

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
October 8, 2010**

John McBride, LCSW, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., Friday, October 8, 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 Carmen Weisner, Rebecca McDaniel, Bryan Johnson, Jodi Cain Mallett, Kristen Raby, Brandi Ducote, Brittany Buquoi, Stephanie Campbell, Chris Geske, Jacqueline Shellington, and Allison Pardue.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carmen Weisner, Executive Director of NASW-LA Chapter, reported that names have been submitted to the Governor's office for the Graduate Social Worker board member vacancy. The upcoming LCSW vacancy will be advertised in their upcoming newsletter. Ms. Weisner requested the board to send out notifications of the board vacancies to all licensees.

AGENDA

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the agenda as amended to add "Advertisement of Board Vacancies" under Board/Staff Issues, and to remove 2011-16 under pending complaints.

Minutes

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the minutes as presented for the September 10, 2010 board meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Members of the board reviewed correspondence submitted by **Heather Thiels, LCSW**. Ms. Thiels expressed concern about releasing client records to the District Attorney's office after she was assaulted by the client. Members of the board agreed that in such situation confidentiality would be suspended. Ms. Thiels was referred to Rule 115D(4) of the Rules, Standards and Procedures and 2718B(3) of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act.

Members of the board reviewed correspondence submitted by **Bryan Johnson**. Mr. Johnson asked the board if a graduate degree from the University of Chicago/Social

Service Administration program is an approved program to be eligible for the Graduate Social Worker certification in Louisiana. Although this program does not have the title “MSW” but the “SSA Master of Arts” program, this program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. Members of the board agreed that a graduate from this program would be eligible for the Graduate Social Worker certification.

Presentation of Consent Agreement and Order

Emalie Boyce, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Angelique Tullos, RSW**, which had been previously negotiated and agreed to by Ms. Tullos in resolution of Complaint #2010-116. Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Wade Tyler and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as presented.

Presentation of Consent Agreement and Order

Emalie Boyce, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Gary Cantrell, GSW**, which had been previously negotiated and agreed to by Mr. Cantrell in resolution of Complaint #2010-20. Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried to allow **Thuy-Tien Pham, MSW**, to use a Vietnamese-English translation dictionary while testing. Members of the board agreed to grant Ms. Pham’s request for accommodations and grant her an additional two hours for testing.

Members of the board reviewed correspondence submitted by **Keith Horcasitas, LCSW**. In the letter submitted by Mr. Horcasitas he asked if it is a violation if an LCSW assesses a client and refers that client to a program within that same agency/office. Members of the board advised Mr. Horcasitas that a client should be given choices. It is appropriate for a social worker to recommend programs within the agency that he/she is employed by. However, it is good practice to offer other organizations in the community as well as the program that the social worker is employed by.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Wade Tyler and unanimously carried, to approve the request by **TGC Learning Center, Inc.** to be a Continuing Education Pre-Approval Organization. This approval extends from September 10, 2010 – September 10, 2015.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Wade Tyler and unanimously carried, to approve the request submitted by **Elizabeth Thoms, LCSW**. Ms. Thoms requested the board to approve the workshop titled “Clinical Supervision Skills in Behavioral Health: Ethical and Best Practice Issues” for renewal of her BACS status.

Members of the board reviewed correspondence submitted by **Stephanie Campbell**. Ms. Campbell submitted a letter requesting information about the supervision requirements of a Graduate Social Worker. Members of the board referred Ms. Campbell to Rules 501, 503 and 505, of the Rules, Standards and Procedures.

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to approve **Carmen Weisner's, LCSW**, request to approve the workshop titled "Supervision Basics: Clinical Supervision for the New Board Approved Clinical Supervisor" scheduled to be presented on October 14, 2010 and March 19, 2011. Completion of the entire 6.5 hour workshop will meet the requirements for Board Approved Clinical Supervisor.

Presentation of Consent Agreement and Order

Lindsay Hunter, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Kimberly Hawkins, Provisional GSW**, which had been previously negotiated and agreed to by Ms. Hawkins in resolution of Complaint #2010-114. Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as presented.

Board/Staff Issues

NASW 2011 Annual Conference

Members of the board discussed the ethics presentation that will be presented at the NASW 2011 Annual Conference. LABSWE will re-present the workshop that was presented in 2010, incorporating new scenarios. Hope Himel-Benson requested board members to submit new cases with the appropriate law and rules referenced.

Board Orientation Workshop Overview

Regina Breaux, Administrative Assistant, and Penny Ramsdell, PhD, LCSW-BACS, presented the "Orientation for Board Approved Clinical Supervisors" on Friday, September 17, 2010. The workshop received favorable evaluations.

CAC 2010 Annual Meeting

Members of the board declined attendance for the 2010 Annual Meeting due to conflicting dates with the ASWB Fall Conference.

FARB Conference 2011

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to send all members of the LABSWE to the 2011 conference.

Report on CLEAR Conference

Board Administrator, Emily Efferson, attended the annual CLEAR conference. Ms. Efferson reported that the workshops were extremely informative.

Behavioral Health Professional Working Group Meeting Minutes

Jacqueline Shellington reported that Senator Willie Mount has issued a resolution that LPC's and Psychologists come to an agreement regarding LPC's pursuing legislative authority to diagnose and treat mental health disorders. If they are unable to come to an agreement Senator Mount intends to introduce legislation to disband all mental health boards and create one "mega-board."

Legal Opinion from George Papale

LABSWE requested a legal opinion from Mr. Papale regarding if RSW's and GSW's can provide services on a voluntary basis. Mr. Papale responded that there is no language in the law that authorizes a RSW or GSW to provide social work services as a volunteer.

AG's office confirmed assignment of request for opinion

No action.

Ethics/BACS Training Provided by the Board

Three former board members are interested in creating and presenting ethics trainings for the Board. The former board members interested are Jacqueline Shellington, LCSW, Taylor Aultman, LCSW, and Joseph Bodenmiller, LCSW.

Advertising for Board Vacancy

Board members instructed staff to send out an E-mail blast to all licensees informing them of the upcoming LCSW board vacancy and the public member vacancy.

Financial

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to authorize Emily Efferson to research and decide to either purchase a commercial grade paper shredder or to contract with a document shredding company.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 11:40 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: John McBride yes; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; Michael Hickerson, yes; and Wade Tyler, yes.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 11:48 a.m. to make the following motions:

Monitoring Reports-Disciplinary

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

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, 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 Wade Tyler, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to release Dianna Carroll, LCSW, from her Consent Agreement and Order. Ms. Carroll has successfully completed all of the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order.

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to release Hank DeFelice, LCSW, from his Consent Agreement and Order. Mr. DeFelice has successfully completed all of the terms of his Consent Agreement and Order.

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to approve the supervision report submitted by Carol Miles, LCSW-BACS, on behalf of Cynthia DeBlanc, LCSW.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Wade Tyler and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 12:40 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; Hope Himel-Benson, yes; Evelyn Jenkins, yes; Michael Hickerson, yes; and Wade Tyler, yes.

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 1:35 p.m. to make the following motions:

New Complaints

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2011-29** for investigation of possible violations of

Rules 117D, 119A, 119B, 303A and La. R.S. 2717A(4)(5)(7)(10)(11) and 2720A(1)(2) and 2720A(4).

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to send **Complaint #2011-30** to the District Attorney's office.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2011-31** for investigation of possible violations of Rule 117D, 115A, 115D and La. R. S. 2717A (4)(7)(10) and 2717A(11).

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2011-32** for investigation of possible violations of Rules 109A (1), 117D, 119A(B)(C)(D), 303A and La. R.S. 2709.

Pending Complaints

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-105** 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 #2010-146** 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 request a new investigator from HUB.

Applications

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Wade Tyler and unanimously carried, to deny **Nedra Epps'** application for Graduate Social Worker. Ms. Epps has been offered a compliance hearing.

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

Brooks-Walker, Sandra
Dauphine, Krystal
Henderson, Erica
Knight, Monica
Lewis, Edwards
Joseph, NyKeisha
Trosclair, Danielle
Williams, Dionne

Cooper, Brittney
Edwards, Kendra
Hill, Nidia
Kogal, Mona
Jones, Jessica
Phillips, Opal
Williams, Charlene
Winchester, Khadajah

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, 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**:

Crowden, Nicole	Davis, Crystal
Dawson, II, Gregory	Dobson, Telihia
Fowler, Paul	Hanley, Erin
Minor, Tanasha	Porter, Doris
Quirk, Dawn	Randall, Keisha
Stroud, Heidi	Weber, Lisa

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, 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**:

Bradberry, Monique	Cerise, Dana
Edwards, Cynthia	Hawkins, Vonnie
Hudson, Jaime	John, Destiny
Jones, Phyllis	Kaminsky, Donna
Kennedy, Katie	Kolakauskas, Carissa
Parsons, Sharon	Sarantakos, Sophia
Standifer, Elizabeth	Sweetland, Thomas

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 1:50 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; Michael Hickerson, yes; and Wade Tyler, yes.

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 3:03 p.m. to make the following motions:

Monitoring Reports-Impaired Professional Program

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

Motion made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

John McBride, LCSW
Chairperson

Hope Himel-Benson, LCSW
Secretary-Treasurer