limited budgets and ASPPB is profiting from the examination fees.

ASPPB Meeting Orlando – The Board discussed attendance of the LSBEP at the ASPPB Midyear Meeting. Drs. Courtney, Young, Matthews and Culross were not available to attend. Dr. Comaty remained committed to attending the meeting and the Board confirmed its desire to have Ms. Monic attend on behalf of the Board.

Guidelines for LPCs Conducting Child Custody Evaluations – The Board reviewed the response drafted by Attorney Amy Groves Lowe in response to the LPC Board’s letter of January 11, 2011. The Board approved the draft to be sent by Ms. Lowe.

LSBME Rules: LAC 46:XI.V.231-235, 3901-3961, 6101-6121 – The Board reviewed the revised rules promulgated by the LSBME.

5:00 Dr. Comaty moved to adjourn for the day. The motion unanimously passed.