

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
July 19, 2013**

Lisa Lipsey, LCSW, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, July 19, 2013, 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 with the exception of a discussion regarding a personnel matter. Other individuals present for a portion of the meeting were Carmen Weisner, Blake LeBlanc, Pamela Esters, Shannon May, Laura Gonzales, Tonia Tillman and Ryan McNeil.

Judith Haspel, LCSW, conducted roll call. Board members present at the time of roll call included Robert Showers, RSW, Lisa Lipsey, LCSW, Judith Haspel, LCSW, and Parker Sternbergh, LCSW. John McBride, LCSW, and Carla Moore, LMSW, were absent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carmen Weisner, Executive Director of NASW-LA, advised that their "Yellow Book" advertising continuing education is being finalized and will be released in September. She informed board members that a summary of the 2013 legislative session is available on their website. Ms. Weisner advised that the call for proposals for their annual conference will be published soon. Finally, she recommended that the board publish a newsletter.

AGENDA

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to accept the agenda with the addition of item 5.I. Carmen Weisner, NASW-LA Chapter.

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

A hearing in the matter of **William O'Connor** was conducted. George Papale was present as legal counsel for the Board. Emalie Boyce, Assistant Attorney General, was present as the prosecution on behalf of the State of Louisiana. A court reporter from Baton Rouge Court Reporters was present to record the proceedings. The hearing panel consisted of board members, Lisa Lipsey, LCSW, Parker Sternbergh, LCSW, and Judith Haspel, LCSW. Lisa Lipsey served as the Presiding Officer.

MINUTES of the meeting held June 14, 2013

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to accept the minutes of the meeting held June 14, 2013 as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE

Baton Rouge General Medical Center

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to approve the Baton Rouge General Medical Center as a continuing education

pre-approval organization. Their approval will extend from July 19, 2013 through July 18, 2016.

Joan Jeffries, LCSW-BACS

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to approve Ms. Jeffries' request to provide disciplinary supervision for Jennifer Gordon, LMSW.

Ray Wayne Miller, LCSW-BACS

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to approve Mr. Miller's request to provide disciplinary supervision for Lydia Laporte, LCSW, once he submits his resume.

Nita Baucom, LCSW-BACS

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to deny the request submitted by Nita Baucom on behalf of Jefferson Parish Human Services Authority to retroactively approve a BACS workshop. Members of the board request that staff clarify that the 6.5 hour workshops for becoming a BACS must be approved prior to the offering. A 3 hour workshop on clinical supervision can be either sponsored by or pre-approved by a pre-approval organization such as JPHSA.

Brooke Guidry, LCSW

Mr. Guidry submitted a record release scenario for the board to review. Members of the board agreed that Mr. Guidry should review the agency's release of information policy. It was also advised that he should only release information if he has a current, valid, signed release of information document.

Willa Blackwell, LCSW

Ms. Blackwell presented a situation where a social worker passed away. Her question to the board was who is responsible for that social worker's client records. Members of the board agreed that the executor of the social worker's estate would be the guardian of the records. The Louisiana Social Work Practice Act and the Rules, Standards and Procedures do not specifically speak to this particular situation.

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to approve the board to seek legal counsel regarding records management of a deceased social worker.

Renee Larousse, LCSW

Ms. Larousse presented a situation where she has been directed by a physician to fax a patient's protected health information to multiple facilities. Ms. Larousse stated that the patient is of sound mind and has refused any additional services. Members of the board agreed that disclosing the patient's medical information without consent would be a violation. She was advised not to release the client records without a current, valid, signed release of information document.

Marsha Loates, LCSW

Ms. Loates presented a situation where an organization known as the Therapon Institute is offering training and certification for Certified Belief Therapists and Licensed Belief Therapists. Members of the board agreed that this is outside of the board's jurisdiction. They further stated that if these therapists are representing themselves to be social workers, and are not credentialed as social workers, those individuals are in violation of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act.

Carmen Weisner, LCSW, NASW-LA Chapter

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to approve the 6.5 hour BACS workshops to be presented by Dr. Allen Kirk, LCSW, and Dr. Angela Wood, LCSW.

FINANCIAL

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to approve the financial report for the period ending May 31, 2013.

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to offer Tony McCoy a Professional Service Contract for investigation services.

BOARD/STAFF ISSUES

HCR No. 129

Members of the board reviewed HCR No. 129 relative to public records.

HB No. 312

Members of the board reviewed House Bill No. 312 relative to processing applications for military service members and their spouses. The board will refer this legislation to George Papale to inquire as to whether or not rules should be promulgated.

BACS Workshop Presenter

Members of the board agreed that a presenter of a workshop eligible for BACS is not required to hold the BACS designation. All BACS workshop presenters are required to have specialized knowledge in the area of supervision and to adhere to the Rules, Standards and Procedures.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 11:20 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

to discuss prospective litigation.

Votes for going into Executive Session: Robert Showers, yes; Parker Sternbergh, yes; and Judith Haspel, yes.

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 2:00 p.m.

DISCIPLINARY MONITORING REPORT

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to approve the disciplinary report.

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to release Dannette Brown from the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order. Ms. Brown has submitted evidence that she has completed all of the terms of the agreement.

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to release Shenelle Sansom from the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order. Ms. Sansom has submitted evidence that she has completed all of the terms of her agreement.

IPP MONITORING REPORT

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to accept the IPP Monitoring Report as presented.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to approve the request submitted by DL-09, to allow him to travel out of the country.

NEW COMPLAINTS

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2013-133 and 133(b)** for an administrative investigation.

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2013-134** and to send to investigation for possible violation of Rule 111G(3,5), 113A(1,5,7), 113B(1,2), 115A and LA R.S. 37:2717A (4,5,7,10,11,12).

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Parker Sternbergh and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2013-134** and to send to investigation for possible violation of Rule 303, LA R.S. 37:2715E and 2717A(4,5).

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2011-01** and to issue a cease and desist order on their practice of social work and to request their position requirements and job descriptions.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2014-02** and to request written response from the respondent.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2014-03** and to request a written response from the complainant to clarify the allegations presented.

Pending Complaints

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2013-107** and to issue a letter of education regarding documentation.

COMPLIANCE HEARINGS

Jimmy Chase, Sr., MSW

Jimmy Chase requested a compliance hearing because his LMSW application was denied due to the results of his criminal background check. Mr. Chase testified that he has been clean and sober for nine years, and that he is active in his recovery. He attends three AA meetings per week, sponsors others, and speaks at various conventions. Mr. Chase explained the charges on his criminal records check. All except for the most recent charge occurred while he was active in his addiction. He told members of the board that the domestic abuse charge was a result of an argument between he and his ex-wife, and that he forcefully took his ex-wife's cellphone. Because of that charge he had to complete six months of probation and anger management classes. He is working on having this charge expunged. Finally, Jimmy Chase advised members of the board that he is licensed as a Certified Addiction Counselor, and was previously employed in that capacity.

Anice Butler, MSW

Ms. Butler requested a compliance hearing to appeal the board's decision to issue her a Consent Agreement and Order for working without a credential. Ms. Butler provided the Board with evidence that she was hired because of her degree in criminal justice, and she is not presenting herself as a social worker.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 2:30 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

to discuss prospective litigation.

Votes for going into Executive Session: Robert Showers, yes; Parker Sternbergh, yes; and Judith Haspel, yes.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Parker Sternbergh and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 4:03 p.m. to make the following motions:

Administrator's Evaluation

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Parker Sternbergh and unanimously carried, to refer Judith Haspel back to the Personnel Committee for further discussion regarding the administrator's evaluation and recommendations.

Continuing Education Extension Requests

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Parker Sternbergh and unanimously carried, to grant **Catherine Buermann, LCSW**, an exception to allow her to complete her continuing education hours by August 31, 2013, once she has submitted documentation of her parents' illnesses.

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to grant **Robert Lloyd, LMSW**, an extension to complete his continuing education hours on or before August 31, 2013.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to deny **Beryl Olsen, LCSW**, an extension to complete her continuing education hours.

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to grant **Marion Thomas, LCSW**, an extension to complete her continuing education hours on or before August 31, 2013. She was also approved to complete all of her hours by way of distance learning.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to grant **Jennifer David, LCSW**, an extension to complete her continuing education hours on or before August 31, 2013.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to deny **Callie Mackenzie, LCSW**, an extension to complete her continuing education hours. Ms. Mackenzie was advised that the hours that she completed for her Virginia social work credential may count toward her Louisiana license.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to require **Charlean Turner, LCSW**, to submit medical documentation prior to considering granting her a continuing education extension. Ms. Turner was advised to review Rule 317M of the Rules, Standards and Procedures for a list of approved learning situations.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to grant **Richard Brown, LMSW**, an extension to complete his continuing education hours on or before August 31, 2013.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to grant **Nikita Logan, LMSW**, an extension to complete her continuing education hours on or before August 31, 2013.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Parker Sternbergh and unanimously carried, to grant **Annette Saloom, LCSW**, an extension to complete her continuing education hours on or before August 31, 2013, pending the receipt of medical documentation.

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to grant **Amanda Dupre, LCSW**, an extension to complete her continuing education hours on or before August 31, 2013.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to grant **Shannon Adams Leslie, LMSW**, an extension to complete her continuing education hours on or before August 31, 2013, pending the receipt of medical documentation.

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to grant **Donald Airhart, LCSW**, a 6 month extension to complete his continuing education hours on or before December 31, 2013, pending the receipt of documentation of the situation(s) that have prevented him from completing the requirement.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Parker Sternbergh and unanimously carried, to deny **Suzanne Buck, LCSW**, an extension to complete her continuing education hours.

Applications

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to approve the RSW application submitted by **Fallon Gillette**, conditional of her entering a level 4 Consent Agreement and Order for working without a credential.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to approve the LMSW endorsement application submitted by **Constance Goodson, MSW**, conditional of her completion of the professional experience section on the LMSW application.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Parker Sternbergh and unanimously carried, to deny the LMSW application submitted by **John Simon, MSW**. Mr. Simon has been offered a Compliance Hearing.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Parker Sternbergh and unanimously carried, to deny the RSW application submitted by **Donald Pierce**. Mr. Pierce has been offered a Compliance Hearing.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for registration as a Registered Social Worker:

Alexander, Shala	Benjamin, Zakarra
Blocker, Jasher	Caraccioli, Sheri
Christy, Tanisha	Francis, Lacey
Gafford, Michelle	Gayden, Jemekia
Hebert, Shakira	Housley, Samantha
LaCour, Brittany	LeDoux, LaTinna
Morgan, Marquise	Moton, Tyesha
Patterson-Braxton, Lashunda	Pierce, Donald
Tate, Tomeka	

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for the 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:

Barbay, Allyson	Brown, Christopher
Brown, Troylynn	Buffington, Shontell
Burnette, Catherine	Cwik, Jessica
Davis, Kathryn	Edwards, Rhonda
Fuselier, Kellie	Hakeem, Lynn
Johnson, Chabre	Johnson-Black, Tara
LaForce, Anna	Levitov-Baxter, Kate
Lundin, Jo	Markins, Crystal
Mbenkum, Grace	O'neal, Amber
Rattleff, Keiyanah	Robinson, Kristie
Robinson, Michael	Saunders, Da'Nethia
Shaver, Margaret	Scott, Brynne
Scott, Shenna	Smith, Rahvi
Teasley, Jessica	Thomas, Kimberly
Turner, Harry	Valentine, Erica
Williams, Arsenno	Winn, Tina
Wyatt, Cherlyndria	Zeppa, Amanda

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the ASWB Clinical exam for licensing as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker:

Bordelon, Brandi	Clesi, Adam
Cullinan, Shelley	Johnson, Connie
Kruebbe, Christopher	Lebrum, Olga
Prater, Elizabeth	Tryforos, Charlotte

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Parker Sternbergh and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 4:17 p.m.

Lisa Lipsey, LCSW
Chairperson

Carla Moore, LMSW
Secretary-Treasurer