

**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners  
March 18, 2011**

John McBride, LCSW, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., Friday, March 18, 2011, 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 Mary-Ellen Harwood, Kristin MacRae, Joe Montaldi, Lucy Cordts, Melissa Smithee and Jodi Cain-Mallett.

Hope Himel-Benson, LCSW, conducted roll call. Board members present included Evelyn Jenkins, LCSW, John McBride, LCSW, Hope Himel-Benson, LCSW, Michael Hickerson, RSW, and Naaman Stewart, LMSW. Wade Tyler, LCSW, was absent.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no comments from the public.

**AGENDA**

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to add the Presentation of Consent Agreement and Order #2010-170 to be #4 on the agenda, and add 2011-31 and 2011-38, under Pending Complaints and to accept the agenda as amended.

**MINUTES**

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Naaman Stewart and unanimously carried, to accept the minutes as presented for the February 18, 2011 board meeting.

**PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER**

Emalie Boyce, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Jacklyn Spence**, LMSW, which had been previously negotiated and agreed to by Ms. Spence in resolution of Complaint #2010-170. Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as presented.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Members of the board reviewed correspondence submitted by **Katherine Champagne**, LMSW. Ms. Champagne presented the board with a situation where she is working for an organization as a social worker and has been offered a part-time position with another organization that is a contract provider for her full-time employer. Members of the board advised Ms. Champagne that without additional information, they are unable to determine if there would be any law or rule violation. Ms. Champagne was advised to review rules 505 and 113B, of the Rules, Standards and Procedures and La R.S. 37:2707(c) of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to renew the LCSW for **Shannon Fuller, MSW**, upon receipt of evidence of completion of 20 hours of continuing education, medical documentation of Ms. Fuller's parent's diagnosis and submission of renewal application within 10 days of receipt of certified notification.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to deny the request submitted by Alzena McGrew, RSW, to waive the 90 day waiting period between taking the ASWB Masters level examination.

Members of the board reviewed correspondence submitted by **Brett Quantrille, LCSW**. Mr. Quantrille presented the board with a situation where he is considering creating an instructional CD/DVD and workbook for the public on "How to set up a behavior modification system for the family." Mr. Quantrille noted that his plan would be to promote, publish, present and sell the instructional CD/DVD to the general public. Member of the board agreed that this would not be a violation of the Rules, Standards and Procedures or the Practice Act, as long as the materials are not being promoted to clients within his private practice. It would be acceptable to sell the products within the context of a workshop, if the workshop is being offered to the general public. Mr. Quantrille was advised to review Rule 113A of the Rules, Standards and Procedures.

Members of the board reviewed the National Social Work Program State Licensure Board survey submitted by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

### **BOARD/STAFF ISSUES**

#### **Report on the meeting with the House of Representatives Subcommittee on Boards and Commissions**

Emily Efferson, Administrator, reported that she provided oral testimony to Representative Mert Smiley and other members of the House of Representatives, Subcommittee on Boards and Commissions, on February 24, 2011. John McBride, LCSW, and George Papale, Legal Counsel to the board, was also present. The oral report addressed board diversity, revenues, expenses, travel, and future projects of the board.

#### **Public Education**

Members of the board tabled this discussion until the April 29, 2011, board meeting.

#### **Proposed Change to Rule 313**

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to reduce the renewal fee's for the 2011-2012 renewal period to reflect the following: RSW- \$15.00, LMSW/CSW- \$35.00, and LCSW- \$50.

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to incorporate the language that George Papale recommended for the Rules, Standards and Procedures.

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

Regina Breaux, Administrative Assistant, and Penny Ramsdell, PhD, LCSW-BACS, presented the "Orientation for Board Approved Clinical Supervisors" on Friday, February 28, 2011. The workshop received favorable evaluations.

#### **Exit Interview/Survey Discussion**

Members of the board considered a recommendation submitted by Gary Tiemann, LCSW and Alisa Lear, LCSW, to consider implementing an exit interview/survey from social workers that have had complaints filed against them. After careful consideration, members of the board decided not to implement the recommendation.

#### **Board Member Responsibilities & Confidentiality Statement**

Members of the board were presented with a Board Member Responsibility and Confidentiality Statement. All board members signed the agreement.

#### **Security Update**

Emily Efferson, Administrator, advised the board that it will cost \$12,700.00 to complete the security measures to the board office. Members of the board have requested a written contract of the project to include a detailed breakdown of the costs.

#### **Lapsed License Data**

Members of the board were presented with recent data noting the total number of social workers that allowed their credential to lapse in 2010.

#### **NASW Conference**

Members of the board briefly discussed their ethics presentation that was presented at the NASW annual conference.

#### **Audit of Continuing Education Organizations**

Members of the board discussed the importance of auditing the pre-approval organizations.

#### **Student Handbook**

Members of the board discussed the importance of completing a student handbook to have available to all CSWE accredited programs in Louisiana.

#### **CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER**

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to suspend **Tremeka Coleman's** Registered Social Worker credential for failure to complete the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order.

Ms. Coleman is required to cease her practice of social worker until her credential is reinstated by the board.

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to suspend **Thomas Gibbs, Jr.** Registered Social Worker credential for failure to complete the terms of his Consent Agreement and Order. Mr. Gibbs is required to cease his practice of social work until his credential is reinstated by the board.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to suspend **Nicole Gillum's** Certified Social Worker certification for failure to complete the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order. Ms. Gillum is required to cease her practice of social worker until her credential is reinstated by the board.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to suspend **Gloria Omigie's** Registered Social Worker credential for failure to complete the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order. Ms. Omigie is required to cease her practice of social work until her credential is reinstated by the board.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Naaman Stewart and unanimously carried, to reinstate **Dionte' Polite's** Registered Social Worker credential. Mr. Polite has submitted evidence that he has completed the requirements of the Consent Agreement and Order.

Motion was made by Naaman Stewart, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to lift the suspension status of **Dawne Moffeffett's** lapsed Certified Social Worker credential. Ms. Moffett will be required to re-apply for the Licensed Master Social Worker license.

### **FINANCIAL**

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to accept the financial statement prepared by Susan Sevario, CPA, for the month ending January 31, 2011.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to approve the purchase of a netbook for office and board member use.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson 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: John McBride yes; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; Michael Hickerson, yes, and Naaman Stewart, yes.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 3:00 p.m. to make the following motions:

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

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

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Naaman Stewart and unanimously carried, to approve the supervision report submitted by Darlene Abbott, LCSW-BACS, on behalf of **Robin Cannatella, LCSW**, and release Ms. Cannatella from the Consent Agreement and Order for successfully completing the terms of the agreement.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Naaman Stewart and unanimously carried, to send **Sherry Johnson, LMSW**, certified notification that she must submit her supervision report within 30 days of receipt of notification.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to release **Terry Lane, LCSW**, from the Consent Agreement and Order for successfully completing the terms of the agreement.

#### **Monitoring Reports-Impaired Professional Program (IPP)**

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to accept the report submitted by Sherril Rudd, LCSW, IPP Manager.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to send **JC-07** to the Attorney General's office to draft an administrative complaint for failure to follow the terms of the Participation Agreement.

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to lift the suspended status for **JG-09**.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to send **JM-10** to the Attorney General's office to draft an administrative complaint for practicing social work after having a positive screen for alcohol.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to remove **AR-10**, from the IPP Report. She has allowed her license to lapse.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to extend the Participation Agreement for MS-08, until August 31, 2011, due to failure to her comply with the terms of the Participation Agreement. If the Participation Agreement is violated, the file will be sent to the Attorney General's office to draft an administrative complaint.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to send **JT-09** to the Attorney General's office to draft an administrative complaint for failure to follow the terms of the Participation Agreement.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to send **SA-10** to the Attorney General's office to draft an administrative complaint for failure to follow the terms of the Participation Agreement.

### **Compliance Hearing for Carolyn Blackstone, LMSW**

Ms. Blackstone requested a Compliance Hearing with the board because they denied her LCSW application on February 18, 2011. Her application was denied because she did not indicate on her application that she had any state or federal charges. However, her criminal background check documented a charge on November 24, 1984. Ms. Blackstone testified that she did not recall the incident at the time that she applied for the LCSW, nor did she remember the actual details of the charge. She stated that she was shopping with a friend that was caught shoplifting. She was arrested along with her friend, but she did not have any merchandise on her.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 3:15 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; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; Michael Hickerson, yes; and Naaman Stewart, yes.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 3:20 p.m. to make the following motions:

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to issue **Carolyn Blackstone, LMSW**, approval to take the ASWB Clinical level examination.

### **Compliance Hearing for Jackson Wiggins, MSW**

Mr. Wiggins requested a Compliance Hearing with the board because they denied his LMSW application on February 18, 2011. His application was denied because he did not indicate on his application that he had any state or federal charges. However, his criminal background check documented charges. Mr. Wiggins testified that his not documenting the charges on the initial application was an oversight. He further testified that he did perform community service, but does not remember all of the requirements that he had to complete to resolve the situation.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 3:34 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; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; Michael Hickerson, yes; and Naaman Stewart, yes.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 4:00 p.m. to make the following motions:

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to grant **Jackson Wiggins, MSW**, the CSW and approval to take the ASWB Masters level examination once the board office has received a certified sealed copy from the court stating that all of the charges have been satisfied.

### **Re-hearing for Natalie Jarrell, MSW, RSW**

Natalie Jarrell, MSW. RSW, requested a re-hearing for the board to reconsider issuing her the LMSW instead of the RSW. Ms. Jarrell stated that she is not appealing the terms of the IPP, but she is requesting the board to reconsider issuing her the LMSW, because she cannot find a job with the RSW that will meet her financial responsibilities.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 4:45 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; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; Michael Hickerson, yes; and Naaman Stewart, yes.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 5:00 p.m. to make the following motions:

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Naaman Stewart and unanimously carried, to uphold the original decision to issue **Natalie Jarrell, MSW. RSW**, the RSW. Upon successful participation in the IPP, Ms. Jarrell can ask the board to issue the LMSW.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 5:06 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; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; Michael Hickerson, yes; and Naaman Stewart, yes.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 6:10 p.m. to make the following motions:

### **New Complaints**

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2011-80**, for investigation of possible violations of Rule 111F(1), 107B, 107C and La. R.S. 2717A (7), 2717A(11), and 2717A(12).

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2011-81**, for investigation of possible violations of Rule 107A, 107B and La. R.S. 2717A(4), (7), (10), (11), (12).



Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2011-83** 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 Michael Hickerson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to request the respondent for **Complaint #2011-84** to submit a written response to the allegations.

### **Pending Complaints**

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2011-31**, with a letter of education, 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 Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2011-38**, 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 Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2011-46**, 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 Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2011-63**, for failure to rise to a level of a violation of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act or Rules, Standards and Procedures.

### **New Applications**

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to deny the Registered Social Worker application for **LaRonda Duncan**. Ms. Duncan has been offered a Compliance Hearing.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to deny the Registered Social Worker application for **Joycelyn Haynes, MSW**. Ms. Haynes has been offered a Compliance Hearing.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to deny the Licensed Master Social Worker application for **Geoi Hodges, MSW**. Ms. Hodges has been offered a Compliance Hearing.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to deny the Licensed Master Social Worker application for **Freddie Williams, MSW**. Mr. Williams has been offered a Compliance Hearing.

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

Barker, Articya	Colar, Teria
Dawson, Darrian	Dunn, Ciera
Edwards, Brandy	Griffin, Jessica
Russo, Anne	Tate, Summer

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for **Certified Social Worker** certification and to grant approval for the applicants to sit for the ASWB Masters examination for licensing as a **Licensed Master Social Worker**:

Clark, Tanisha	Cloutier, Margot
Doussan, Anne	Hamel, Clara
Noble, Ellen	Perkins, Altrede
Richard, Jennifer	

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the ASWB Clinical exam for licensing as a **Licensed Clinical Social Worker**:

Bowen, Andrea	Bridgeman, Hazel
Freeman, Kimberly	Hare, Jamie
Rochel, Jennifer	Theophin-Michel, Vanda

### **Renewal Application**

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to approve the renewal application submitted by **Dena Johnson, RSW**.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:21 p.m.

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John McBride, LCSW  
Chairperson

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Hope Himel-Benson, LCSW  
Secretary-Treasurer