

**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners**

**April 3, 2009**

Wade Tyler, LCSW, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., Friday, April 3, 2009, in the Conference Room at the Board office located at 18550 Highland Road, Suite B, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Emily Efferson, Administrator, and Regina Breaux, Administrative Assistant, were present for the meeting. Other individuals present for a portion of the meeting were Melanie Faust, Adam Cleso, Margery Williams, Penny Ramsdell, and Melissa Vidrin.

Wade Tyler, LCSW, Chairman, conducted roll call. Board members present were Roslyn Richardson, GSW, Michael Hickerson, RSW, John McBride, LCSW, Hope Himel-Benson, LCSW, and Wade Tyler, LCSW. Evelyn Jenkins, LCSW, was absent.

**AGENDA**

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to accept the agenda as presented.

**HEARING FOR COMPLAINT #2008-33**

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried to grant Rachele Cutrer a continuance in the matter of complaint #2008-33. The hearing has been rescheduled for June 19, 2009.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**MINUTES**

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to accept the minutes for the February 27, 2009 meeting with a revision under Correspondence – Stephanie Nassrah to include that Ms. Nassrah must compare her former client's right to confidentiality with the duty to warn because as the situation is explained by Ms. Nassrah, there is no compelling evidence that the former client will commit suicide.

**PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENT & ORDER**

Emalie Boyce, Assistant Attorney General presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for Donna Hulsey, LCSW, which had been previously negotiated and agreed to by Ms. Hulsey in resolution of Complaint #2008-224. Ms. Hulsey was represented by attorney David Paddison. Wade Tyler called for a motion to go in to Executive Session.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session to consider the Consent Agreement and Order presented by Emalie Boyce, Assistant Attorney General, for Donna Hulsey, LCSW, which falls under the following reasons for moving to Executive Session:

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 for investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct.

Votes for going in to Executive Session: Wade Tyler, yes; Michael Hickerson, yes; Roslyn Richardson, yes; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; John McBride, yes.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session to take the following action:

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order for Donna Hulsey, LCSW, as presented with one change to the order that was initialed by both parties.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried to approve the workshop "Ethics for Supervisors: Professional and Applied" presented by LSU School of Social Work. This workshop has been approved for candidates for the Board Approved Clinical Supervisor status.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to approve the request by **Louisiana State University-School of Social Work** to be a Continuing Education Pre-Approval Organization. This approval extends from April 3, 2009 – April 3, 2014.

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to approve the request by **Northoaks Health System** to be a Continuing Education Pre-Approval Organization. This approval extends from April 3, 2009 – April 3, 2014.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to approve the request by **Marilyn Tyler, LCSW**, to accept the workshop titled "Ethical Issues in Clinical Supervision." This workshop has been approved to meet the continuing education requirement to maintain her BACS status.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, Seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to approve **Darlene Abbott, LCSW-BACS**, as the disciplinary supervisor for Robin Cannatella, LCSW.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, Seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to approve **Colette Melancon, LCSW-BACS**, as the disciplinary supervisor for Diana Carroll, LCSW.

Board members reviewed correspondence submitted by **Julie Beard, LCSW** asking about limitations of confidentiality. Ms. Beard is Medicaid representative and has the responsibility to report fraud. The board advised Ms. Beard of the limitations of confidentiality found in rule 115 B (1) of the Rules, Standards and Procedures.

Board members reviewed correspondence submitted by **Penny Brooks, LCSW** asking the board to review 4 case scenarios to determine if the type of services being provided would be considered psychotherapy. Ms. Brooks was provided with feedback from each case scenario and referred to the definition of “psychotherapy” as defined in Rule 301 of the Rules, Standards and Procedures.

Board members reviewed correspondence submitted by **Laura Hornaday, LCSW** asking if she is legally required to release a client record if the records are subpoenaed and the client refuses to sign a release form. The board advised Ms. Hornaday of Rule 115 C(1-4) of the Rules, Standards and Procedures that addresses the release of client records without written consent. She was encouraged to review the LABSWE’s Spring 2003 newsletter article “Legal Help for Dealing with Subpoenas” and to seek private legal counsel.

Board members reviewed correspondence submitted by **Angela Tyrone, LCSW** and advised Ms. Tyrone that the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act and the Rules, Standards and Procedures does not include language that prohibits social workers from determining if a student has been properly instructed in reading or from assisting with the annual State Standardized tests (iLEAP and LEAP).

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried to provide a voided LCSW wall certificate to **Special Agent Roger Jones**.

Board members reviewed correspondence submitted by Craig and Gloria Meier, on behalf of **Heritage Investigations, Inc.** The correspondence was submitted to compliment Emily Efferson, Administrator, for the excellent work that she has done as the administrator for the board.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 11:15 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 for investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct.

Votes for going in to Executive Session: Wade Tyler, yes; Michael Hickerson, yes; Roslyn Richardson, yes; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; John McBride, yes.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 4:01 p.m. to take the following actions:

### **Update on IPP**

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried to send Don Evans, private investigator to secure all IPP files from the program manager.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried to initiate termination of the contract with the current IPP manager.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried to promote Sheryl Rudd to IPP manager once the contract with the current IPP manager has been terminated.

### **Monitoring Reports-Disciplinary**

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried to not accept the report submitted by Randall Griffith, LCSW, IPP Manager.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried to accept the disciplinary report presented by Emily Efferson, Administrator.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried to grant Christopher Velardo, LCSW, an extension until May 15, 2009 to complete the continuing education hours outlined in his Consent Agreement and Order.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson, and carried by majority vote to approve the course "Social Worker Ethics" for one (1) hour of continuing education towards the three (3) hours of continuing education hours that

Linda Phillips is to required to complete in the area of Record Keeping. Hope Himel-Benson opposed the vote and John McBride abstained from the vote.

### **New Complaints**

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2009-107** for investigation of possible violations of Rule 113(B)(3), 113(B)(4), 113(A) and 107(B).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2009-108** for investigation for possible violations of La. R.S. 2717(A)(2), Rule 107(B) and 117(A).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and carried by majority vote, to expand Complaint #2009-108 to **2009-108(a), 2009-108(b), 2009-108(c) and 2009-108(d)** and to send these files for investigation of La. R.S. 2717(A)(8) and Rule 117(D). John McBride and Hope Himel-Benson abstained from the vote.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2009-109** for investigation for possible violations of Rule 107(B), 113(A), 113(B), 113(B)(6), 117(D), 107(A) and La. R.S. 2717(A)(7) and 2717(A)(4).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2009-110** for investigation for possible violations of La. R.S. 2710(A)(4), 2710(A)(11), 2720(A)(1), 2707(B) and Rule 117(D), 119(A)(B) and 305(C)(2)(3).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to send an inquiry to the District Attorney's office relative to **Complaint #2009-111**. The board is requesting information on the outcome of the situation.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2009-121** for investigation for possible violations of Rule 107(A) and 117(A).

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2009-128** for investigation for possible violations of La. R.S. 2717(A)(11), 2717(A)(7), Rule 113(B)(1)(2)(4)(5)(9) and 107(B), 113(A)(1)(5)(6)(7).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to request a written response for **Complaint #2009-129** for possible violations of Rule 107(B) and 111(D).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2009-130** for investigation for possible violations of La. R.S. 2717(A)(7), 2717(A)(10), Rule 107(B), 111(D), 111(G)(5) and 109(A)(1)(2).

### **Pending Complaints**

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2009-122** with a letter of concern.

### **Applications**

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried to deny **Celia Percle** approval for the Registered Social Worker designation. Ms. Percle does not have a degree in social work.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried to deny **Christel Antonellis** the Graduate Social Worker certification by Endorsement because she has not taken the ASWB Masters level examination.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried to deny **Kathleen Coenson** the Licensed Clinical Social Worker license by Endorsement because she has not passed the ASWB Clinical or Advanced Generalist level examination. The Minnesota board did not verify that Ms. Coenson has completed the supervision requirements.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried to grant **Kela D. Miller** the Licensed Clinical Social Worker license conditional of her signing a Consent Agreement and Order for working without a credential.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried to deny **Jennifer Haneline** the Licensed Clinical Social Worker license by Endorsement. The Illinois board did not verify that she has completed our supervision requirements.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried to grant the following applicants registration as a **Registered Social Worker:**

Connie Bennett  
Desiree Bridges  
Tamara Davenport  
Vernesha Gooden  
Maria Hodge  
Roxanna Johnson  
Terria Parker

Theata Blakes  
Sanedra Daniels  
Jillian Gautier  
Traci Gremillion  
Brittany Iles  
Latonka Loyd-Jones  
Shital Patel

Sandra Tippen  
Kristie Weaver  
Yolanda Williams  
Robert Younger

Elisa Washington  
Dawn Williams  
Alice Wren-Baptiste  
Brandie Wiltz

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried to approve the following applicants to sit for the ASWB Masters examination for certification as a **Graduate Social Worker**:

Christina Beauregard  
Jener Bowles  
Kimberly Freeman  
Jaime Hamel  
Aimee Lyons  
Kenyatta Ross  
Christel Antonellis

Heather Billson  
Ashley Dede  
Stacie Gardana  
Rob Harrison  
Amy Price  
Amy Vincent

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried to approve the following applicants to sit for the ASWB Advanced Generalist or Clinical exam for licensing as a **Licensed Clinical Social Worker**:

Jananna Bailey  
Janeette Cariker  
Crystal Johnson  
Florence Scarle  
Dana Thomas  
Amy Sarver

Heidi Candler  
Maria Hebert  
Julie Price  
Samantha Stone  
Jan Whitaker

### **Financial**

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to offer a professional service contract to Balantz Systems for FY2009-2010 that has a \$7,000.00 maximum contract amount.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to offer a professional service contract to Onesimus Internet Solutions for FY 2009-2010 that has a \$2,500.00 maximum contract amount.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to offer a professional service contract to Crystal Clear Technologies to begin April 1, 2009 and terminate on June 30, 2010 and has a maximum contract amount of \$25,000.00.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to approve a contract with Donnie Fontenot to begin April 1, 2009 and terminate on June 30, 2010 and has a maximum contract amount of \$1,500.00.

Board members received a copy of the financial statement prepared by Susan Sevario, CPA, for the month ending January 31, 2009.

Board members were reminded that they are required to file the "Personal Financial Disclosure" information by May 15, 2009 in accordance with R.S. 42:1124.2.1.

### **Board/Staff Issues**

**Board Orientation Workshop Evaluation Overview-** Regina Breaux and Penny Ransdell, PhD, LCSW-BACS, presented "Orientation for Board Approved Clinical Supervisors" on Saturday, March 7, 2009. This workshop received favorable evaluations.

**Workshops that qualify for BACS-** Board staff will send out a mailing to all statewide pre-approval organizations to encourage organizations to offer supervision trainings for LCSW's that are pursuing the BACS status.

**Audit of Continuing Education Pre-approval Organizations-**Board staff will send out reminder letters to pre-approval organizations to submit a list of all the programs that they approved to the board office for the current collection period. A questionnaire will be mailed out to all organizations in reference to how records are kept and what measures have been taken to secure these records.

### **Update of IOC**

The Board is requesting that the IOC clarify in the law that the Provisional LMSW is a separate credential, precursor to the LMSW.

### **Barbara Ponson**

Board members reviewed a letter submitted by Barbara Ponson. Ms. Ponson has relinquished her position as Public Member for the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners.

### **2008 ASWB Examiners Pass Rates**

Board members reviewed the 2008 Pass/Fail rates provided by the ASWB.

### **Consent Agreement and Orders-Practicing Without a Credential**

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to lift the suspension from **Melanie Brown's** Provisional Graduate Social Work certification because Ms. Brown has submitted evidence that she completed the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to lift the suspension from **Patrice Delaney's** Registered Social Worker registration because Ms. Delaney has submitted evidence that she completed the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order.



Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to **adjourn** the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

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Wade Tyler, PhD, LCSW  
Chairperson

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Roslyn Richardson, GSW  
Secretary-Treasurer