

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
September 27, 2019**

John Shalett, LCSW, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, September 27, 2019, in the conference room at the Board office located at 18550 Highland Road, Suite B, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Emily DeAngelo, Administrator, and Sheri Morris, Legal Counsel, were present for the meeting.

Carla Moore, LMSW, conducted roll call. Board members present at the time of roll call included John Shalett, LCSW, Carla Moore, LMSW, Brent Villemarette, LCSW, Jennifer Burch, LCSW, and Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW.

Ada Nelson, RSW, arrived at 9:35 a.m. Evan Bergeron, Consumer Member, arrived at 12:30 p.m.

Members of the public in attendance included Robert Showers, Natalie Ingles, Tahitia Clark, Eva Slater, Cherie McDermott and Gina Rossi.

AGENDA

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to add Continuing Education Requests to Executive Session to the agenda.

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to approve the agenda as amended.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDERS

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agreement and Order presented by Madeline Carbonette, AAG, in resolution of Complaint #2018-224 CW 2018-336 against RaKeira Raven.

Motion was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and carried by majority vote, to approve the Consent Agreement and Order presented by Madeline Carbonette, AAG, in resolution of Complaint #2019-220 against Kelly Guidroz. Brent Villemarette recused.

MINUTES

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of the meeting held August 23, 2019.

CORRESPONDENCE

Stacey Griffin, LCSW

Defer until Strategic Planning Meeting, which is September 28, 2019.

Lakeside Hospice

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the application submitted by Lakeside Hospice to be a pre-approval organization for social work continuing education.

Geoffrey Cazes, MBA, SPHR

Geoffrey Cazes requested confirmation that there is protection in state law for the term social worker. The Board responded that there is no current protection in the title, but that is one of the proposed changes to the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act.

Alexis Wolcott, LCSW

Alexis Wolcott submitted a question as to whether it is within a social worker's scope of practice to collect urine from clients for drug screens. The Board responded that this is not addressed in the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act. They recommended that she follow agency policy, as well as request training for performing such task.

Lakertia Venzant, LMSW

Lakertia Venzant submitted an inquiry about teaching a course and providing continuing education. Board members replied that this is within the scope of practice of a LMSW as a salaried employee of an agency or under contract with a governmental agency.

Reneka Hayes

Reneka Hayes submitted an email relative to all level of social workers being able to contract. The Board advised Ms. Hayes that this will be considered by a future Inter Organizational Committee (IOC) because a change such as this will require a change to the Practice Act.

Katlynn Dillon, LMSW

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve her request for a waiver of the in-person continuing education hours for the July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 collection period because she is out of the country.

Tamara Jackson, LMSW

Tamara Jackson submitted an email about questionable practices at an MHR. Board members advised Ms. Jackson that she should file a complaint with the Louisiana Department of Health, as well as with the Board if social workers are completing forms as if they provided a service that they did not provide. Ms. Jackson was also referred to a letter on the Board's website called "Mental Health Provider Employee Concerns".

New Orleans Addiction Professionals Association

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to deny the application submitted by New Orleans Addiction Professionals Association to be a pre-approval organization for social work continuing education.

NASW-LA Chapter

Motion was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the 6.5 hour workshop to be presented by Dr. Alan Kirk for Board Approved Clinical Supervisor designation on April 2, 2020, May 14, 2020 and June 4, 2020.

Robyn McDermott

Board members considered a question from Robyn McDermott asking for the difference between an evaluation and an assessment. Their response is for Ms. McDermott to identify where there are conflicts in using these terms.

Monique Soignet, LCSW-BACS

Board members advised Monique Soignet that neither the Practice Act nor the Rules, Standards and Procedures require her to advise a counselor's private practice clients that their information was left unprotected on an agency computer.

Jay Lapin

Jay Lapin submitted an inquiry about reporting a client that admitted to a crime. Board members advised that privileged communication exists and that a mandatory report is made unless the crime was against a child, elder or infirmed.

Tira Jones, LCSW-BACS

Defer until Strategic Planning Meeting, which is September 28, 2019.

Harry Turner, LCSW

Board members received an email from Harry Turner asking for guidance as to what services are appropriate to provide to Louisiana clients with certification as a Certified Mental Health Integrative Medicine Provider. The Board responded that it is unable to provide guidance for a certification, license, etc. that does not fall under the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act.

Jeanette Mills, LMSW

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the supervision provided to Jeanette Mills by Mary Lynn Bartels.

Kellie Fuselier, LMSW

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to approve Kellie Fuselier's request to complete her remaining supervision through remote face-to-face means with Vanessa Graves, LCSW-BACS.

Taylor Morris, LMSW

Motion was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to approve Taylor Morris's request to complete supervision via electronic face-to-face means while she is a traveling social worker.

Albert Richert, Jr., MD

Dr. Albert Richert submitted an inquiry about LCSWs billing for services provided by a LMSW. Board members responded that a social worker cannot bill for services they did not provide.

Alysa Gauden, LMSW

Motion was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Ada Nelson and unanimously carried, to accept the Supervision Agreement between Alysa Gauden and Rena Smith, LCSW-BACS, with credit beginning from March 7, 2018.

Kristina Laukaitis, LMSW

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to accept the Supervision Agreement between Kristina Laukaitis and John Shalett, LCSW-BACS, with credit beginning from January 17, 2019.

Catherine Bastian, LMSW

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to accept the Supervision Agreement between Catherine Bastian and John Shalett, LCSW-BACS, with credit beginning from April 8, 2019.

Olivia Bullard, LMSW

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to accept the Supervision Agreement between Olivia Bullard and John Shalett, LCSW-BACS, with credit beginning from July 10, 2019.

BOARD/STAFF ISSUES

Report on Office Workflow

Board members reviewed a report provided by the staff of the workflow since the last meeting. There have been 44 retakes processed, 25 extensions for taking the exam, 76 licenses issued after receiving score reports, 98 new applications, and 9 BACS applications. There are 119 licenses being monitored following disciplinary action. 7 Consent Agreement and Orders have been issued for unlicensed practice. 32 verifications and 16 continuing education extensions have been processed. Board members also reviewed the turn-around time for the latest set of Supervision Agreements and Plans. Board members were advised that there have been 23 licensees renewed by paper application. Between August 21 and September 21st 21 complaints were received. There are currently 36 cases pending a written response or court documents, 6 cases under investigation, 9 cases under review of the Complaint Consultant, 2 cases waiting for discussion at the next team meeting and 38 complaints under review of the Assistant Attorney General or Medicaid Fraud Control Unit of the Attorney General's office. Lastly, Regina DeWitt presented to Tulane students about licensure on September 24th.

Election of Secretary-Treasurer

Motion was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to elect Ruth Weinzettle as Secretary-Treasurer effective October 5, 2019.

Schedule 2020 Board Meeting Dates

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to set meeting dates for January 17, February 21, April 3, May 8, June 12, July 17, August 21, October 2, November 6 and December 11.

FARB 2020 Forum

Motion was made on Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to send 1 board member and 1 staff person to the 2020 FARB Forum which is January

Report on Annual CLEAR Conference

Carla Moore and Emily DeAngelo attended the CLEAR conference. Ms. Moore provided notes on some of the sessions in which she considered beneficial. The opening speaker explained that healthcare and government are suffering from “trust over time”. An effective Board has a clear model of accountability consisting of being forward looking and consensus-based decision making. A Board should ask themselves at the end of each meeting, “Is the organization better than when we walked into this room?”

NASW-LA Call for Proposals

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to ask Lisa Lipsey to present in the area of ethics. Brent Villemarette, John Shalett and Emily DeAngelo agreed to be co-presenters.

Meeting with AAGs

Board members were informed that revisions to 113(B) and the definition of exploitation are recommended.

IOC Update

Emily DeAngelo went through the changes to the Practice Act being proposed by the Inter Organizational Committee.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 9:34 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, yes; Ada Nelson, yes; Jennifer Burch, LCSW, yes; Brent Villemarette, yes; and Carla Moore, yes.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 2:54 p.m.

COMPLIANCE HEARINGS

Hearing panel included Jennifer Burch, Brent Villemarette and Ada Burson

Sarah Scafidel

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to continue the compliance hearing to the meeting that will be held in January 2020.

Jade Williams

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the RSW application submitted by Jade Williams.

Ashlie Lucas

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Ada Nelson and unanimously carried, to approve the reinstatement of Ashlie Lucas's LCSW license.

Jessica Ross

Motion was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to deny the respondent's application.

Evaluation of Investigators

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to extend the contracts of Victoria Blake and Statewide Surveillance & Investigations for six months (September 1, 2019 – February 28, 2020) at the rate of \$50.00 per hour. The Board, in compliance with competitive bidding, asked that the Administrator prepare a document to solicit bids.

Impaired Professional Program

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to accept the report submitted by Kathie Pohlman, IPP Manager.

Disciplinary Monitoring Report

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to release the following individuals from their Consent Agreement and Order because all terms are successfully complete:

Ashantia Burkhalter-Bunch

Toya Davis

Tamachia McCaa

Kaylee McVey

Kathleen North

Carolyn Parker

Kelley Peterson

Brooke Price

Gabrielle Jackson

Motion was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to issue a show cause ruling to Natalie Jarrell.

Complaints

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to dismiss the following complaints:

2018-41,
2018-148,
2018-351 CW 2019-54 CW 2019-144,
2019-197,
2019-266 CW 2019-267,
2019-271 CW 2019-296,
2019-274, and
2020-4.

Applications

Motion was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve the LMSW application submitted by Kimberly Newman conditional of a Consent Agreement and Order for unlicensed practice.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve the RSW application submitted by Patrick Mitchell conditional of a Consent Agreement and Order for unlicensed practice.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to reinstate Karen Stansbury's LMSW license without retesting condition of a Consent Agreement and Order for unlicensed practice.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for Registered Social Work:

Brengettsy, LaTrice	Gage-Harden, Kayla
Buffett, Dyaneche	Garner, Bridget
Cashio, Chad	Jefferson, Kendra
Champagne, Jade	Jordan-Edmonds, Aoko
Christophe, Kimberly	Oubre-Cain, Josephine
Chopin, Thelma	Patel, Megha
Cunningham, Phyllis	Rushing, Kandi
Davis, Marnesha	Scarbrough, Alexandra
Dawson, Asia	Smith, Alyssia
Dunn, Mea	Stewart, Lauren
Flores, Mona	Washington, Akilah

Motion was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for approval to sit for the Masters exam and to issue Certified Social Work:

Addison, Catherine S.	Alexander, Dorothy M.
Alderman, Jenifer	Allee, Stephanie E.

Allen, Tiffany L.
Allen, Whitney N.
Bolgiano, Tracy M.
Bost, Drew M.
Cater, Laura L.
Citizen, Tartiana S.
Edwards, LaKimberly
Flint, Brittany B.
Furlow, Earline W.
Frazier, Kianna M.
Gusman, Jasmine B.
Hampton, Lakelle M.
Jones, Flowers M.

Lyons, Jennifer A.
Matthews, Aishie B.
Perry, Jasmine J.
Sanders, Delreil L.
Steffen, Jessie
Trusty, Odie M.
Tucker, Terrencelyn A.
Walker, Nicole
Wartelle, Joshua B.
Weston, LaQuinta Q.
Williams, Jimecia L.
Young, Corie L.

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to accept the passing score on the ASWB Masters exam and issue Licensed Master Social Work to:

Dugas, Jill
Robertson-Dawson, Diane

Motion was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to issue Licensed Master Social Work through endorsement to:

Casimier, Tristesse (End-TX)
Nicks, Nia (End-GA)
Summerlin, Kimberly (End-MS)
Villarreal, Alicia E. (End-TX)

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the ASWB Clinical exam for Licensed Clinical Social Work:

Baum, James W.	Jones, Courtney M.
Clark, April M.	Kelly, Jessica
Crump, Rachel P.	LaGrange, Anna K.
Dauzat, Taylor L.	McCusker, Sarah E.
Delcambre, Dominique M.	Nicholas, Ethan C.
Elam, Tonyalea	Nugent, Glen E.
Farlough, Sarah J.	Sahl, Samantha A.
Firmin, Katherine A.	Sanders, Jerrelda N.
Jackson, Kalundra S.	Waguespack, Fallon
Johnson, Shantae A.	Watson, Shannon
Wingerter, Jerika	Zwanziger, Tona

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to issue Licensed Clinical Social Work through endorsement to the following applicants:

Arriola, Erica (End-CA)
Brave, Meghan (End-OK)
Deus, Cassandra R. (End-NY)
Faulkner, Richard (End-KY)
Harlan, Denise (End-CA)
Insidioso, Nancy (End-MI)
Reed, Trayon (End-TX)
Ridgeway, Deborah (End-CO)
Savage, Pamela (End-OH)
Wood, Carolyn (End-NC)

Potential Litigation


This was discussion only; no action taken.

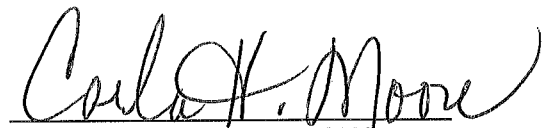
Continuing Education Requests

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to allow Melanie Mitchell for complete all continuing education hours via distance learning for the July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 collection period.

Motion was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to grant Andrea Pregeant an extension through June 30, 2020 to obtain the continuing education for the July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019 collection period.

Meeting adjourned at 3:18 p.m.


John Shalett, LCSW-BACS
Chairperson


Carla Moore, LMSW
Secretary-Treasurer