

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
December 10, 2010**

John McBride, LCSW, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., Friday, December 10, 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, Byron Johnson, Rebecca McDaniel, Melissa Tremie, and Jackie Shellington.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carmen Weisner, Executive Director of NASW-LA Chapter, reported that they are in the final stages of planning for their annual conference. She stated that the LABSWE will be provided with one of the larger rooms at the Shaw Center to accommodate the estimated amount of individuals attending the ethics workshop. The conference brochure has been sent to the printers. Ms. Weisner also reported that three names have been sent to the governor's office for consideration for the upcoming vacant board member position.

AGENDA

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Wade Tyler and unanimously carried, to accept the agenda as presented.

Minutes

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to accept the minutes as presented for the November 5, 2010 board meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Members of the board reviewed correspondence submitted by **Tanya Stuart, LCSW**. Ms. Stuart asked the board if her supervisee could co-facilitate sessions with her clients at her private practice to learn how to appropriately terminate with clients. Ms. Stuart further explained that her supervisee would not receive any payment for these sessions. Members of the board informed Ms. Stuart that the board's legal council has advised that GSW's and RSW's must practice within an agency setting. Therefore, they must be compensated for the services that they deliver. Ms. Stuart was directed to Rule 301 of the Rules, Standards and Procedures.

BOARD/STAFF ISSUES

Behavioral Health Professional Working Group Meeting Minutes 10/29/2010 – Jackie Shellington, LCSW, reported that the topics of discussion of the behavioral

health professional working group meeting was determining professional competence at the point of licensure, and specifying what makes a LPC competent to diagnose and treat consumers. Ms. Shellington advised that the next meeting will focus of developing a plan to submit to the legislature.

Presentation of Consent Agreement and Order

Emalie Boyce, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Robert Levy, MSW**, which was negotiated and agreed to by Mr. Levy in resolution of Complaint #2009-61. Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as presented with amendments.

CORRESPONDENCE

Members of the board reviewed correspondence submitted by **Erin McKowen, LCSW**. Ms. McKowen asked the board if bartering could be an option for payment of services. Members of the board agreed that bartering is not an option. Ms. McKowen was referred to Rule 113A(3) of the Rules, Standards and Procedures.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Naaman Stewart and unanimously carried, to approve the request submitted by **Valerie Thomas-White, GSW**. Ms. Thomas-White submitted a letter to the board requesting that the board accept supervision completed under Della Wills, LCSW, prior to her unexpected death. Members of the board reminded Ms. Thomas-White that the record of supervision should be signed after each supervisory session.

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Naaman Stewart and unanimously carried, to approve the request submitted by **Dejuana Petteway, GSW**. Ms. Petteway submitted a letter to the board requesting that the board accept supervision completed under Della Wills, LCSW, prior to her unexpected death. Members of the board reminded Ms. Petteway that the record of supervision should be signed after each supervisory session.

Members of the board reviewed correspondence submitted by **Kellie Dejan, LCSW**. Ms. Dejan requested that a member of the board meet with the New Orleans Charter School Social Work Network. Members of the board informed Ms. Dejan that they will consider her request once she has submitted a list of questions that she would like addressed by the board representative.

Members of the board reviewed correspondence submitted by **Tameka Jasmine, GSW**. Ms. Jasmine requested that she be allowed to complete all of her continuing education hours via distance learning. Ms. Jasmine indicated in her letter that she is currently serving active military duty abroad. Members of the board requested a copy of her current military orders.

Members of the board reviewed correspondence submitted by **Candace Howard, LCSW**. Ms. Howard asked the board to grant her an extension to complete her

continuing education hours. Due to LA R.S. 37:2714A(2) of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act the board is unable to grant an extension. However, members of the board requested that Ms. Howard be informed that the Practice Act that will be effective January 1, 2011 will provide the board authority to consider requests for extensions to collect continuing education for those with documented extenuating circumstances.

Motion was made by Naaman Stewart, seconded by Wade Tyler and unanimously carried, to approve the request made by **Nedra Epps, MSW**, to complete all continuing education hours required for her Consent Agreement and Order via distance learning.

Members of the board reviewed correspondence submitted by **Anna Wellman, LCSW**. Ms. Wellman requested the board to approve a social work employment contract with Elizabeth Wellman, GSW. After reviewing the information that was submitted, it does not appear that there would be a violation of the Rules, Standards and Procedures or the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act.

Board/Staff Issues

Schedule 2011 Meeting Dates

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept the proposed board meeting dates for 2011. The approved dates are: January 14, February 18, March 18, April 29, June 10, July 15, August 26, September 30, November 18, and December 16, 2011.

ASWB Fall Delegate Assembly

Members of the board discussed the ASWB Fall Delegate Assembly that was hosted in New Orleans. Wade Tyler was elected to the Nominating Committee.

Penny Ramsdell, LCSW – Supervision Consultant

Members of the board reviewed a letter submitted by Dr. Ramsdell. Dr. Ramsdell notified the board that she will not be renewing her contract with the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners as the supervision consultant. Dr. Ramsdell thanked the board for allowing her to hold this position and is now looking forward to retirement.

Presentation at NASW Conference

Hope Himel-Benson reported that she is currently working with other board members to complete the Ethics presentation for the NASW conference.

Update on Ethics Training

John McBride asked Michael Hickerson to draft a RFP for the ethics workshop the board will provide. Hope Himel-Benson agreed to research the process of setting up an on-line continuing education workshop.

Review of Changes to the Rules, Standards and Procedures

Members of the Board discussed revisions to the Rules, Standards and Procedures. Once all board members have had the opportunity to review the proposed changes, the proposed changes will be sent to George Papale for his review.

Board Orientation Workshop Overview

Regina Breau, Administrative Assistant, and Penny Ramsdell, PhD, LCSW-BACS, presented the "Orientation for Board Approved Clinical Supervisors" on Saturday, November 20, 2010. The workshop received favorable evaluations.

FARB Membership

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Wade Tyler and unanimously carried, to renew the board's membership with FARB.

Board Appointment

The LABSWE was notified that John McBride has been re-appointed by the governor to serve as a board member from 12/02/2010 -12/01/2013.

Legal Opinion from George Papale

Members of the board reviewed a legal opinion submitted by George Papale relating to patient privacy issues and Board investigations. Board staff was instructed to forward the opinion to the Louisiana Chapter of NASW and the Louisiana Association of Clinical Social Workers.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 1:00 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; Naaman Stewart, yes; and Wade Tyler, yes.

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 2:05 p.m. to make the following motions:

Monitoring Reports-Impaired Professional Program (IPP)

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

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to release **JM-08** from the IPP due to successfully completing all of the terms of the Participation Agreement.

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to release **SS-07** from the IPP due to successfully completing all of the terms of the Participation Agreement.

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to send **JM-10** certified notification that he must be in compliance with his Participation Agreement within 30 days. If he is not in compliance within 30 days a complaint will be filed.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Wade Tyler and unanimously carried, to deny the request submitted by **JG-09** to revise the Participation Agreement and to send certified notification that she must be in compliance with the Participation Agreement within 30 days. If she is not in compliance within 30 days a complaint will be filed.

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to file an administrative complaint against **MS-08** for failure to follow the terms of her Participation Agreement.

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to send **SA-10** certified notification that she must be in compliance with her Participation Agreement within 30 days. If she is not in compliance within 30 days a complaint will be filed.

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 period ending July 31, 2010.

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 period ending August 31, 2010.

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 period ending September 30, 2010.

Members of the board discussed the lease proposal for the office of the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 2:42 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; Naaman Stewart, 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 4:12 p.m. to make the following motions:

Personnel Matter

Members of the board were updated on an on-going matter regarding an employee and the Louisiana State Employees Retirement System (LASERS).

Monitoring Reports-Disciplinary

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

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Wade Tyler and unanimously carried, to approve the supervision report submitted by Torin Sanders, LCSW-BACS, on behalf of **Sherry Johnson, GSW**.

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to approve the request submitted by **Elizabeth Weems, LCSW**. Ms. Weems has been granted an additional 6 months to complete her restitution payments.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to release **Angellun Wilder, LCSW**, from her Consent Agreement and Order. Ms. Wilder has successfully completed all of the terms of her agreement.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to deny the request submitted by **Angellun Wilder, LCSW**, to remove the disciplinary action from DARS and the LABSWE website.

New Complaints

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2011-44**, 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 Wade Tyler, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2011-45**, 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 Wade Tyler, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2011-46** for investigation of possible violations of Rule 107B, 115A and La. R.S. 2718B.

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to request a copy of court findings for **Complaint #2011-47**.

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Naaman Stewart and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2011-49** for investigation of possible violations of Rule 107A, 109A(1), 109B, 109C, 303A and La. R.S. 2707, 2717(A)(4)(5), 2715E and 2709.

Pending Complaints

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to continue the hearing in the matter of **Complaint #2009-60** on January 14, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to set a hearing in the matter of **Complaint #2010-108**, on January 14, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Motion was made by Wade Tyler, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2010-122**, 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 dismiss **Complaint #2010-166**, 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 Wade Tyler, seconded by Hope Himel-Benson and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2011-07**, for failure to rise to a level of

a violation of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act or Rules, Standards and Procedures.

Renewal Application

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Michael Hickerson and unanimously carried, to deny the renewal application for Natalie Jarrell, MSW. Ms. Jarrell has been offered a Compliance Hearing.

New Applications

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Evelyn Jenkins and unanimously carried, to deny the Registered Social Worker application for **LaKeitha Armant-Hamilton, MSW**. Ms. Armant-Hamilton has been offered a Compliance Hearing.

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Naaman Stewart and unanimously carried, to deny the Graduate Social Worker application for **Richard Brown, MSW**. Mr. Brown has been offered a Compliance Hearing.

Motion was made by Evelyn Jenkins, seconded by Naaman Stewart and unanimously carried, to deny the Graduate Social Worker application for **Chasity Kee, MSW**. Ms. Kee has been offered a Compliance Hearing.

Motion was made by Hope Himel-Benson, seconded by Naaman Stewart and unanimously carried, to deny the Registered Social Worker application for **Tamara Hagan-Pierre**. Ms. Hagan-Pierre 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**:

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Angrum, Kimberly | Armant-Hamilton, LaKeitha |
| Chatman, Dwanna | Greene, Patrice |
| Horton, Reginald | Jackson, Titania |
| Jefferson, Annette | Luter-Calloway, Jacqueline |
| Mitchell, Monique | Peychaud, Rosalind |
| Plessy, Audrey | Randle, LaKeidre |
| Ross, James | Thomas, Bridgett |
| Thomas, Sandra | Weaver, Keshia |

Motion was made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Naaman Stewart and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for **Provisional Graduate Social Work** certification and to grant approval for the applicants to sit for the ASWB Masters examination for certification as a **Graduate Social Worker**:

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Broussard, Cher | Fox, Laura |
| Harris, Deyandra | Hayes, Reneka |

Robert, Debra
Toca, Jessica
Spland-Gray, Charisse

Simmons, Andrea
Waghorne, Michelle

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:**

Allen, Sharon
Catalon, Kimberly
Donnelly, Jacqueline
Ferren, Rebecca
Grimes, Monica
Hurt, Debbra
Lindsley, Steven
Orillion, Leyton
Scott, Leslie

Alvarez, Courtney
Desselles, Tracy
Duhon, Bertilda
Griffin, Melissa
Hebert, Elizabeth
Johnson, Elizabeth
McWhirter, Jr., Paul
Robinson, Carolyn

Motion made by Michael Hickerson, seconded by Naaman Stewart and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

John McBride, LCSW
Chairperson

Hope Himel-Benson, LCSW
Secretary-Treasurer