

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

**March 5, 2010**

Wade Tyler, LCSW, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m., Friday, March 5, 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 Mallory Lafargue, Nicole LeBlanc and Edgar Guedry.

Roslyn Richardson, GSW, conducted roll call. Board members present included Hope Himel-Benson, LCSW, Roslyn Richardson, GSW, Evelyn Jenkins, LCSW, and Wade Tyler, LCSW. Michael Hickerson, RSW, was absent due to his participation in ASWB's ACE committee meeting. John McBride, LCSW, was absent due to a personal matter that was excused.

**AGENDA**

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to move agenda item 7c, Wrap-up planning for presentation at NASW Conference, to item 12 on the agenda and replace 7c with George Papale's response to the changes to the law. Votes for accepting the amended agenda: Roslyn Richardson yes, Hope Himel-Benson yes, Evelyn Jenkins yes and Wade Tyler yes.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no comments.

**MINUTES**

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the minutes as presented for the January 22, 2010 board meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to deny the request by **Mary Peterson-Marchand, GSW** to be refunded the late fee for the renewal of her GSW. Board members advised Ms. Peterson-Marchand they would reconsider her request once she submitted evidence that her renewal application along with the fee was received by the board office prior to November 1, 2009.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to approve the request by **West Jefferson Medical Center** to be a Continuing Education Pre-Approval Organization. This approval extends from March 5, 2010 – March 5, 2015.

Members of the board reviewed correspondence submitted by **Glenn LeBoeuf, LCSW**. Mr. LeBoeuf stated that a former client requested copies of his notes from his records from the entire five year period that the client was in therapy. Mr. LeBoeuf asked the board if there are any specific procedures mandated by the LABSWE that have to be followed concerning releasing these records and what HIPPA procedures must be followed. The board advised Mr. LeBoeuf to review Rule 107E(10), of the Rules, Standards and Procedures. Members of the board are unable to address his concerns regarding HIPPA guidelines and procedures.

Members of the board reviewed correspondence submitted by **Jan Whitaker, GSW**. Ms. Whitaker asked the board if she could use her Masters degree in Criminal Justice along with her certification from the National Association of Forensic Counselors to set up her own independent practice. Ms. Whitaker was referred to La. R.S. 37:2707 of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act that requires a GSW to work as an employee in an agency setting. Members of the board expounded that because she holds a credential issued by the LABSWE, she falls under their jurisdiction and is accountable to uphold the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act and the Rules, Standards and Procedures for social workers.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to deny the request by **Shero Productions** to be a Continuing Education Pre-Approval Organization. This request was denied because the time line for approving a workshop was not clear. Members of the board will reconsider their application once the time line for approving workshops has been clarified.

### **INTER-ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE (IOC)**

Roslyn Richardson reported that the IOC committee has not met since January 15, 2010. The IOC is waiting on the draft review from George Papale and NASW National.

### **Board/Staff Issues**

#### **Report on FARB Conference**

Evelyn Jenkins provided a written report on the 2010 FARB Conference. She recommended that the board send the three groups that select social workers to serve on the board information about characteristics to look for in a board member.

#### **ASWB Spring Education Meeting**

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried to send Hope Himel-Benson, John McBride, Wade Tyler, Michael Hickerson, Sarah Herrera and Emily Efferson to the 2010 ASWB Spring Education Meeting.

#### **Response from George Papale**

Board members reviewed the response from George Papale regarding the proposed changes to the Practice Act.

### **Response from George Papale**

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to forward Mr. Papale's response to the IOC to be compared with NASW's legal review. Roslyn Richardson will forward this document to the IOC on behalf of the board.

### **Presentation of Consent Agreement and Order**

Lindsey Hunter, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Angellun Wilder, LCSW**, which had been previously negotiated and agreed to by Ms. Wilder in resolution of Complaint #2009-142. Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as presented.

### **Presentation of Consent Agreement and Order**

Consent Agreement and Order #2010-59 for Lagatha Travers, Provisional GSW, will be rescheduled for the April 16, 2010, board meeting.

### **Board/Staff Issues**

#### **Student Handbook Update**

Student Handbook discussion has been tabled until the April 16, 2010 board meeting.

#### **Board Orientation Workshop Overview**

Emily Efferson, Administrator, and Penny Ramsdell, PhD, LCSW-BACS, presented the "Orientation for Board Approved Clinical Supervisors" on Friday, January 29, 2010. The workshop received favorable evaluations.

### **Financial**

#### **Encryption Software**

Members of the board were advised that board members and staff will use a free encryption software program.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the financial statement for period ending December 31, 2009.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 10:20 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; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; Wade Tyler, yes.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 12:31 p.m. to make the following motions:

### **New Complaints**

**A letter was received in which** no allegations were made against a specific person/social worker. Therefore, no action was taken by the board.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2010-98** for investigation of possible violations of Rules 107A, 107B, 107C , 111G(5), and La. R.S. 2717 A(4), 2717A(7), and 2717A(10).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2010-101** for investigation of possible violations of Rule 107B and La. R.S. 2717A(7).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to request a written response in regards to **Complaint # 2010-103** for possible violations of Rule 107B, 111F(1) and La. R.S. 2717A(7).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to request a written response in regards to **Complaint # 2010-104** for possible violations of Rule 107B, 111F(1) and La. R.S. 2717A(7).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2010-105** for investigation of possible violations of Rule 117A, and La. R.S. 2717A(2).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2010-106** for investigation of possible violations of Rule 109A(1) and 111G(5).

### **Pending Complaints**

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins to ask if the respondent for **Complaint #2010-02** will accept a panel of three (3) for a hearing. In the event that the respondent agrees to a panel of three (3), the hearing will be set for May 28, 2010, 9:00 a.m.

Motion was made by Hope Himel Benson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-40** for failure to rise to a level of violation of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act or Rules, Standards and Procedures and to forward the information to the Psychology Board for their review.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-49** for failure to rise to a level of a 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 #2010-60** due to insufficient evidence to support the allegations.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-75** for failure to rise to a level of a violation of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act or Rules, Standards and Procedures.

### **Applications**

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried to deny **Marlean Scott** application for Registered Social Worker due to the affirmative answers on her application. Mrs. Scott has been offered a compliance hearing.

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

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Joy Abraham      | Jill Angelle       |
| Nicole Banks     | Cha'Keira Dalton   |
| Kimberly Guidroz | Ashley Hill        |
| Nancy Keefe      | Jontell Miles      |
| Brooke Price     | Ben Robertson, Jr. |
| Theresa Thompson |                    |

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins 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**:

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Lindsey Aysta-Baldwin | Rebecca Bartlet    |
| Michele Beck          | Corvell Coburn     |
| Christy Dimos         | Michael Fitzgerald |
| Leah Foster           | Aplha Gebre        |
| Lauren Greene         | Kate Hacker        |

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| Karen Kosinski | Cindy Litwin   |
| Angela Loreizi | Damon Lowrey   |
| Jeanne McGlory | Robyn Mulligan |
| Laura Perez    | Tiffany Pruett |
| Derek Reid     | Jodie Schraven |
| Evelyn Webb    | Julie Wolf     |
| Dwayne Russell |                |

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, 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**:

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Chris Boling       | Heidi Bordelon      |
| Katie Borne        | Mary Cancienne      |
| Jandel Crutchfield | Dianna Dunbar       |
| Christy Goodwin    | Jessica Harper      |
| Ebony Jackson      | Sarah Larke         |
| Toni Johnson       | Marie-Renee Mompont |
| Joseph Lauer       | Renee Lonero        |
| Meredith Piazza    | Joshua Primeaux     |
| Linda Pusateri     | Angela Sanders      |
| Mark Stephenson    | Kim Thompson        |
| Melanie Washington | Reva Allen          |
| Deidre Devier      |                     |

#### **Monitoring Reports-Disciplinary**

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

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the continuing education courses submitted by Robin Cannatella, LCSW. Ms. Cannatella is required to complete two additional hours focusing on competency. These hours must be pre-approved and completed on or before May 15, 2010.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to send Hank Defelice certified notification that he must be in compliance with his Consent Agreement and Order within 30 days. If he 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 request by Carol Miles, LCSW-BACS, to supervise Cynthia Deblanc, LCSW.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to accept the supervision report submitted by Meredith Harris, LCSW-BACS, on behalf of Donna Hulse, LCSW.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried to send a certified letter to Sherry Johnson, GSW, requesting that she submit documentation that she has completed her annual continuing education requirement as specified in her Consent Agreement and Order.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to send Lesa Sharkey 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.

### **Compliance Hearing – Bonnie Shultz, MSW**

Bonnie Schultz requested a compliance hearing to appeal the board's decision to deny her application for GSW. The board denied the application due to the affirmative answers she provided on the application and the notarized explanation of the affirmative answers. Ms. Shultz testified that she was disbarred as an attorney because she handled several cases while impaired. She is currently under the Lawyers' Assistance Program. She has maintained sobriety since February 14, 2005. Ms. Schultz was accompanied by Ms. Neila who is Ms. Schultz's sponsor. She testified that Ms. Schultz has worked the program to her fullest potential. She has been in AA since August 31, 2006 and attends at least five meetings a week.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 1:25 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; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; Wade Tyler, yes.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 1:40 p.m. to make the following motion:

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to approve Bonnie Schultz, MSW, for the Provisional GSW and

approval to take the ASWB Master's level examination. She has been referred to the IPP manager for an evaluation and recommendations for a participation agreement.

### **Compliance Hearing – Jamie Everett, MSW**

Jamie Everett requested a compliance hearing to appeal the board's decision to deny her application for GSW. The board denied the application due to the affirmative answers she provided on the application and the notarized explanation of the affirmative answers. Ms. Everett testified that she was arrested for a DWI in February, 2009. She is in pretrial diversion including community service and MADD, she will enroll in June 2010. Ms. Everett testified that she does not have any substance abuse issues.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 1:53 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; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; Wade Tyler, yes.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 2:00 p.m. to make the following motion:

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried to issue Jamie Everett, MSW, the Provisional GSW and approval to take the ASWB Master's level examination. Ms. Everett was directed to submit the certificate of completion of the Diversion Program.

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

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to lift the suspension from the Registered Social Worker registration for **Karyn Hale** because she has successfully completed all of the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order.

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to suspend **Melanie Russo's** Registered Social Worker registration and issue her a cease and desist order for failure to complete the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order.



Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to suspend **Onyx Johnson's** Registered Social Worker registration and issue her a cease and desist order for failure to complete the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 2:18 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; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; Wade Tyler, yes.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 4:27 p.m. to make the following motion:

### **Monitoring Reports-Impaired Professional Program**

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the report submitted by Sherril Rudd, IPP Manager.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to release OA-08 from the IPP for successfully completing the terms of his Participation Agreement.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to file a complaint against FC-09 for non-compliance with the IPP and to send for investigation.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to send a certified notice to AM-09 requiring her to see an addictionologist and to submit breathalyzer reports within 30 days of receiving notice.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to require JH-08 to submit a hair analysis due to the "dilute" report from her past UA's.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to send JM-08 certified notification that she must be in compliance within 30 days.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to file a complaint against JL-03 for non-compliance with the IPP and to send for investigation.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to release NO-07 from the IPP for successfully completing the terms of her Participation Agreement.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to send DW-09 certified notification that he must be in compliance within 30 days.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to send JW-09 certified notification that she must be in compliance within 30 days.

Board adopted policy that if the Administrator receives notice from the IPP Manager of non-compliance, the Administrator shall issue the non-compliant participant a certified notice stating that the participant has 30 days to return to compliance.

### **Personnel Matter**

Board members considered Michael Hickerson's request for a designated time on the agenda during Executive Session for only board members. The members of the board agreed that on an as-needed basis, a portion of the Executive Session can be designated for board members only.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to approve a policy which requires all employee salary increases (other than annual merit raises) to be approved by the Personnel Committee or the Board that pays the employee's salary.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to request that Michael Hickerson present his request for the development of job descriptions to the Personnel Committee. Mr. Hickerson is requesting that the job descriptions include minimum qualifications, work responsibilities, salary range, supervisor employee reports to, description of the work environment and physical demands, signature of employee and employer, and date of hire.

**Wrap –up Planning for Presentation at NASW Conference**

Members of the board reviewed/proofed the presentation the board will present at the NASW Annual Conference on March 18, 2010. Hope Himel-Benson will provide the final version of the presentation by March 14, 2010.

Motion made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 5:19 p.m.

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Wade Tyler, PhD, LCSW  
Chairperson

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Roslyn Richardson, PhD, GSW  
Secretary-Treasurer