

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
August 25, 2017**

John Shalett, LCSW, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, August 25, 2017, in the conference room at the Board office located at 18550 Highland Road, Suite B, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Emily DeAngelo, Administrator, and Regina DeWitt, Administrative Assistant, were present for the entire meeting.

Carla Moore, LMSW, conducted roll call. Board members present at the time of roll call included John Shalett, LCSW, Carla Moore, LMSW, Robert Showers, RSW, Brent Villemarette, LCSW, Paulette Walker, M.Ed., Public Member, and Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW.

Judith Haspel, LCSW, was absent.

Members of the public who attended the public portions of the meeting included Carmen Weisner, Natalie Ingles, Marisa Jennings, Melanie Faust, Marilyn Jones, Pam Moore, Alex Merkle, Cherie McDermott, and Linda Kelly Woodruff.

AGENDA

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to accept the agenda with an addition to Correspondence from Kei Ri, LMSW.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carmen Weisner, Executive Director of NASW-LA Chapter, reported that the Chapter offices participated in a Virtual Delegate Assembly to consider changes to the Code of Ethics. Frederic Reamer was one of the professionals that worked on the changes. Telemedicine is addressed in the document. It will be released in 1 to 1 ½ months. Ms. Weisner also advised the board she is meeting with the LACSW and LSU to vet the candidates for Judith Haspel's position on the board.

PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDERS

Madeline Carbonette, Assistant Attorney General, presented a Consent Agreement and Order to the board, which was previously accepted by Jonna Brewer in resolution of Complaint #2015-145.

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to accept Consent Agreement and Order #2015-145 offered to Jonna Brewer.

Madeline Carbonette, Assistant Attorney General, presented Consent Agreement and Order #2017-150 for Miriam Aretsky to the board. This Order was drafted after receiving a request from Ms. Aretsky to relinquish her license.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to accept Consent Agreement and Order #2017-150 for Miriam Aretsky.

MINUTES

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to accept the minutes of the July 21, 2017, meeting as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE

Lori Bischoff, RSW, submitted an inquiry relative to a social worker fostering a client. Board members responded that fostering a client is not considered best practice for a social worker and is not recommended.

Mary Brandon, LCSW, requested an extension to collect the continuing education which was due by June 30, 2017. Due to Ms. Brandon's extenuating circumstances, a **motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to grant Mary Brandon an extension through June 30, 2018.

Matt Minden submitted an inquiry relative to a social worker having an untreated personality disorder and mandatory reporting. Board members responded that a report should be made to the board if the social worker's personality disorder is affecting his/her provision of social work services. In response to the mandatory reporting question, board members responded that all social workers are required to mandatory report abuse or neglect of children, elders, and/or the infirmed.

Jennifer Hendrix, LMSW, requested that the board clarify Rule 111(G)(2) relative to misrepresenting the extent of social work services provided by giving an example. Board members requested that Ms. Hendrix clarify by presenting a scenario for the board to consider.

Caravelle Care, Inc.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to approve the application submitted by Caravelle Care, Inc. to be a pre-approval organization for social work continuing education.

Erin Lovett, LCSW, submitted an inquiry to the board regarding tele-therapy. Board members responded that they do not endorse tele-therapy software programs. Social workers are responsible for researching programs to determine if program protects confidential client information. Ms. Lovett was referred to Rule 109, which require social workers to practice within their area of competency.

Cassandra Smith, LCSW-BACS, asked the board if it is within the scope of practice for a LCSW to provide community psychiatric support services and treatment, crisis intervention, and psychosocial rehabilitation as defined by the Department of Health and Hospitals Behavioral Health Service Definition Model. Board members advised Ms. Smith that it is within the scope of practice of a LCSW to provide these services and treatment.

Carmen Weisner/NASW-LA Chapter submitted a request for BACS workshop approval. **Motion** was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Paulette Walker and

unanimously carried, to approve the workshops being presented by Dr. Alan Kirk on December 7, 2017, May 24, 2018, and June 14, 2018.

Jennifer Gilchrist, LMSW, submitted a job description for the Regional Manager for Tobacco-Free Living along with a request that she be allowed to obtain LCSW-BACS supervision in this position. **Motion** was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Carla Moore and carried by majority vote, to approve Ms. Gilchrist's request. Ruth Weinzettle abstained from the vote.

Melissa Mayfield, LMSW, asked the board if it is within her scope of practice to provide reading intervention to students at the school in which she is employed. The board responded that it is not a violation to provide reading intervention; however, also having to provide the student with social work services could cause a conflict.

Anne Doussan, LMSW, submitted an inquiry to the board relative to documentation she needs to submit to receive in response to the audit of her continuing education credit for writing a book. Board members responded that she should submit the abstract, table of contents, and research references to ASWB.

Kei Ri, LMSW, requested approval of her job description at Tell Counseling and approval of her supervisor who is licensed in North Carolina. **Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to approve both requests.

BOARD/STAFF ISSUES

2017 Evaluation of Board Presentation at NASW-LA Chapter Annual Conference

Board members reviewed the evaluation of their presentation.

Letter to Governor of Kentucky from NASW-KY Chapter

Board members reviewed a letter from the NASW-KY Chapter to the governor of Kentucky encouraging him to not consolidate licensing boards.

ASWB Fall Delegate Assembly

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to name John Shalett as Delegate and Carla Moore as Alternate Delegate for the purpose of voting at the ASWB Fall Delegate Assembly.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to send Emily DeAngelo to the meeting.

Carla Moore announced she has been slated to run for the Nominating Committee.

FINANCIAL

Board members reviewed the financial statements prepared by Susan Sevario, CPA, for the periods ending May 30, 2017, and June 30, 2017.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to accept the financial statement for the period ending May 30, 2017.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to accept the financial statement for the period ending June 30, 2017.

COMPLIANCE HEARINGS

Linda Weinstein, MSW, requested a compliance hearing to appeal the board's decision to approve her to sit for the LCSW exam. Linda Weinstein's license lapsed August 31, 2015. She reapplied for her license, her application was approved, and she was issued approval to sit for the ASWB Clinical exam. She is requesting that the board reinstate her LCSW. Attorney Yigal Bander represented Ms. Weinstein. Rabbi Barry Weinstein and Ms. Renee Taylor of Family Services of Greater Baton Rouge testified on behalf of Ms. Weinstein. Mr. Bander began his presentation to members of the board by citing the requirements for obtaining LCSW, which include "has passed an examination approved by the board". He argued that Linda Weinstein has passed an examination approved by the board. He also explained the extenuating circumstances Ms. Weinstein has encountered the last two years, which he states caused her to forget to renew her license. He explained that in July 2015 Ms. Weinstein had knee replacement surgery and in May 2016 her husband, Rabbi Barry Weinstein, had an aortic dissection.

John O'Shee, MSW, requested a compliance hearing to appeal the board's decision to deny his application for Registered Social Work registration. Mr. O'Shee's application was denied because of a 2015 arrest. John O'Shee explained to the board the events that led up to his arrest. He received one year of non-supervised probation, which he has completed. He stated that he is currently working at St. Christopher's as a tech, and that he wants to work in the area of addiction.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 10:51 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/or to discuss prospective litigation.

Votes for going into Executive Session: Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW, Robert Showers, RSW, Paulette Walker, yes; Brent Villemarette, yes; and Carla Moore, yes.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 11:51 a.m. to make the following motions.

Compliance Hearings

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to reinstate Linda Weinstein's license.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve John O'Shee's RSW application.

Impaired Professional Program

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to accept the report submitted by Kathie Pohlman, IPP Manager.

Disciplinary Monitoring Report

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to accept the disciplinary report prepared by Regina Dewitt, Administrative Assistant.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried to, release Toni Williams from the Consent Agreement and Order because all terms are successfully complete.

Personnel Matter

Board members were advised that Donna Wilcox resigned effective August 15, 2017, and that interviews were being conducted to fill the position.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to go into 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/or to discuss prospective litigation.

Votes for going into Executive Session: Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW, Robert Showers, RSW, Paulette Walker, yes; Brent Villemarette, yes; and Carla Moore, yes.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 1:55 p.m. to make the following motions.

New Complaints

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to not accept **Complaint #2018-9** because it is an agency issue.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-10** and to request a written response. Possible violations include Rule 111(G).

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-11** and to request a written response. Possible violations include Rule 113(B)(3).

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to request more information from the person that submitted **Complaint #2018-12**.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-14** and to forward to the Attorney General's office.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-15** and to request a written response. Possible violations include Rules 119(A), (B) and (C) and 303(A).

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to not accept **Complaint #2018-17** because it is an agency issue.

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to not accept **Complaint #2018-18**.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-19** and to request a written response and all official court documents.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-20** and to request a written response. Possible violations include Rule 109(B).

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-21** and to request a written response. Possible violations include Rule 113(B)(1).

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-22** and to request a written response and all official court documents.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-23** and to forward it to the Attorney General's office.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-25** and to request a written response. Possible violations include Rule 107(B).

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-26** and to send it for investigation. Possible violations include Rule 111(G)(1), (2) and (3).

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-27** and to send it to the Attorney General's office.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to not accept **Complaint #2018-28**.

Pending Complaints

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2015-89**.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2017-180** with a letter of education.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2017-184** because the job description does not fall under the definition of social work practice.

Continuing Education Requests

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to accept more than ten hours of distance learning from Candice Kent because of her extenuating circumstances.

Applications

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to deny the LCSW endorsement application submitted by Vanessa Egerton because she has not met the LCSW requirements and to offer her a compliance hearing.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to deny the RSW application submitted by Kevin Lopez and to offer him a compliance hearing. Board members are requesting that Mr. Lopez bring all documentation regarding probation and compliance.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to table their decision on Natasha Ott's LCSW application and to ask her to submit documentation of the requirements met by her LMFT supervisors to determine if the requirements are equivalent to a LCSW.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for registration as a Registered Social Worker:

Anderson, Kulicia I.
Anio, Ashtin
Boone, Brittany K.
Butler, Laquinta O.

Clark, Shaneque S.
Dolliole, Ijnanya K.
Ellison, Kalondra Q.
Godfrey, Brittly J.

Hamilton, Shurvella A.
Hebert, John M.
Hicks, Christina N.
Jackson, D'Lisa M.
Jackson, Revia M.
Keller, Jawina T.
Kelly, Tamara Y.
Lambert, Myesha
Locke, Kemja J.
Lyons, Shirley
Murray, Angela W.

Nevels, Melvin B.
Parker, La'Dawn B.
Phillips, Kourtni B.
Price, Jada L.
Rubin, Vanessa T.
Sims, Bria D.
Smith, Tina P.
Stewart, Germika M.
Woodard, Shemeka J.
Young, Monique R.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Carla Moore 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:

Allen, Miranda W.

Batiste, Keren A.

Brooms, Cattera C.

Cheneau, Brittani S.

Elmhurst, Katie R.

Ether, Margaret W.

Evans, Keante M.

Fixler, Alex L.

Forsythe, Kimberly A.

Gaspard, Sheena

Gibson, Jacqueta

Gray, Westley B.

Hadley, Jennifer C.

James, Brooke M.

Juluke, Todd

Kim, Irang

LaVine, Caitlin M.

Lim-Peralta, Karena A. (End-NY)

McFarland, Erika N.

McGee, Latonya H.

Madden, Rochelle

Matthews, Megan R.

Martin, Jhazzman M.

Nelson, Deameka M.

Nolan, Ebony J.

Ogola, Veronica M.

Oliver, Jeremy L.

Oscar, Bianca M.

Pellerin, Kalila A.

Phenix, La Tonya

Sabin, Audra

Smith, Brittaney C.

Williams, Brittney S.

Wilson, Wilbert J.

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to approve the following endorsement applications for Licensed Master Social Work:

Fisher, Phyllicia (END-TX)

Kearney, Courtney B. (End-TX)

Mitchell, Jesse M. (End-MS)

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for Licensed Master Social Work:

Frazier, Carol (passed exam-MS)

Grass, Jasmine (passed exam-MS)

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle 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 pending receipt of their official transcript:

Hodge, Janita
Lightell Jr., Daniel

Mattingly, Erica
Minton, Aniqua

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the ASWB Clinical exam for licensing as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker:

Antle, Crystal M.
Beljean, Abigail J.
Branden, Toby C.
Carroll, Amanda R.
Colbert, Faye J.
Cook, Audra L.
Dickson, Tamica R.
Fitzgerald, Carolyn C.
Gerra, Emily M.
Harris, Arlishea L.
Jenkins, Leah C.
Kogos, Marnie C.

Kronenberger, Jennifer A.
Littleberry, Nina
Micheau, April K.
Nicholson, Mary E.
Puyau, Brittney E.
Sanders, Natalie M.
Scrubbs, Shenadra A.
Slocum, Chelsei E.
Stanley, Barbara K.
Sullivan, Breanna M.
Tonkovich, Amanda E.
Young, Joysaline A.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the following endorsement applications for Licensed Clinical Social Work:

Barnhart, Larissa (End-TX)
Bennett, Robert (End-AR)

Cates, Amy (End-AR/TX)
Pfeifengerger, Katherine (End-OR)

Adjourned at 2:10 p.m.


John Shalett, LCSW
Chairperson


Carla Moore, LMSW
Secretary-Treasurer

