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

June 19, 2009

Wade Tyler, LCSW, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m., Friday, June 19, 2009, in the Conference Room at the Board office located at 18550 Highland Road, Suite B, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Emily Efferson, Administrator was present for the entire meeting. Sarah Herrera, Administrative Assistant and Regina Breaux, Administrative Assistant were present for a portion of the meeting. Other individuals present for a portion of the meeting were Lindsey Hunter, Carmen Weisner, Sharon Joseph, Mary Smith, James Smith, Lakaisha Richard-Williams, Linda Kelly Woodruff, Euritici Lewis-Dyson, Amanda Hassan, Keisa Rodney, Lakeitha Armant-Hamilton, Joseph Lewis, and Robert Showers.

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

AGENDA

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to add items (f) Linda Mayne, LCSW, and (g) Mary Coniglio, LCSW, to section 5 – Correspondence and to add item (h) Response from George Papale regarding Allied Mental Health Care Provider Notice of Ninth Amendment Rights to section 9 – Board/Staff Issues. Votes for accepting amended agenda: Roslyn Richardson yes, Michael Hickerson yes, Hope Himel-Benson yes, Evelyn Jenkins yes, John McBride yes, and Wade Tyler yes.

PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENT & ORDER

Lindsey Hunter, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Jacqueline Williams Randolph**, **Provisional GSW**, which had been previously negotiated and agreed to by Ms. Randolph in resolution of Complaint #2009-110. Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as presented.

Lindsey Hunter, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Anissa Jackson Horne, LCSW**, which had been previously negotiated and agreed to by Ms. Horne in resolution of Complaint #2008-210. Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as presented.

Lindsey Hunter, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Rachele Cutrer**, **MSW**, which had been previously negotiated and agreed to by Ms. Cutrer in resolution of Complaint #2008-33. Motion was made by

Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as presented.

Board members were advised by Emily Efferson, Administrator, that it was anticipated that a Consent Agreement and Order for **Sherry Gail Johnson, GSW**, would be ready for presentation; however, negotiations were not complete prior to board meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carmen Weisner, Executive Director of NASW-LA Chapter, reported on several issues. She informed the board that the merger of OADD with the Office of Mental Health will be moving forward with amendments. There will be no restrictions of social workers practice. Legislation from the Boards and Commissions will include a criminal records check with applications for licensure. She also reported that Marriage and Family with allow for curriculum modification to allow additional people to practice marriage and family therapy. The NASW-Louisiana chapter is currently working on their "yellow book" for next year. They will be offering examination preparation courses and BACS trainings for new and training to maintain the BACS.

MINUTES

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to accept the minutes for the May 15, 2009 meeting as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE

Board members reviewed an anonymous letter regarding the examination required to obtain the Graduate Social Worker certification. Euriticia Lewis-Dyson identified herself as the author of the letter; however, clarified that it was not signed because it was submitted to the board on behalf of several individuals that have taken the examination on numerous occasions and have been unsuccessful in passing the exam. Paula Eagan, LCSW-BACS, submitted a letter in support of an alternative to the examination for obtaining Graduate Social Work certification. Wade Tyler, Chairperon, provided a response regarding the authority of the licensing law and the limitations of the board. The board cannot ethically enter into a dual relationship with social workers by providing test prep courses. The social workers in attendance were advised that they are advocating for themselves, but this issue should not be brought to the board, it should be presented to the Universities' Social Work Programs, to professional social work organizations, such as NASW-LA and the LA Association of Clinical Social Workers, and to the Inter-organizational Committee (IOC).

PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENT & ORDER

Lindsey Hunter, Assistant Attorney General presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Michele Guidry, GSW**, which had been previously negotiated and agreed to by Ms. Guidry in resolution of Complaint #2009-82. Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to grant the request of **Christopher Velardo**, **LCSW**, to report the completion of his Consent Agreement and Order to NPDB-HIPDB.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to deny the request of **Brandy Dillon, GSW**, for an extension to complete the continuing education requirement in accordance with the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act. Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to allow Ms. Dillon to complete all of her continuing education hours via online courses for the collection periods of 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 because of her documented medical circumstances. The board recommended that Ms. Dillon review Rule 317 of the Rules, Standards and procedures for other options to obtain continuing education hours.

Board members reviewed correspondence submitted by **Clayton Williams, LCSW**, asking the board to review a job description to determine if a GSW in that position would require supervision of a LCSW. The board agreed that based on the information provided that the position is clinical social work and a GSW in that position would require supervision by a LCSW.

Board members reviewed correspondence submitted by **Teri Groves, LCSW**, asking if she can allow the GSW that she is supervising toward licensure, to work on a case within her private practice. The board recommended that she seek other alternatives than having the supervisee take on cases out of her private practice. It would be ideal if the circumstances would allow the supervisor to visit the supervisee at her place of employment to observe her work.

Board members reviewed correspondence submitted by **Linda Mayne**, **LCSW**. Ms. Mayne stated in her correspondence that she was not made aware that the board no longer granted extensions for collecting continuing education hours. The board acknowledged that the Rules, Standards and Procedures currently reads that if a person has not completed the required continuing education, they may request an extension. However, the board explained that extensions are no longer granted because this is in direct conflict with Louisiana Law. She was referred to statue 2714, of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act. Because the law supersedes the rules, the board does not have the authority to grant an extension.

Board members reviewed correspondence submitted by **Mary Coniglio**, **LCSW**. Ms. Coniglio requested information on how to handle client records that belonged to another social worker that she was formerly in private practice with who is now reported as a missing person. Ms. Coniglio stated that the LCSW's client records are stored at her property in Minnesota. Because Ms. Coniglio is currently in possession of the files she must adhere to Rule 111G(1) of the Rules, Standards and Procedures which addresses the length of time to maintain client records.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 12:15 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 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; Evelyn Jenkins, yes.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 2:40 p.m. to take the following actions:

Monitoring Reports

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to accept the report submitted by Sherril Rudd, IPP Manager.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins, to send a certified letter to AC-07 requiring compliance within 30 days. If not in compliance by the end of the 30 days a complaint will be filed by LABSWE.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to send a certified letter regarding compliance in reference to JMa-08. If not in compliance within 30 days a complaint will be filed by LABSWE.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to send Sherril Rudd, IPP Program Manager, a letter authorizing her to send a letter of demand to AN-02.

New Complaints

Motion was made by Roslyn Richarson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2009-148** for investigation of possible violations of Rule 117D, and La. R.S. 2717 A(8).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2009-149** for failure to rise to a level of violation of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act or Rules, Standards and Procedures.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried to come out of executive session at 2:40 p.m.

Compliance Hearing - Robin Guillmette, MSW

Robin Guillmette requested a compliance hearing to appeal the Consent Agreement and Order that was offered to her for practicing social work more than 120 days without a credential. Ms. Guillmette testified that her GSW lapsed in 2005, and that prior to the lapse she did not practice social work. She returned to work in 2008 as a Program Manager for Healing House. Ms. Guillmette advised that she facilitated three of eight support groups for Healing House clients. She also advised that she currently employed as a Program Director for LA Mentor. Board members advised Ms. Guillmette of the definition of social work practice and explained that she has been practicing social work without a credential.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to deny Ms. Guillmette's request to take the examination without the requirement of a Consent Agreement and Order. Approval to take the ASWB Masters examination is conditional of the Consent Agreement and Order.

Financial

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to offer a professional service contract to SMB Graphics for FY2009-2010.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to accept the financial statements for period ending February 28, 2009, March 31, 2009, and April 30, 2009.

Board/Staff Issues

2009 ASWB Election

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to nominate Michael Hickerson for the position of Director at Large.

Nominating forms for ASWB Awards

Board members were presented with nominating forms for the ASWB annual major awards. All nominations must be submitted to later than July 31, 2009.

ASWB amendment & resolution deadline

Board members were reminded that the deadline for submission of amendments to the Association of Social Work Bylaws is July 9, 2009.

90-day waiver policy for exams

The board will review requests for waivers on a case-by-case basis. The LABSWE supports the 90 day waiting period between taking the examinations. They also acknowledge that there are rare extenuating circumstances and therefore they reserve the right to consider the request on a case-by-case basis.

Open Book Exam

Board members were reviewed a statistical report on the Open Book Examination for licensees under decree. This data was submitted by Tim Dyeson, Ph.D., Onesimus Internet Soultions, Inc.

Personnel Committee Report

Michael Hickerson updated board members on the progress of the Employee Handbook.

Board Elections

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to nominate Wade Tyler as chairman of the board.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to nominate Michael Hickerson as vice chairman of the board.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to nominate Roslyn Richardson as Secretary-Treasurer for the board.

George Papale- Allied Mental Health Care Provider Notice of Ninth Amendment Rights; L. Raymond LeBleu

Mr. Papale, Legal Counsel for the LABSWE, was unable to locate any case law where such a Notice, based on either Article IX of the U.S. Constitution or Article I, Section 24 of the Louisiana State Constitution, provided such a blanket exemption to allow Mr. LeBleu to work in Louisiana without a credential issued by the LABSWE.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried to issue a cease and desist letter to L. Raymond LeBleu.

DARS Report

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to amend the agenda to add item (i) DARS Report to section 9 – Board/Staff Issues. Votes for amending agenda: Wade Tyler, yes; Michael Hickerson, yes; Roslyn Richardson, yes; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; John McBride, yes; Evelyn Jenkins, yes.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to submit updates to DARS for those individuals that successfully complete the terms of their Consent Agreement and Order.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 4:15 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,

Votes for going into Executive Session: Roslyn Richardson yes, John McBride yes, Evelyn Jenkins yes, Michael Hickerson yes, Hope Himel-Benson yes, and Wade Tyler yes.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 5:50 p.m. to make the following motions:

New Complaints

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried to send a letter to **Complaint #2009-154** to keep the board abreast of the arrest that was made, and to send a reminder to report the incident on their renewal application.

Motion was made by John McBride, Seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2009-155** for investigation for possible violations of La. R.S. 2717(A), and Rule 113A, 113A (3)(6), 113B (3)(5), 109C, 109A(1), 107B, 107C, and 305D(1).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2009-156** because it does not fall under the purview of the board.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2009-157** for investigation for possible violations of La. R.S. 2717A (11), and Rule 111F (1)(2)(3), 117A, 109 113A, 113B, and 305D(1).

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to refer **Complaint #2009-158** to the Impaired Professionals Program manager.

Pending Complaints

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to set a hearing for **Complaint #2008-160** for September 18, 2009.

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to set July 17, 2009 as the deadline for interrogatories for **Complaint #2009-41.**

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2009-89** as there was no violation of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act or Rules, Standards and Procedures.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2009-103** with a letter of recommendation.

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2009-107** as there was no violation of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act or Rules, Standards and Procedures.

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2009-105** as there was no violation of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act or Rules, Standards and Procedures.

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2009-129** as there was no violation of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act or Rules, Standards and Procedures.

Applications

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to deny **Michele Kelly** approval to take the examination for the Licensed Clinical Social Worker license because she has worked over 120 days in Louisiana without a credential. Ms. Kelly will be offered a Consent Agreement and Order. Should she agree to the terms of the Consent Agreement, she will be granted approval to take the ASWB Clinical or Advanced Generalist level examination. She was offered a compliance hearing.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to deny **Rachel McWilliams, MSW** approval to take the examination for the Licensed Clinical Social Worker, due to the affirmative answers that were indicated on her application. She was offered a compliance hearing.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried to grant **Melissa Tarter**, **MSW** the Graduate Social Worker certification. Ms. Tarter has met all requirements for the GSW while in the state of Texas.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried to grant **Ashley Pepition**, **MSW** approval to take the ASWB Masters level examination pending the receipt of verification that the terms of her probation have been met.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to deny **Ben Robertson, MSW** approval for the GSW examination

and to offer him a Consent Agreement and Order for working over 120 days without a credential. He was also offered a compliance hearing.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to deny **Quaone Anders, MSW** application for the GSW examination and issue her a cease and desist letter. She has not submitted an official school transcript verifying her MSW and has worked more than 120 days in Louisiana without a credential.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to grant **Letetia Henderon**, **MSW** the LCSW by way of endorsement.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to grant **Jennifer Haneline**, **MSW** the LCSW by way of endorsement from the state of Illinois.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to grant **Trenese Johnson**, **MSW** the LCSW by way of endorsement from the state of Georgia.

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

Deianira Andrews Trinaee Babineaux Angela Bernard John Bizette Robert Chilton, Jr. Mignon Crawford Grace Ghamogha Leah Geimer Amanda Geimer Amanda Gonzaga Norlecia Govan Aleshia Grant Janet Harrison Pamela Holliday Linda Jackson-Polk Yaskia Hutton Benny McKinsey Staci Lanza Melanie Mills Judy Patrick **Tawain Reese** Rosie Pilette Leah Smith Angelique Tullos

Jennifer Thompson Angelique Williams

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

Jennifer Ward

Tonya Aaron Tiffany Acosta Patience Akume Ryan Angelle Kathleen Bajat Kreesha Bennett Kenrell Boyd-Heisser

Brandie Bruno
Darcell Florence
Keena Chassion
Koryon Clay
Mary Cobb
Karen Credeur
Ashley Daniel
Patricia Deal

Sarah Drummond

Amy Dunn

Nicole Falgoust
Rakinzie Fisher
Deven Forbes
Alisa Gage
Sarah Guillot
Trina Harris-Jeanjacques

Nicole Hughes
Elyania Jackson
April Johnson
Kiana Joseph-Fraise
Eric Kinchen
Lea Landeneau
Crystal Lee

Megan McStravick
Tanya Manslank
Adrina Million
Missy Mithchell-Williams

John Moore
Jacquelyne Mott

Sonya Lockett

Glen Nugent
Renarda Paul
Crystal Phillips
Lynn Redfearn
Jamie Schuler
Letisha Spears
Christy Tircuit
Kristin Troxclair

Melissa Vidrine Joel Ware

Aimee Watts Temika Williams Gilbery Lyon, III Renee Basco Robert Bennett Melissa Broussard

Kelly Bryant
Natalie Chandler
Julie Chavez
Margot Cloutier
Latondra Crear
Ashley Cross
Marcie Dauphine
Shelley Desselle
Brandi Ducote
Danielle Eugene
Terrence Fenderson

Kinyada Foots Jessica Frey **Emily George** Linda Hardy Carla Hooks Keiasha Hyoplite Kyndal Jacoby Donna Johnson Brandon Kerr Angela Lajaunie Ann Lavergne Garry Lewis Natalie McCauley Logan McIlwain Scarlett Mejia Desiree Mitchell

Erika Metge
Patrick Morris
Akamin Nkengaka
Jov Parker

Christina Peairs
Shenetha Ramsey
Kimyatta Reed
Justin Smith
Patricia Spears
Melissa Tarter
Charlotte Tryforos

Molly Walsh

Shanda Washington Kendra Webster Deborah Youngblood Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride 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:**

Molly Baker Erin Campbell

Daniel Estopinal Jane Freudenberger

Chelsea Haaland Tanya Jones

Rachel Lacy Elizabeth Mahaffey Parker Sternbergh Clara Walmsley

Kimberly Warner

Consent Agreement and Orders-Practicing Without a Credential

Motion made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to issue a cease and desist order to **Lisa Willis** for failure to respond to the Consent Agreement and Order which was offered to her for practicing social work over 120 days without a credential.

Motion made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to suspend **Thebia Hudson's** Provisional GSW for failure to complete the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to suspend **Elisha Thomas**' RSW for failure to complete the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to deny **Corie Hebert's** application for the GSW for failure to complete the terms of the Consent Agreement and Order.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to deny **Tonia Wilkerson** application for the GSW for failure to complete the terms of the Consent Agreement and Order.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to **adjourn** the meeting at 5:47 p.m.

Wade Tyler, PhD, LCSW
Chairperson

Roslyn Richardson, PhD, GSW
Secretary-Treasurer