

**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners  
November 6, 2020**

John Shalett, LCSW, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, November 6, 2020. The meeting was conducted at the board office and by video conference and all interested parties were provided the information to join the meeting. The allowance of a video conference is authorized by Proclamation 30 JBE 2020, Section 4 as extended by subsequent executive proclamations including 75 JBE 2020. Emily DeAngelo, Administrator, and Sheri Morris, Legal Counsel, were present for the meeting.

Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW, conducted roll call. Board members present at the time of roll call included Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW, John Shalett, LCSW, Evan Bergeron, Consumer Member, Hyacinth McKee, LCSW, and Jennifer Burch, LCSW.

Ada Nelson, RSW, was absent. The LMSW position is vacant due to LaTonya Charles passing the LCSW exam on October 19, 2020.

Members of the public that attended all or a portion of the public meeting are on the attached list.

**AGENDA**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the agenda with a correction to Item 4 that current finances are through September 30, 2020, addition of Item 7.I. request for leave of absence, and addition of 12.h. report from Edgar Guedry.

Board members were advised that the hearing in the matter of Anna McKinnon Administrative Complaint #2020-140 is continued to January 22, 2021.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**ELECTION FOR SECRETARY-TREASURER**

Ruth Weinzettle nominated Hyacinth McKee as Secretary-Treasurer. Hyacinth McKee accepted the nomination.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to close nominations and nominate Hyacinth McKee as Secretary-Treasurer.

**FINANCIAL**

Robert Furman, CPA, provided a report to the board on fiscal year 2019-2020 and on the current fiscal year as of September 30, 2020.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to accept the reports.

## **MINUTES**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of the meeting held October 2-3, 2020.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **Forever Care Resource Center**

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the application to be a continuing education pre-approval organization submitted by Forever Care Resource Center.

### **Mother's Helpers**

Board members considered an application to be a continuing education pre-approval organization submitted by Mother's Helpers. They request that Tina Smith identify her credential on her letter of recommendation or in the alternative, Mother's Helpers needs to obtain another letter of recommendation from a credentialed social worker.

### **Jewish Family Services of Greater New Orleans**

**Motion** was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the application to be a continuing education pre-approval organization submitted by Jewish Family Services of Greater New Orleans.

### **Dana Knighten, LCSW-BACS**

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to approve the job description of Contact Representative for the Social Security Administration towards meeting the supervised work experience for LCSW.

### **Mollie Butler, LCSW**

Mollie Butler submitted an inquiry relative to the Cures Act. Board members responded that they are not able to address how the Cures Act affects social workers. They recommended that she obtain guidance from her agency's legal representative.

### **Amiee Brooks, LMSW**

The Board received an email from Amiee Brooks relative to an employment directive of answering notifications outside of working hours and being on call 24 hours per day and her liability if she unable to respond to the notifications. Board members advised that this situation is something that she will have to address with her employer.

### **Gina Rossi, LCSW-BACS**

Gina Rossi submitted a request that the Board permanently allow for remote supervision. Board members referred her request to the Supervision Committee.

### **Nita Baucom, LCSW-BACS**

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the additional dates of December 4, 2020, January 29, 2021 and April 23, 2021 for the 6.5-hour BACS supervision workshop.

**Patricia Borrello-Monie, LCSW-BACS**

**Motion** was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve the supervision provided by telephone between March 19, 2020 – September 30, 2020 to Jamie Pence, Christy Blackwell, Cortrice Trotter and Rebecca Starzyk. Board members advised that supervision from October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 can be conducted through electronic, face-to-face means if not being provided in-person.

**Richard Jackson, LCSW**

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to authorize staff to approve the 6.5-hour BACS workshop scheduled to be held December 10-11, 2020 once Richard Jackson provides evidence that diversity will be included in the training.

**Tucker Keatley, LMSW**

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to accept pay stubs in lieu of professional experience verification because Tucker Keatley is unable to obtain the professional experience verification from his former employer.

**Alicia Reynaud, LMSW**

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to deny Alicia Reynaud's request that the Board accept supervision hours she completed prior to meeting the work hours.

**Jessica Smith, LMSW**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve Jessica Smith's request for a waiver of the 90-day waiting period between exams.

**Demarius Payne, LCSW-BACS**

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve Demarius Payne to provide supervision to Shirley Washington-Norris.

**NASW-LA Chapter**

**Motion** was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve the 6.5-hour BACS supervision workshop to be held on May 7, 2021.

**Andrea Guba, LCSW**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to deny Andrea Guba's request to be removed from the random audit selection.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 10:15 a.m. for the following reasons:

to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person, provided that such person is notified in writing at least twenty-four hours before the meeting, and/or to discuss prospective litigation.

Votes for going into Executive Session: Ruth Weinzettle, yes; Evan Bergeron, yes; Hyacinth McKee, LCSW, yes; and Jennifer Burch, LCSW, yes.

**Motion** was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 1:05 p.m.

## **BOARD/STAFF ISSUES**

### **Report on Office Workflow**

Board members reviewed a report provided by the staff of the workflow since the last meeting. There have been 137 retakes processed, 195 licenses issued/reissued due to score reports, 174 new applications, and 36 BACS applications. There are 118 licenses being monitored following disciplinary action. 3 Consent Agreement and Orders have been issued for unlicensed practice. 49 license verifications have been processed. Board members reviewed the turn-around time for the latest set of Supervision Contracts. Board members were advised that 14 complaints have been received since last meeting of which 10 were not accepted. Lastly, it was reported that as of November 4, 2020 there were 704 licenses with a status of lapsed in renewal.

### **Discontinuance of Cash Payments**

Emily DeAngelo reported that the auditor recommends discontinuing accepting cash payments.

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to continue accepting cash payments and to explore other alternatives to accepting cash that does not involve a convenience fee.

### **FARB 2021 Live Virtual Conference – January 27-29, 2021**

Table until December meeting.

### **Discussion regarding private reprimands pursuant to R.S. 37:2717(B)(2)**

Emily DeAngelo was instructed to find out if other state social work boards use private reprimands and in what context are they used.

### **Consideration of adopting rule regarding removing disciplinary action consistent with policy**

Referred to Rules Committee.

### **Consideration of adopting rule regarding Informal notices pursuant to R.S. 49:961**

Referred to Rules Committee.

### **Slate for ASWB Board of Directors**

Board members discussed the slate for election.

### **Palliative Care Task Force meeting**

Edgar Guedry reported on the task force's work at their meeting on November 4, 2020. The task force is working to define standards on which services to include when one calls themselves a Palliative Program. He advised that he sent an email to the schools of social work to find out if they offer a course on palliative care. They are continuing to work on the Pediatric and Adult Palliative programs and defining the differences. Also working on reimbursement for a true palliative program and inclusion of allied services like social work, chaplain, nursing, etc.

### **Disciplinary Monitoring Report**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to accept the staff's recommendation to release individuals who have successfully completed the terms of their Consent Agreements and Orders.

### **Impaired Professional Program**

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to accept the report submitted by Kathie Pohlman, IPP Manager.

### **Complaints**

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to set Administrative Complaint #2019-10 for hearing on February 26, 2021.

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to set Administrative Complaint #2019-15 for hearing on February 26, 2021.

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to set Administrative Complaint #2019-162 for hearing on February 26, 2021.

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2019-209.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to set Administrative Complaint #2019-212 for hearing on February 26, 2021.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2019-270.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to continue investigating Complaint #2020-78.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2020-100.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to request an injunction in the matter of Complaint #2020-172.

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2021-8.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2021-19.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2021-21.

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2021-28.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2021-37.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2021-38.

#### **Consent Agreement and Orders**

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve Consent Agreement and Order #2019-272 for Tanya Smith.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and carried unanimously, to approve Consent Agreement and Order #2019-227 for LaKenya Points.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agreement and Order #2021-24 for Latara Leggett.

#### **Petition for Judicial Review**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to issue a stay for the financial obligations in the matter of Ada Craige-Roberson.

#### **Applications**

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the LCSW application submitted by Gwendolyn Charles and to reinstate her license.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to issue an LCSW to LaDonna Day because she met the requirements for Louisiana licensure while in Mississippi.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the LMSW application submitted by Joseph Roach III and to reinstate his license.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to approve the LMSW application submitted by Yolanda Sanders and to reinstate her license.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to approve the LMSW application submitted by Nekia Weber and to reinstate her license.

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to deny the RSW application submitted by Rayna Robinson and to offer her a compliance hearing.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for Registered Social Work registration:

Clark, Kameraan  
Cockerham, Flora  
Lorio, Gloria  
Morris-Jackson, Rita  
Taylor, Doreen  
Vallet, Kendra  
Vaughn, Juequita

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for Registered Social Work registration pending receipt of their official transcript:

Branton, Haley  
Cristina, Emily  
Davis, Katelyn  
Guthrie, Marsha  
Jenkins, Tyra  
Jordan, James  
Kent, Quinnieka  
Luttrell, Taylor

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the Masters exam and to issue Certified Social Work certification:

Baker, Pamela M.  
Bartram, Shanah L.  
Cleveland, Krystle C.  
Bryant, Andrea  
Buckles, Keiera K.  
Conner, Blessin B.  
Gruenig, Maddison E.  
Hall, Joycelyn N.  
Hickerson, Michael

Jackson, Michael  
Jordan, Brianna D.  
Labelle, Brandi J.  
Lewis, Deborah  
Mosley, Latravia D.  
Narcisse, Christian J.  
Robertson-Delone, Rayshonka  
Smith, Bronsen W.  
Taylor, Ashley D.  
Woods, Tiffany

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to issue Licensed Master's Social Work through endorsement to the following applicants:  
Bass, Demetrist (End-MS)

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the Masters exam and to issue Certified Social Work certification conditional of receipt of their official transcript:  
Crigler, Elizabeth  
De Vita, Erin  
Dolese, Christina  
Goodes, Lauren  
Johnson, Jordan  
Kora, Brianna  
McNeal, Rodney  
Martello, Emma  
Oldlani, Alexandra  
O'Shea, Ariana  
Potter, Catherine  
Silva-Soraghan, Hiromi  
Sisk, Lauren  
Utterback, Paige

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam:

Davis, Shondra L.  
Gabriel, Brittany P.  
Hebert, Candace L.  
Hill, Rhonda M.  
James-Thomas, Mary  
Laborde, Andrea  
Lorando, Emily C.  
McGlinn, Dallas R.  
Martin, Vinita D.  
Miller, Crystal



O'Neal, Kristen B.  
Pellerin, Kalila  
Rousse, Keri M.  
Staudermann, Kattie R.  
Vicknair, Anastasia V.

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to issue Licensed Clinical Social Work through endorsement to the following applicants:

Baskin, Amanda (End TN)  
Burgos, Lenny (End-FL)  
Holman, Sumati (End-MD)  
Kalk, Amy (End-OH)  
Markovich, Nicholas (End-IL)  
Odom, Rochelle (End-CO)  
Satchel, Jaclyn (End-TX)

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion** was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 4:17 p.m. for the following reasons:

to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person, provided that such person is notified in writing at least twenty-four hours before the meeting, and/or to discuss prospective litigation.

Votes for going into Executive Session: Ruth Weinzettle, yes; Evan Bergeron, yes; Hyacinth McKee, LCSW, yes; and Jennifer Burch, LCSW, yes.

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 6:10 p.m.

#### **Review of draft Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Sanctions for Administrative Complaints Nos. 2019-203, 2015-146 and 2019-249**

**Motion** was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Sanctions for Administrative Complaint No. 2019-203.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Sanctions for Administrative Complaint No. 2015-146.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Sanctions for Administrative Complaint No. 2019-249.

### **Compliance Hearings**

John Shalett, LCSW, Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW, and Hyacinth McKee, LCSW, served as the hearing panel for two compliance hearings conducted in Executive Session.

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the LMSW application submitted by John White.

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by John Shalett and unanimously carried, to uphold the Consent Agreement and Order offered to Robert Brisco for practicing with a lapsed license and to uphold the requirement that he pass the ASWB Masters examination.

### **Request for a Leave of Absence**

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve Ada Nelson's request for a two month leave of absence from the Board.

### **PRESENTATIONS OF LICENSING MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**

Board members watched presentations on licensing management systems from three vendors during open sessions of the meeting. The vendors include our current vendor, Covalent Logic, as well as Certemy and GL Solutions.

**Motion** was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to approve a 5-year contract with Certemy subject to the Administrator's review of the termination clause.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Shalett, LCSW-BACS  
Chairperson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Hyacinth McKee, LCSW-BACS  
Secretary-Treasurer