

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

January 22, 2010

Michael Hickerson, RSW, Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., Friday, January 22, 2010, 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 entire meeting. Other individuals present for a portion of the meeting were Terica Gant, Nicole LeBlanc and Carmen Weisner.

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

AGENDA

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the agenda. Votes for accepting the agenda: Roslyn Richardson yes, Hope Himel-Benson yes, Evelyn Jenkins yes, John McBride yes, and Michael Hickerson yes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carmen Weisner, Executive Director of NASW-LA Chapter, reported that they have completed planning for their annual conference and the conference brochure has been mailed out. Ms. Weisner also advised the board that NASW-LA is purchasing billboards in Shreveport, Monroe, Lake Charles, Lafayette, Baton Rouge and New Orleans to promote the profession of social work. Last, she reported that NASW-National is revising their protocols on reporting which will require members to report sanctions imposed by their licensing board within 30 days.

MINUTES

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the minutes as presented for the December 11, 2009 board meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Members of the board reviewed an email between John McBride and **Jay Sevin, Clinical Director for the Office of Citizens with Developmental Disabilities**. Dr. Sevin asked if the delivery of behavioral services, inclusive of writing behavior support plans/behavior management plans for persons with mental retardation, autism, or other developmental disabilities, is within the scope of practice of clinical social workers. Mr. McBride responded to the inquiry by defining "clinical social work practice" according to the Rules, Standards and Procedures and referring him to Rule 109 (competence) and Rule 111 (practice requirements) of the Rules,

Standards and Procedures. Board members agreed with the response given by Mr. McBride.

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to deny the request by **Alexandria VA Medical Center** to be a Continuing Education Pre-Approval Organization. This request was denied because pre-approval organizations are required to accept applications from entities outside of their agency. The application from the Alexandria VA Medical Center indicated that they would only review applications that were submitted from within the agency.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to reimburse **Robert Roberts, LCSW**, the late fee he submitted with his renewal application upon receipt of documentation of his spouse's death.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to approve **Dr. Jeffery Coco's** request to allow Mario Farinola, LCSW, to complete all of his continuing education hours via distance learning for the collection period of July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010 due to his documented medical condition.

Members of the board reviewed email correspondence between Wade Tyler and **Nan White-Price**. Ms. White-Price asked the board to consider issuing her a social work credential although she does not have a degree from a social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. Dr. Tyler responded to this letter by telling her that the qualifications to receive a social work credential in the state of Louisiana are set by law and the board is not authorized to deviate from the licensing requirements. Board members agreed with the response given by Dr. Tyler.

Motion made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to deny **Nan White-Price's** request to meet with the board to discuss issuing her a social work credential.

Board members reviewed correspondence submitted by **Cindy McNitt, LCSW** requesting guidance from the board. Ms. McNitt was referred to Rule 111H (1, 2, 3) of the Rules, Standards and Procedures for termination of services. She was also referred to Rule 115 of the Rules, Standards and Procedures for the limits of confidentiality. The board advised Ms. McNitt that it is outside of their purview to advise her on how to address the court or how to assure that reimbursement for services are received. Members of the board recommended that she seek legal counsel for her situation.

INTER-ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE (IOC)

Roslyn Richardson reported that the IOC committee met on January 15, 2010 to review comments and feedback from the Town Hall meetings. The committee would like the Graduate Social Worker (GSW) to be changed to the Licensed Masters Social Worker (LMSW), Provisional GSW to be changed to Certified Social Worker (CSW) and mandatory background checks on all social workers. The committee has decided to table alternatives to testing and expanding opportunities for GSW's and RSW's to include contractual jobs (i.e. grant writing) for a later date. The IOC has requested that George Papale review the draft legislation for legal sufficiency.

Motion made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to send the draft legislation for review and comment to George Papale.

Board/Staff Issues

ASWB Membership Renewal

Motion made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to renew LABSWE's membership with ASWB.

ASWB Spring Education Meeting

Emily Efferson informed the board that ASWB has requested that she present at their Spring Education Meeting on the topic of public board members.

ASWB Passing Score Study

Emily Efferson informed the board that Wade Tyler was contacted by ASWB to participate in a meeting that will recommend the passing standards for new social work licensing examinations to be released in 2011. This meeting will focus on the demonstration of social work competency through the examination process.

Website

Emily Efferson provided the members of the board with an update on the website redesign and database development. Ms. Efferson advised that Crystal Clear Solutions will have the new website posted on January 25, 2010.

Presentation at NASW Annual Conference

Hope Himel-Benson is currently working on a draft of the presentation that the board will present at the conference. The presentation will be ready for board members to review at the March 5, 2010 board meeting.

CAC Membership

Board members decided not to renew membership with CAC.

Financial

Members of the board reviewed the proposed cost of encryption software from ANI Direct. The board has requested staff to obtain additional quotes for the same functionality. This discussion has been tabled until the March 5, 2010 meeting.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to accept the financial statement for period ending November 30, 2009.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to amend the budget to include the additional costs associated with the website development and maintenance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 11:07 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: Roslyn Richardson, yes; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; John McBride, yes; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; Michael Hickerson, yes.

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 12:00 p.m. to make the following motions:

Monitoring Reports-Impaired Professional Program

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, 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 John McBride and unanimously carried, to request that the Attorney General's office draft an administrative complaint against JC-07 for noncompliance with the IPP program.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to release SC-07 from the IPP program due to successfully completing the program.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to request that the Attorney General's office draft an administrative complaint against MS-08 for noncompliance with the IPP program.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to send AM-09 certified notification informing her that she is

required to submit her participation agreement and be in compliance by March 5, 2010. Failure to do so will result in the denial of her application.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to file a complaint against JR-09 and forward for investigation for possible violation of Rule 117A of the Rules, Standards and Procedures.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to send OP-09 certified notification that she must be in compliance within 30 days.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to deny the request by OP-09 to obtain screens through her employer.

Monitoring Reports-Disciplinary

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to accept the disciplinary monitoring report.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to send Donna Hulsey, LCSW certified notification that she must submit her supervision report within 30 days. If she is not in compliance within 30 days a complaint will be filed.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to send Brenda Lee Lewis certified notification that she must be in compliance with her Consent Agreement and Order within 30 days. If she is not in compliance within 30 days a complaint will be filed.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the supervision report submitted by Torin Sanders, LCSW-BACS, on behalf of Sherry Gail Johnson, GSW.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the supervision report submitted by Sarah Pokorny, LCSW-BACS, on behalf of Gloria Solorzano.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to deny the request made by Sarah Pokorny, LCSW-BACS, to reduce the frequency of Gloria Solorzano's GSW supervision.

Request for Declaratory Ruling

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to deny Richard Mahogany's request for a declaratory ruling.

Presentation of Consent Agreement and Order

Lindsey Hunter, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Cynthia Deblanc, LCSW**, which had been previously negotiated and agreed to by Ms. Deblanc in resolution of Complaint #2009-157. Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as presented.

PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENT & ORDER

Angellun Wilder, LCSW, was unable to be in attendance due to an illness. She will be rescheduled for the March 5, 2010 meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 1:40 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: Roslyn Richardson, yes; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; John McBride, yes; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; Michael Hickerson, yes.

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 4:19 p.m. to make the following motions:

New Complaints

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2010-83** for investigation of possible violations of Rules 117D and La. R.S. 2717 A(10).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to not accept **Complaint #2010-84** because the board cannot accept anonymous complaints.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2010-85** for investigation of possible violations of Rule 117A, 117A and La. R.S. 2717A(2), 2717A(5) , 2717A(11), 2717(12), and 2717A(4)

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2010-87** for investigation of possible

violations of Rule 107A, 107B, 113A, 113A(6), 113B(3) and La. R.S. 2717A(4), 2717A(5), 2717A(7), 2717A(11) and 2717A(12).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2010-88** for investigation of possible violations of Rule 107A, 107B, 117A and La. R.S. 37:2717A(2), (4), (5), (7), (11) and (12).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2010-92** for investigation of possible violations of Rule 107B, 111D, 115D(2) and La. R.S. 2717A(4), (7), and (11).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-93** for failure to rise to a level of violation of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act or Rules, Standards and Procedures.

Pending Complaints

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2010-02** to the District Attorney's office and contact the Texas Board of Social Work Examiners to inform them that the person may be practicing within their state.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-34** 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 dismiss **Complaint #2010-47** because confirmation has been received that respondent has retired and is no longer practicing social work.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-76** for failure to rise to a level of violation of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act or Rules, Standards and Procedures.

Applications

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

Ashley Babineaux	Martha Burks
Tristanda Cannon	Patricia Dunn
A'Donna Faciane	Elexis Henson
Christy Lambert	Euritici Dyson

Jodi Malone	Shakisha Moore
Jessica Smith	Nikole Smith
Brenda Walton	Denise Starwood-Thornton
Benjamin Williams	Valicia Williams

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

Jeannie Ammons	Molly Bartlett
Melissa Aucoin	Carroll Bernard
Jill Boutte	Stephanie Breeden
Paulette Bryan	Megan Capone
Chayncy Collins	Katherine Champagne
Carolyn Crawford	Christen Cummins
Allison Doran	Jason Ferris
Lisa Foppa	Nicole Graff
Tina Granger	Kristi Green
Casey Jarvis	Edna Gregory-Mattox
Keri Krycki	Kristen Lumsden
Darrin McCall	Christopher McDowell
William Moeller	Lisa Mosca
Aaliyah Muhammad	Ronmonique Poree
Erin Sanders	Letisha Seals
Asheligh Taylor	Phyllis Tenney
Courtney Theriot	Maura Uyeda
Carla Wallace	Elizabeth Wellman
Latoya White	Dawn Williams
Katrina Young	Jacqueline Belfield
Christopher Crawford	Carrie Mercke

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Michael Hickerson 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**:

Karen Adams	Stacey Adams
Ruth Arnberger	Lisa Brune
Michele Caputo	Misty Carpenter
Adrienne Duval	Kimberly Christensen
Vicki Ellis	Angela Erion
Emily Harper	Joshua Hutchinson
Natalie Jarrell	Mydra Kelly
Ronald Lampert	Alesia Daniel
David O'Neal	Derrick Taylor

Lindsay Trahan

Susan Wickett

Renewal Application

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to deny **Robert Levy's** application to renew his license and to offer him a compliance hearing.

Personnel Matter

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to support Jolie Jones' salary increase for assuming website and database responsibilities for three boards.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to require administrator to bring budgetary decisions outside of approved budget before the board for approval.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to **adjourn** the meeting at 4:19 p.m.

Wade Tyler, PhD, LCSW
Chairperson

Roslyn Richardson, PhD, GSW
Secretary-Treasurer