

**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners  
June 25, 2010**

Wade Tyler, LCSW, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., Friday, June 25, 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 Lynelle Whipple, Jodi Cain Mallett, Craig Meier and Gloria Meier.

Hope Himel-Benson, LCSW, conducted roll call. Board members present included Hope Himel-Benson, LCSW, Evelyn Jenkins, LCSW, John McBride, LCSW, and Wade Tyler, LCSW. Michael Hickerson, RSW, was absent due to employment obligations.

**AGENDA**

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to accept the agenda as amended to move #2 on the agenda under agenda item #3.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Craig Meier and Gloria Meier thanked the board and their staff for all of their support throughout the years. Mr. Meier stated that he has worked for the board as a private investigator since 1998. Mr. Meier said that it was a difficult decision not to renew their contract with the board as investigative officers.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to approve the request made by **LSU School of Social Work** to approve their workshop titled "New Board Approved Clinical Supervision Workshop" to be presented on November 5, 2010 and May 24, 2011. This workshop was approved for 6.5 hours to meet the requirements for the Board Approved Clinical Supervisor.

Members of the board reviewed correspondence submitted by **Karen Sanborn, LCSW**. Board members responded that as Ms. Sanborn described the situation with the two co-owners of the agency that she is employed by are asking that LCSW employees provide LCSW-BACS supervision to the co-owners who are credentialed as GSW's. Members of the board advised Ms. Sanborn that this situation would be considered dual relationship and would be a violation of the Rules, Standards and Procedures.

Members of the board reviewed correspondence submitted by **Charlotte Tryforos, GSW**. Ms. Tryforos asked the board "What are the ethical guidelines for breaching a minor client's confidentiality to the parent or guardian when the minor child discloses to the social worker that he or she is having consenting sex?" The board members

referred Ms. Tryforos to the recent opinion written about a minor clients confidentiality written by George Papale, Attorney at Law.

Members of the board reviewed correspondence submitted by **Donna Usner, LCSW**. Ms. Usner presented a situation where a former client was a victim of homicide. A detective that was working the homicide case found the social workers contact information among the client's belongings. The board members reminded Ms. Usner that client confidentiality remains even in the case of death, and if she is further contacted about this situation she should seek legal counsel.

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried to deny the request made by **Margaret DiJohn, LCSW-BACS**. Ms. DiJohn requested the board not to penalize Devin Forbes-Richard, GSW, Leslie Johnson-Simmons, GSW and Lauren Thompson, GSW, for the board office not receiving their Supervision Agreement/Plan within 60 days of their first supervisory session. The board informed Ms. DiJohn that their supervision will be backdated 60 days from the date it is received at the board office.

### **The Chair's Thoughts**

Wade Tyler shared his thoughts and recommendations to the future chair and the board regarding board meetings, disciplinary action and running the board office.

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

Emalie Boyce, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Charles Mylie, LCSW**, which has been previously negotiated and agreed to by Mr. Mylie in resolution of Complaint #2010-88. Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as presented.

Emalie Boyce, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Larry Trombatore, LCSW**, which has been previously negotiated and agreed to by Mr. Trombatore in resolution of Complaint #2010-99. Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as presented.

Emalie Boyce, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Elizabeth Oliveria, GSW**, which has been previously negotiated and agreed to by Ms. Oliveria in resolution of Complaint #2010-59(c). Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as revised to allow Ms. Oliveria six (6) months to submit the reimbursement of the investigative costs not to exceed \$803.34.

Emalie Boyce, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Renee Ross Mainous, LCSW**, which has been previously negotiated and agreed to by Mr. Mylie in resolution of Complaint #2010-36. Ms.

Mainous waived her right to appear before the board and submitted a request to the board to change the discipline to a letter of reprimand. Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to deny the request to change the discipline to a letter of reprimand. Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as presented.

### **Meeting with Emalie Boyce and Lindsay Hunter, Asst. Attorney Generals**

Meeting tabled until August 13, 2010.

### **Board/Staff Issues**

#### **2010-2011 CLEAR Membership Dues**

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried to pay the renewal fee for CLEAR membership.

#### **Acceptable Continuing Education Offerings**

Members of the board instructed board staff to mail out a notice to the Continuing Education Pre-approval organizations reminding them to follow the “Criteria for Approving Continuing Education Offerings” and “Guide for Assessment of Continuing Education” when approving continuing education offerings.

#### **Audit of Approval Organizations for Continuing Education**

Members of the board instructed board staff to send notification to all approval organizations that they are to comply with scheduled LABSWE Continuing Education audits and submit a list of all approved programs to the board office for the collection period of July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010.

#### **Board Member Elections**

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to nominate John McBride as chairman of the board.

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

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

#### **Policy for Contemptuous Licensees**

Members of the board discussed possible rules that would include a licensee’s behavior toward office staff. Staff was instructed to contact the owner of the office building to discuss the door locking mechanism and installing a door bell.

#### **Payment Issue**

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to move forward with the policy to no longer accept personal checks.

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to cease charging the \$3.00 processing/service charge on new applications, publications and workshops effective immediately. Beginning the next renewal period of 2011-2012, the processing/service fee will not be implemented on renewal applications.

### **SCR 100**

Wade Tyler will appoint a social worker to represent the board/social workers. Dr. Tyler has already contacted Jacqueline Shellington, LCSW. Ms. Shellington is agreeable to serving on this board.

### **Board Orientation Workshop Overview**

Regina Breaux, Administrative Assistant, and Penny Ramsdell, PhD, LCSW-BACS, presented the "Orientation for Board Approved Clinical Supervisors" on Saturday, May 29, 2010. The workshop received favorable evaluations.

### **Children and Adolescents' Right to Confidentiality**

Members of the board reviewed a legal opinion submitted by George Papale in response to the inquiries submitted to the board by Darrell Bruno, LCSW.

### **Federal Employees**

Board members were informed that federal employees are prohibited from reporting to a state licensing board unless the federal government gives the permission to report the violation.

### **Financial**

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the financial statements for the period ending April 30, 2010.

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to authorize the purchase of a projector not to exceed \$1,600.

Members of the board discussed the reimbursement of expenses incurred by board members. Board members agreed to follow the policy of the state and submit receipts for expenses incurred while performing board assigned duties.

### **Compliance Hearing – Kail Pikes**

Kail Pikes requested a compliance hearing to appeal the board's decision to deny her application for the GSW. The board denied the application due to the affirmative answers she provided on the application. Ms. Pikes testified that she was charged with a Class A misdemeanor in 2007, because she was paid for home visits that she did not complete. Ms. Pikes is currently providing mental health rehabilitation services with an agency that provides services to the mentally handicapped.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 2:15 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: John McBride yes; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; and Wade Tyler, yes.

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 2:20 p.m. to make the following motions:

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried to approve **Kail Pikes, MSW**, for Provisional GSW certification and to issue her approval to take the Masters level examination.

**Compliance Hearing-Christen Milham, MSW**

Christen Milham requested a compliance hearing to appeal the board's decision to deny her application for the 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. Milham testified that she went through detox and rehab in 2004. She subsequently relapsed but has been in recovery since March 28, 2005. She stated that she is currently an active member of AA, attending meetings weekly. She is not currently working in the field of social work.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 2:45 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: John McBride yes; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; and Wade Tyler, yes.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 2:48 p.m. to make the following motions:

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried to approve **Christen Milaham, MSW**, for the Provisional GSW and issue her approval to take the Masters level examination.

**Compliance Hearing- Rachel McWilliams, MSW**

Rachel McWilliams requested a compliance hearing to appeal the board's decision to deny her application for GSW. Ms. McWilliams testified that she is unable to comply with the terms of her original Participation Agreement for the IPP because of the costs for the services required. She stated that she has not been working in the profession of social work.

**Compliance Hearing – Matthew Hilliard, MSW**

Matthew Hilliard requested a compliance hearing to appeal the board's decision to deny his application for the GSW. The board denied the application due to the affirmative answers he provided on the application and the notarized explanation of the affirmative answers. Margo Abadie, LCSW, was present to testify on his behalf. Mr. Hilliard testified that that he chose to enter an inpatient program because he wanted to stop using drugs. He stated that he entered the program on his own free will and has been abstinent since four months following his release from inpatient treatment. Dr. Abadie testified to Mr. Hilliard's passion and commitment to the profession of social work. She stated that he was always on time and prepared while in the LSU School of Social Work program. Mr. Hilliard was recognized as their Outstanding Student of the Year.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 3:57 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: John McBride yes; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; and Wade Tyler, yes.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 3:59 p.m. to make the following motions:

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried to approve **Matthew Hilliard, MSW**, for Provisional GSW certification and to issue him approval to take the Masters level examination.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 4:05 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: John McBride yes; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; and Wade Tyler, yes.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 5:05 p.m. to make the following motions:

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to deny **Rachel McWilliams, MSW**, application for the GSW, until such time she has completed no less than 12 consecutive months of successful participation in the IPP to include submitting her monthly intoxicilizer report.

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

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

### **Monitoring Reports-Disciplinary**

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to accept the disciplinary monitoring report.

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to send Angellun Wilder 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 Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to approve the supervision report submitted by Darlene Abbott, LCSW-BACS, on behalf of Robin Cannatella, LCSW.

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to deny the request from Randall Griffith, LCSW-BACS, to supervise Christopher Geske, LCSW.

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to approve the request from Anita Evans, LCSW-BACS, to supervise Christopher Geske, LCSW.

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

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried to release Gloria Solorzano, GSW, from the Consent Agreement and order she has successfully completed the terms of the agreement.

### **New Complaints**

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to send certified notification to respondent of **Complaint #2010-150** to keep the board abreast of the situation.

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2010-151** for investigation of possible violations of Rules 109A, 107B, 115A and La. R.S. 2717A(7), 2717A(11) and 2717A(12).

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-160** for failure to rise to a level of a violation of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act or Rules, Standards and Procedures. The individual named in the complaint is not a social worker.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-161** for failure to rise to a level of a violation of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act or Rules, Standards and Procedures. The individual named in the complaint is not a social worker.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-162** for failure to rise to a level of a violation of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act or Rules, Standards and Procedures. The individual named in the complaint is not a social worker.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-163** 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 John McBride, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to request the respondent of **Complaint #2010-134** to submit a written response to the allegations.



Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to send certified notification to respondent of **Complaint #2010-165** to keep the board abreast of the situation.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2010-166** for investigation of possible violations of Rules 107B and La. R.S. 2717A(7).

### **Pending Complaints**

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2009-102** 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 Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-100** 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 Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-106** 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 John McBride, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-117** with a letter of education regarding the Professional Disclosure Statement.

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-118** with a letter of education regarding the Professional Disclosure Statement.

### **Applications**

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to deny **Brandy Dewitt's** application for Registered Social Worker. Ms. DeWitt graduated from Capella University. Capella University does not have a Council on Social Work Education accredited program. Ms. DeWitt has been offered a compliance hearing.

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

Bessie, Patricia	Burpee, Arran
Carter, Marlene	Che, Irene
Crushenberry, Shalitha	Foley-Joseph, Rosella

Horne, Anita  
 Madison, Georgia  
 Russell, Chanel  
 Tcholakian, Talar  
 Wriska, James

Johnson, Kisha  
 Musgrove, Ashley  
 Simmons, Keela  
 Thiel, Michelle

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson 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**:

Atwood, Stephanie  
 Babat, Erica  
 Bernard, Dominique  
 Brown, Demetria  
 Buggage-Bates, Shawanda  
 D-Hayes, Sandra  
 DeGree, Charlotte  
 Foster, Teresa  
 Green, Kateshia  
 Hansen, Ashley  
 James, Sarah  
 Johnson, Edna  
 LeBlanc, Randy  
 McInnis, Mary Ann  
 Moody, Treena  
 Prather, Elizabeth  
 Seets, Angela  
 Skluzacek, Rebecca  
 Strickland, Tarvish  
 Toliver, Meka  
 Young, Christin

Armer, Stacia  
 Banks, Stacy  
 Bottoms, Leah  
 Brumfield, Alicia  
 Clark, Torry  
 Dixon, K E  
 Firesheets, Kristen  
 Gates, Mary  
 Grooms-Williams, Kenitha  
 Henson, Karen  
 Hutchinson, Jishanna  
 Kudji, Desmond  
 Melton, Mary  
 Marshall, Amanda  
 Pintado, Kimberly  
 Richards, Kristen  
 Sisemore, Joesphine  
 Smith, Karen  
 Theophile-Knighton, Trenice  
 Williams, Brenda

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins 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**:

Bryan, Paulette  
 Goodly, Nicole  
 Jones, Stephany  
 Schmidt, Irena  
 Watson, Keri

Fegley, Joshua  
 Hollier, Crystal  
 Langlois, Jessica  
 Smith, Amanda

Motion made by John McBride, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

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Wade Tyler, PhD, LCSW  
Chairperson

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Hope Himel-Benson, LCSW  
Secretary-Treasurer