

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

December 11, 2009

Wade Tyler, LCSW, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., Friday, December 11, 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 entire meeting. Other individuals present for a portion of the meeting were Lindsey Hunter, Emalie Boyce, Ashley Politz, Carmen Weisner and Ricardo Fernandez.

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

AGENDA

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to add Website Redesign Update under Board/Staff Issues. Votes for accepting the amended agenda: Roslyn Richardson yes, Hope Himel-Benson yes, Evelyn Jenkins yes, John McBride yes, Michael Hickerson, yes and Wade Tyler yes.

PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENT & ORDER

Emalie Boyce, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Damon Lowrey, Provisional GSW**, which had been previously negotiated and agreed to by Mr. Lowrey in resolution of Complaint #2009-121. 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 & ORDER

Lindsey Hunter, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Donald Washington, LCSW**, which had been previously negotiated and agreed to by Mr. Washington in resolution of Complaint #2010-03. Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as presented.

PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENT & ORDER

Lindsey Hunter, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Elizabeth Weems, LCSW**, which had been previously negotiated and agreed to by Ms. Weems in resolution of Complaint #2010-07. Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carmen Weisner, Executive Director of NASW-LA Chapter, reported that they have completed planning for their annual conference. The conference will provide the opportunity to complete 21 hours of continuing education. The conference brochure will be mailed at the end of December, 2009. NASW will be requesting board staff to provide them with the statistical information about social workers licensed by the LABSWE by the end of the year.

Ricardo Fernandez, GSW, explained to the board that he has taken the ASWB Clinical Level examination 8-9 times since 1994. His most recent score report showed that he missed passing the exam by one question. He explained to the board that he has been practicing social work for 15 years and that his test scores do not represent the quality of social work services he delivers to his clients.

Board members moved to "Correspondence" to address Ricardo Fernandez's letter. Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to deny the request made by Ricardo Fernandez to grant him the LCSW without passing the ASWB Clinical or Advanced Generalist examination. La R.S. 37:2708A(4) of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act requires a passing score on an examination approved by the board to be eligible for the LCSW. The board advised Mr. Fernandez that the Inter-organizational Committee (IOC) has taken into consideration alternatives to testing, but at this time they have decided not to move forward. Roslyn Richardson, GSW, encouraged Mr. Fernandez to submit his letter and his letters of support to the IOC.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Meeting with George Papale, Legal Counsel to the Board

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 10:00 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; Roslyn Richardson, yes; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; John McBride, yes; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; Michael Hickerson, yes.

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 11:41 a.m.

MINUTES

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to accept the minutes as presented for the October 23-24, 2009 board meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by John McBride and unanimously carried, to approve the request by **Kiedi Mabile** to approve the workshop “New Board Approved Clinical Supervision Workshop” scheduled to be presented on February 25, 2010. This workshop is approved for 6.5 contact hours and meets the requirement for Board Approved Clinical Supervisor.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to approve the request by **Louisiana Maternal & Child Health Coalition** to be a Continuing Education Pre-Approval Organization. This approval extends from December 11, 2009 – December 11, 2014.

Board members reviewed correspondence submitted by **Roslyn Richardson, GSW**. Ms. Richardson asked the board if RSWs and GSWs can serve as an Item writer for the ASWB. This position is contractual position where the item writers are paid \$1,000 for 30 questions approved for review by the ASWB Examination Committee. Under the current law, GSW’s and RSW’s cannot be an item writer for the ASWB because it is a contract position.

INTER-ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE (IOC)

Board members reported on the IOC Public Meetings held in Baton Rouge, Monroe and Alexandria. Evelyn Jenkins attended the meeting in Baton Rouge, Roslyn Richardson attended the meeting in Monroe and John McBride attended the meeting in Alexandria.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to remain in open session through lunch and move to agenda item 9 “Financial Statements”.

Financial

Members of the board reviewed the financial statements prepared by Susan Sevario, CPA, for the months ending July 31, 2009, August 31, 2009, September 30, 2009 and October 31, 2009.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to accept the financial statement for period ending July 31, 2009.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to accept the financial statement for period ending August 31, 2009.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to accept the financial statement for period ending September 30, 2009.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to accept the financial statement for period ending October 31, 2009.

Emily Efferson, Administrator, reported that she was contacted by the Legislative Auditor's office on behalf of the Governor's Streamlining Committee for a copy of the board's current financial statement. At the time of the request, the September 30, 2009 statement was the most current available.

Ms. Efferson also advised members of the board that the actual expenses for the website and database redesign are expected to exceed \$33,610.00, which is the amount originally presented by Crystal Clear Solutions' (CCS) proposal. Because of the possibility of unexpected costs, the contracts written between CCS were written with a larger maximum contract amount necessary to cover the proposed costs. The costs thus far total \$21,006.25. LABSWE has covered the costs. LBESPA and LBEDN will reimburse LABSWE their portion of the project cost. The total amount contracted for across the three boards is \$43,500.00.

Consent Agreement and Orders-Practicing without a Credential

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to lift the suspension from the Provisional GSW certification for **Ashley Snowden** because she has successfully completed all of the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order.

Board/Staff Issues

Schedule 2010 Meeting Dates

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried to schedule the 2010 meeting dates for January 22, March 5, April 16, May 28, June 25, August 13, September 10, October 8, November 5 and December 10. University graduation dates were taken into consideration when scheduling these meeting dates.

NASW Annual Conference

Hope Himel-Benson agreed to work on a draft of the presentation that the board will present at the conference. A draft will be submitted by the January 22, 2010, board meeting.

ASWB ACE Approval

Board members instructed staff to notify licensees in the upcoming newsletter that ACE approval for continuing education is not currently allowed by the Rules, Standards and Procedures. Social workers attending an ACE approved workshop must use the Guide for Assessment.

Report on CAC 2009 Annual Meeting

John McBride presented the board with an overview of the Citizen Advocacy Center 2009 Annual Meeting held on October 28-30, 2009, in Orlando, Florida.

FARB Membership Renewal Application

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to renew LABSWE's membership with FARB.

Student Handbook

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to allow Roslyn Richardson to develop, on behalf of the board a student handbook for undergraduate and graduate students related to the Social Work Practice Act as well as the rules and regulations regarding licensing for social workers.

The 7 Habits Workshop

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to cover all costs to send Emily Efferson, Administrator, to the workshop/training entitled "The 7 Habits". This training was recommended for Ms. Efferson by the Personnel Committee.

Board Orientation Workshop Overview for 11/20/09

Regina Breaux, Administrative Assistant, and Penny Ramsdell, PhD, LCSW-BACS, presented two sessions of "Orientation for Board Approved Clinical Supervisors" on Friday, November 20, 2009. Both sessions received favorable evaluations.

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 has experienced several setbacks with their projects and have set their anticipated completion goal for the end of December 2009.

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Roslyn Richardson and unanimously carried, to amend the agenda to add ASWB Fall Delegate Assembly discussion under Board/Staff Issues.

Votes for amending the agenda: Roslyn Richardson yes, Hope Himel-Benson yes, Evelyn Jenkins yes, John McBride yes, Michael Hickerson yes and Wade Tyler yes.

ASWB- Outcome of the Fall Delegate Assembly

The LABSWE voted “no” for ASWB’s test fee increase. The ASWB presentation provided notable reasons to support the fee increase. Michael Hickerson, RSW, was elected to the ASWB Nominating Committee.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 1:28 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; 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 4:14 p.m. to make the following motions:

Monitoring Reports-Disciplinary

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

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to approve Anita Evans, LCSW-BACS, as the consultant to Henry “Hank” DeFelice.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to release Linda Phillips, LCSW, from monitoring because she has successfully completed all of the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to release Brett Quantrille LCSW, from monitoring because he has successfully completed all of the terms of his Consent Agreement and Order.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to release Lesa Schrimsher, LCSW, from the supervision requirement of her Consent Agreement and Order. She has completed that term of her Consent Agreement and Order.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to accept the supervision report submitted by Darlene Abbott, LCSW-BACS, on behalf of Robin Cannatella, LCSW.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to accept the request by Mary Morris, LCSW-BACS, to supervise Anissa Horne, LCSW.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to accept the supervision report submitted by Janice Manuel, LCSW-BACS, of behalf of Terry Lane, LCSW.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to approve the workshops entitled "Ethics & Jurisprudence Part 1" and "Ethics & Jurisprudence Part 2" submitted by Stacy Legard to complete the continuing education requirement in her Consent Agreement and Order.

Monitoring Reports-Impaired Professional Program

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

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to require JH-08 to increase drug testing frequency.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to require SS-07 to move UA screens to Affinity Lab.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to deny the request made by JL-03 to be released from the Impaired Professional Program. The board also voted to require JL-03 to undergo evaluations as deemed appropriate by the IPP Manager, to include a fitness for duty evaluation.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to amend the Participation Agreement for OA-08 to one year.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to require JR-09 to increase therapy and increase frequency of drug testing.

Board members met with Taylor Aultman, a member of the Impaired Professional Program committee, to discuss concerns relative to the program. No motions were made as a result of this meeting.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to acknowledge receipt of **Tara Tharpe's** report to the board and advise that she does not need to report upon renewal of her registration.

New Complaints

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2010-68** for investigation of possible violations of Rules 105B and La. R.S. 2717 A(5), (7),(11),(12) and 2709.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2010-74** for investigation of possible violations of Rules 107B, 111G(1), 111C and La. R.S. 2717A(5), 2717A(7) and 2717A(11).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2010-75** for investigation of possible violations of Rule 117A, 107B and La. R.S. 2717A(2), 2717A(5) and 2717A(7).

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2010-76** for investigation of possible violations of Rule 117D and La. R.S. 37:2717A(5) and (8).

Pending Complaints

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2009-130** 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 John McBride, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-01** with a letter of education.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-26** 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 Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-27** 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 Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to not pursue **Complaint #2010-39** based on the recommendation of the board's legal counsel.

Motion was made by Roslyn Richardson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to contact respondent's employer named in **Complaint #2010-45** to request documentation of employment dates.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to request that the individual named in **Complaint #2010-47** submit written confirmation that respondent has retired and is no longer practicing social work.

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**:

LaJuan Brown	Raymonda Greenlee
Carol Hammer	Sandra Hansberry
Jerald Johnson, Jr.	Sharon Joseph
Anna McKinnon	Carolyn Mulhearn
Ada Nelson	Heather Nelson
Ruth Noel	Shelia Price-Jones
Patricia Stewart	Leona Summers
Hope Westmorland	Bobby 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**:

Jennifer Abernathy	Anne Bachrach
LaTanya Collier	Priscilla Dillard-Gallaud
Meagan Dorsch	Gale Gandy
Yolanda Johnson	Anita Lewis
Patrick Lewis	Shelby Menina
Karen Remer	Shechaniah Riley
Danisha Robinson	Leonetta Terrell
Charlene Weatherford	

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**:

Tamara Battiste	Wroya Borg
Dawn Clarke	Elizabeth Copes
Lauren Dwyer	Linsey Garig
Julie Johnson	Stephanie Juarez

Lina Kayal	Harper Levy
Teresa Martinez	Melinda Miller
Mark Morris	Adranell Murray
Jerry Smith	Laura Tobin
Sabrina Thompson	Wanda Ventress
Rebecca Ward	Christopher Wilkes
Leslie Wilson	Karen Zittleman

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 4:14 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; Roslyn Richardson, yes; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; John McBride, yes; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; Michael Hickerson, yes.

Motion was made by John McBride, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 4:30 to make the following motion:

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to adopt the hearing decision in the matter of **Brian Keith Baker**.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to **adjourn** the meeting at 4:31 p.m.

Wade Tyler, PhD, LCSW
Chairperson

Roslyn Richardson, PhD, GSW
Secretary-Treasurer