

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
September 29, 2017**

John Shalett, LCSW, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, September 29, 2017, in the conference room at the Board office located at 18550 Highland Road, Suite B, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Emily DeAngelo, Administrator, was 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, Judith Haspel, LCSW, and Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW.

Members of the public who attended the public portions of the meeting included Carmen Weisner, Ayn Stehr, Jodi Mallet, Craig Mills, Ann Mills, Pam Moore, Marilyn Jones, Linda Kelly Woodruff, Bria Hines, and Susan Thompson.

AGENDA

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to accept the agenda with an addition to a discussion on whether a RSW can conduct a psychosocial under Correspondence.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carmen Weisner introduced Ayn Stehr, JD, as the new Executive Director of NASW-LA Chapter. Ms. Weisner also provided the board with a copy of the changes to the NASW Code of Ethics.

Craig Mills, Executive Director of The Clarke Mills Project, read the following, "We are an adoption advocacy non-profit organization and November is National Adoption Awareness Month. Social workers play a major role...no, you play a critical role as the first line of defense in protecting the adoption process from those who would act to abuse it. In 2016, our State Legislature passed a resolution requesting that the Louisiana State Law Institute study the impact incentives given to birth mothers have on adopting families in Louisiana. In your role, both birth mother and adopting families rely on your expertise for counseling and guidance through this life-changing process. This role should not be taken lightly and every confidential aspect of the social worker's responsibilities should follow your own General Practice Parameters – A social worker shall maintain good moral character. I am here to encourage you and your members to uphold the sanctity of adoptions by acting with good moral character when presented with challenging situations."

MINUTES

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to accept the minutes of the August 25, 2017, meeting as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to deny the request made by **Amanda Lutz** to file the renewal application for 2016-2017.

Keri King, LCSW, submitted an inquiry about a survey children receiving services through a school-based health center are being given that parents may not realize. Board members acknowledged that full disclosure through informed consent is important. They recommended bringing the issue to management's attention and to refer to Rule 111(F).

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to approve the application to become a pre-approval organization for social work continuing education submitted by **NAMI New Orleans**.

William Garibaldi sent an email requesting the board's permission to treat clients in a private practice after treating them in an IOP. Board members referred him back to his agency for approval because this is a personnel matter.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to request that ASWB waive the 90-day wait between exams for **Traci Gremillion, LMSW**.

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to respond to the request for an extension to complete the terms of her Consent Agreement made by **Taraz Price, RSW**, by asking her to submit her plan for repaying the fine and to submit a list of the continuing education hours she is scheduled to complete.

Anamaria Villamarin-Lupin, LCSW-BACS submitted an email requesting the board's opinion of a LMSW serving as her minor clients' petitioner in legal proceedings. Board members responded that they do not recommend the dual relationship. They suggested that she find a volunteer to serve as the minors' petitioner.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve "Lion: an Adoption Themed Film and Discussion" for social work continuing education, which is being sponsored by Catholic Charities on November 12, 2017.

Jane Hyde, LCSW-BACS, submitted an inquiry relative to signing-off on an employee's work. Board members responded that signing-off on an employee's work may be an agency requirement. They referred her to Rule 111(G)(2) and (3) and recommended that she ensure that signing-off on work does not indicate that she completed the work.

Gasper Bongiovani, LCSW-BACS, submitted a request that he be allowed to provide counseling to a contract employer's daughter. Board members responded that it is not recommended that he provide counseling.

Shailendra Shukla submitted an inquiry about using Professional Corporation appendix on a company name. The board responded to Ms. Shukla that her question does not fall under the board's purview.

Mickey Dupont, LCSW, submitted an inquiry about working for a Louisiana company while residing in Texas. Board members recommended that she contact the TX Social Work Licensing Board to inquire about licensing requirements.

LaToya Franklin-Jackson, CSW, requested that the board approve her to foster/adopt a minor that participates in group therapy with her. The board responded that the dual relationship is not supported by the Practice Act or Rules, Standards and Procedures.

Jeannine Morris, LCSW, submitted an email to the board relative to duties required as the District 504 Coordinator and SPED reevaluations for hearing impaired students. Board members responded that the situation she described is a personnel matter that should be addressed with the school hierarchy.

Board members advised **Samantha Armentor** that it is not a violation for her to contact a family member's counselor, but if the counselor is a social worker, it is a violation for the person to acknowledge that the family member is a client. They also reminded her that as a social worker, she is a mandatory reporter of child abuse and neglect.

Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW-BACS, requested that a response given by a previous board stating that Registered Social Workers are not authorized to conduct psychosocial evaluations be reconsidered. Board members agreed with Dr. Weinzettle and a new statement was issued. **Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to authorize John Shalett to write a position statement acknowledging that RSWs can perform psychosocial assessments.

BOARD/STAFF ISSUES

NASW-LA Chapter Annual Conference – Call for Proposals

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Carla Moore and carried by majority vote, to pay Lisa Lipsey \$1,000.00 to prepare and present a three hour ethics workshop for the NASW-LA Chapter annual conference. Robert Showers opposed the vote.

FINANCIAL

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Carla Moore and carried by majority vote, to offer Lisa Lipsey a contract as Complaint Consultant at a rate of \$80.00 per hour and a maximum contract amount of \$10,000.00. Judith Haspel opposed motion.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Judith Haspel and carried by unanimous vote, to offer Kathie Pohlman a contract as Manager of the Impaired Professional Program at a rate of \$100.00 per hour and a maximum contract amount of \$30,000.00.

COMPLIANCE HEARINGS

Dominic Bell requested a compliance hearing to appeal the board's decision to deny his application for Licensed Master Social Work. Mr. Bell's application was denied due to a recent arrest for driving while intoxicated.

Keyandra Griffin requested a compliance hearing to appeal the board's decision to deny her application for Registered Social Work. Ms. Griffin's application was denied due to a felony arrest. Ms. Griffin testified and provided documentation that her felony was dropped to a misdemeanor when she went to court.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 10:24 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, yes; Robert Showers, RSW, yes; Judith Haspel, yes; Brent Villemarette, yes; and Carla Moore, yes.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 11:59 a.m. to make the following motions.

Compliance Hearings

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to approve the application submitted by Dominic Bell, MSW.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to approve the application submitted by Keyandra Griffin, BSW.

Impaired Professional Program

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

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to follow-up with Attorney General's office regarding a Consent Agreement and Order for MK-17's non-compliance with Participation Agreement.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to turn LJ over to the Attorney General's office.

Disciplinary Monitoring Report

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

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried to, release Cierra Harrell from the Consent Agreement and Order because all terms are successfully complete.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried to, release Lakesha Farmer from the Consent Agreement and Order because all terms are successfully complete.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried to, release Vadisha Williams from the Consent Agreement and Order because all terms are successfully complete.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried to, release Dana Hunter from the Consent Agreement and Order because all terms are successfully complete.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried to, release Carolyn Jackson from the Consent Agreement and Order because all terms are successfully complete.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried to, release Hiawatha Benton from the Consent Agreement and Order because all terms are successfully complete.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Brent Villemarette 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, yes; Robert Showers, RSW, yes; Judith Haspel, yes; Brent Villemarette, yes; and Carla Moore, yes.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 1:18 p.m. to make the following motions.

New Complaints

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-29** and to request a written response. Possible violations include La R.S. 37:2717(A)(7) and Rules 107(B), 111(F)(3) and 115(A) and (B).

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-30** and to request a written response. Possible violations include La R.S. 37:2717(A)(7) and Rules 107(B) and 109(A).

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-31** and to request a written response. Possible violations include La R.S. 37:2717(A)(7) and Rule 107(B).

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to not accept **Complaint #2018-32** and to refer complainant to the Baton Rouge office of DCFS.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-33** and to request a written response. Possible violations include La R.S. 37:2718 and Rules 115(A) and 115(B). John Shalett recused himself from this matter.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to not accept **Complaint #2018-34**.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-36** and to request a written response and a copy of respondent's grievance policy. Possible violations include La R.S. 37:2717(A)(7) and (11) and Rule 107(B).

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-37** and to request a written response. Possible violations include La R.S. 37:2717(A)(7), (10) and (11) and Rule 109(A)(1).

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-38** and to send the matter to investigation. Possible violations include La R.S. 37:2717(A)(7) and (11), and Rules 113(A)(1), (5) and (7) and 113(B)(1).

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-39** and to request a written response. Possible violations include Rule 113(B).

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-40** and to request a written response and all official court documents.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-41** and to request a written response and all official court documents.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to not accept **Complaint #2018-42**.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to not accept **Complaint #2018-43**.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-44** and to request a written response. Possible violations include Rule 107(B).

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to not accept **Complaint #2018-46**.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-47** and to request a written response and all official court documents.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-48** and to request all official court documents and treatment information. John Shalett recused himself from this matter.

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-49** and to request a written response and all official court documents.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-50** and to request a written response. Possible violations include La R.S. 37:2717(A)(7) and (11) and Rule 107(B).

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Judith Haspel and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2018-52** and to request a written response and all official court documents.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to advise the complainant in **Complaint #2018-16** that he can file a new complaint with additional information and examples of alleged parental alienation.

Continuing Education Requests

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to grant **Monyelle Jones** an extension until June 30, 2018, because of her extenuating circumstances.

Applications

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to approve the Registered Social Work application submitted by Tamysa Lewis conditional of a Consent Agreement and Order for unlicensed practice.

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:

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| Bolton, Deveon M. | Jackson, Chasity S. |
| Bryan, Cynthia | Mathew, Ann Maria K. (End-NJ) |
| Coleman, She'Tisha J. | Scroggins, Dah-Mairi D. |
| Damond, Monchelle C. | Staab, William C. |
| Davis, Shrylin M. | Maddox, Darnell T. |
| Hebert, Victoria L. | Williams, Calbriell R. |
| Issa, Mehwish | Williams, Elesha N. |

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Brent Villemarette 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:

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|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Collins, Briana | Prince, Shayla S. |
| Fobbs, Irenna C. | Shepherd-Kopf, Stephanie J. |
| Guthikonda, Jodi G. | Ullrich, Kelsey M. |
| Hartley, Amanda D. | Williams, Brittney B. |
| Holmes, Lenora J. | Williams-Humphrey, Pamela |
| Mathews, Ralph F. | |

Motion was made by Judith Haspel, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to approve the following endorsement applications for Licensed Master Social Work:

- Reed. Tara Y. (End-TX)

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: Skef-Promoslovsky, Natalia

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, 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:

Allen, Ebony E.

Backstrom, Sarah E.

Boudreaux, Michelle T.

Campbell, John E.

Crooks, Jason F.

George, Dana L.

Hodges, Brandilyn P.

Jackson, Ann L.

Johnson, Sea'n P. (End-FL)

Koerner, Marjorie M.

Lewis, Shanella M.

Lichtman, Louisa K.

Martin, Laura L.

Moffett, Adris M.

Nguyen, Hoang-Minh J.

Ott, Natasha

Parker, Joshua L.

Sempel, Osha R.

Simmons, Colleen F.

Smith, Jane S.

Stiles, Amanda M.

Tate, Melanie L.

Wilson, Leatrice 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:

Cristina, Elizabeth (End-NY)

Myers, Rachael B. (END-IL)

Adjourned at 1:30 p.m.


John Shalett, LCSW-BACS
Chairperson


Carla Moore, LMSW
Secretary-Treasurer

