

**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners  
December 13, 2019**

John Shalett, LCSW, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, December 13, 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.

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

Evan Bergeron, Consumer Member, arrived at 8:33 a.m.

Ada Nelson, RSW, and Latonya Charles, LMSW, were absent.

Members of the public in attendance included Claire Smith, Tyler Fore, Eva Slater, and Mary Ballew.

**AGENDA**

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the agenda.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDERS**

**Consent Agreement and Order #2019-284 for Cedrick Doucet, CSW**

**Motion** was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agreement and Order presented by Madeline Carbonette, AAG, for Cedrick Doucet, CSW.

**Consent Agreement and Order #2019-285 for Tenice Howard, RSW**

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agreement and Order presented by Madeline Carbonette, AAG, for Tenice Howard, RSW.

**Consent Agreement and Order #2019-292 for Padra Francois, LCSW**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agreement and Order presented by Madeline Carbonette, AAG, for Padra Francois, LCSW.

**MINUTES**

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of the meeting held November 1, 2019.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **Shalini Persaud, MSW student**

Shalini Persaud submitted several questions to the Board regarding volunteer work, supervision, informed consent and confidentiality and record keeping. Board members advised that LMSWs must practice within their scope of practice and that the Board does not regulate students. They responded to Ms. Persaud that verbal informed consent is adequate unless documents are being shared with another party; in that situation written consent is required. Board members recommended that she contact the agency for policies and procedures relative to record keeping and other questions. They also recommended coordinating with the Office of Emergency Preparedness.

### **Patrick Morris, LCSW**

The Board received an inquiry from Patrick Morris regarding CPR. Mr. Morris was advised that neither the Practice Act nor the Rules, Standards and Procedures require a social worker to be CPR certified.

### **Zelina Chinwoh, LMSW**

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to accept the Supervision Agreement for Our Lady of the Lake Care Management and Fresenius Kidney Care without penalty.

### **Angela Wiklow, LCSW-BACS**

Angela Wiklow submitted a request to supervise Jessica Shelton, LMSW, via Zoom. Board members want to know how much supervision has been completed and how much is left, how much is she charging for supervision and are there any other hardships besides distance that the Board should consider.

### **Treniece Morrise, LCSW**

Treniece Morrise submitted an inquiry regarding billing Medicaid for services as a Behavior Strategist and therapist. Board members recommend that she put her concerns in writing to the school district and reference Rule 121(B), which reads "B. Necessary Services. A social worker shall bill only for services which he/she has provided. A social worker shall provide only services which are necessary. If fees are to be charged for cancellation or failure to appear for an appointment, a clear description of that policy must be provided to the client in advance of its implementation." They also recommend consulting with someone from Medicaid to make sure it would not be considered duplicate billing.

### **Bethany Sclafani, LCSW-BACS**

Bethany Sclafani asked the Board for their opinion on a social worker "overseeing" height, weight, automated blood pressure and heart rate monitor for school-based clients. Board members request that Ms. Sclafani clarify what she means by "overseeing" and provide specifics on what the social worker will be doing.

**Jamie Pence, LMSW**

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the Supervision Agreement for St. Tammany Parish Hospital from September 29, 2018.

**Ashley Richardson, RN**

Ashley Richardson sent an inquiry relative to social workers taking verbal orders from a physician. Board members advised that social workers can accept verbal orders for social work services.

**Laury Bourgeois, LCSW-BACS**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the 6.5 hour workshop to be presented by Laury Bourgeois, LCSW-BACS, for Board Approved Clinical Supervisor designation on March 6, 2020.

**Ruth Seawell-Fernando, LMSW**

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve Ruth Seawell-Fernando's request to obtain the continuing education required between July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 via distance learning.

**LA Department of Health Bureau of Family Health**

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the application submitted by LA Department of Health Bureau of Family Health to be a pre-approval organization for social work continuing education.

**Magnolia Wellness, LLC**

**Motion** was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to approve the application submitted by Magnolia Wellness, LLC to be a pre-approval organization for social work continuing education.

**Sarah Farlough, LCSW**

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to remove the disciplinary action from Sarah Farlough's record.

**Wilneisha Jakes, LMSW**

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to remove the disciplinary action from Wilneisha Jake's record.

**Michele Guidry, LMSW**

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to defer this request to Executive Session.

**Sara Donovan, LCSW**

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to accept two additional hours of distance learning for the July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 continuing education collection period.

**Lynley Dornier, CSW**

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to waive the 90-day wait to take the ASWB Clinical examination.

**Southern University at New Orleans**

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the application submitted by Southern University at New Orleans to be a pre-approval organization for social work continuing education.

**Freedom Therapy Center, LLC**

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the application submitted by Freedom Therapy Center, LLC to be a pre-approval organization for social work continuing education.

**Taylor Allen, RSW**

Taylor Allen submitted an inquiry regarding releasing patient records to another facility. Board members recommended that he refer to agency policy and check patient's record for a consent form that was signed when patient checked in to hospital.

**Osagie Omoruyi, LMSW**

Osagie Omoruyi submitted a request relative to supervision hours being approved. It is not clear that Mr. Omoruyi was employed as a social worker at the time the hours were obtained, so clarification has been requested.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 10:09 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; Evan Bergeron, yes; Jennifer Burch, LCSW, yes; and Brent Villemarette, yes.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 12:25 p.m. for lunch.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 1:15 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, yes; Evan Bergeron, yes; Jennifer Burch, LCSW, yes; and Brent Villemarette, yes.

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 1:33 p.m.

### **Impaired Professional Program**

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

### **Rule to Show Cause Hearing**

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve Dana Rippey, LCSW-BACS, to supervise Natalie Jarrell.

### **Compliance Hearings**

The hearing panel for the compliance hearings included John Shalett, Evan Bergeron and Jennifer Burch.

Michele Guidry requested a compliance hearing to appeal the Board's decision to deny her LCSW application. The compliance hearing was conducted in Executive Session. She was represented by attorney Joseph Scott.

**Motion** was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve Michele Guidry to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam. Once she passes the exam she is to complete one hour per month of supervision of her social work practice for 12 months. The supervisor must be a LCSW-BACS and must be pre-approved by Board. The supervisor must be someone without a previous or current personal or professional relationship with Ms. Guidry. The supervisor is required to submit quarterly reports.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to defer action on Michele Guidry's request to remove record of disciplinary action until after she completes the supervision required by the compliance hearing decision.

Shelita Nkadi requested a compliance hearing to appeal the Board's decision to offer her a Consent Agreement and Order for practicing social work without a license. The compliance hearing was conducted in Executive Session.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to rescind the Consent Agreement and Order offered to Shelita Nkadi and to approve her application for LMSW with a letter of education regarding what constitutes social work practice.

Jessica Sias cancelled her compliance hearing.

## **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 54 retakes processed, 4 extensions for taking the exam, 97 licenses issued after receiving score reports (30 new, 51 re-issue), 95 new applications, and 9 BACS applications. There are 121 licenses being monitored following disciplinary action. 8 Consent Agreement and Orders have been issued for unlicensed practice. 29 verifications and 3 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 18 licensees renewed by paper application. Between October 31 and December 11, 16 complaints were received. Two complaints were not accepted. There are currently 43 cases pending a written response or court documents, 7 cases under investigation, 5 cases under review of the Complaint Consultant, 6 complaints pending discussion at a team meeting, 23 complaints under review of the Assistant Attorney General or Medicaid Fraud Control Unit of the Attorney General's office, and 23 complaints under review of a board member.

### **Appointment of Legislation Review Committee**

John Shalett appointed himself, Evan Bergeron, Brent Villemarette, Emily DeAngelo and Regina DeWitt to the Legislation Review Committee. He named Evan Bergeron as Committee Chair.

### **Schedule Legislation Review Committee Meetings**

Meetings are scheduled for April 2 and May 7.

### **ASWB Delegate Assembly**

John Shalett gave an overview of the Delegate Assembly. He advised that he wants the Board to discuss the other state's issues and solutions be reviewed at the strategic planning meeting.

### **IOC Update**

Emily DeAngelo updated the Board of the feedback received from the Town Hall Meetings that led to changes to what is being proposed for the Practice Act.

## **FINANCIAL**

### **Agreed-Upon Procedures completed by William Mercer, CPA**

Board members reviewed the report prepared by William Mercer in accordance with the requirements of the Legislative Auditor.

### **Financial Statements**

Board members reviewed the financial statements for July, August, September and October 2019 prepared by Rob Furman, CPA.

**Motion** was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the financial statements.

### **Disciplinary Monitoring Report**

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

Jeanette Allen-Georgetown

Betsey Backe

Renee Booker

Muriel Cunningham

Maureen Joseph

Mycheal Mimes

Paula Serie

Marietta Simmons

Jessica Ross

Darlene Wells

### **Complaints**

**Motion** was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2016-170 with a letter of education.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to set Complaint #2018-335 for hearing on February 21, 2020.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to defer Complaint #2019-39, 2019-246, 2019-288, 2020-10, 2020-26 and 2020-48 to the meeting scheduled for January 17, 2020.

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2019-40.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2019-77.

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2020-6.

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2020-8 with a letter of education.

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2020-35.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2020-44 with a letter of education.

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2020-60.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2020-68 with a letter of education.

### **Applications**

**Motion** was made Brent Villemarette, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve Susan Guerra's application and reinstate her LCSW without retesting.

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve Jamie Mason's application and to reinstate her LMSW without retesting.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Brent Villemarette and unanimously carried, to deny the LMSW application submitted by Nikki Akins and to offer her a compliance hearing.

**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to deny the RSW application submitted by Ariane Smith and to offer her a compliance hearing.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for Registered Social Work:

Atkins, La'Tasha  
Banks-Young, Roshuna  
Belfield, Jacqueline  
Cox, Holly  
Ferguson, Brittney  
Forest, Brenda  
John, Brianna  
London, Levida  
Oden, Amanda  
Tademy, Charnell  
Thomas, Paulette  
Williams, Sonya

**Motion** was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to issue Registered Social Work through endorsement to:  
McKinstry, Vanessa (End-AL)

**Motion** was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to issue Registered Social Work pending receipt of official bachelor's transcript:  
Anderson, Tiffany  
Cornelious, Kayla  
Dent Jr., Cedric  
Doescher, Carl



Knighen, Shauna  
Lavalais, Aaliyah  
Maples, Kelly  
Obando, Brielle

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

Boutte, Sierra D.  
Daniels, Sonja M.  
Felton Joseph, Tanisha  
Grosch, Michelle W.  
Hanna, Megan B.  
Jordan, Karla D.  
Josue, Nathalie G.  
Landor, Miyoka L.  
Milner, Cherita L.  
Ouber, Kaycee D.  
Payne, Nequan J.  
Peevy, Amanda  
Quane, Abigail G.  
Smith, Assyria A.  
Williams-Ross, Tabitha A.  
Yonge, Destin

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

Badillo, Raquel (End-TX)  
Juneau, Hannah (End-PA)  
Reese, Raven N. (End-MS)  
Walker, Rosie (End-GA)

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the Masters exam and to issue Certified Social Work pending receipt of official Master's transcript:

Baker, Sandriekia  
Butler, Kimberly  
Colquitt, Natalie  
DeLoach, Narussia  
Escandon, Bridgette  
Früge, Brianne  
Gentile, Elizabeth  
Hebert, Morgan  
McKenzie, Anisa  
Manguno, Joshua  
Moses, Annissa

Powell, Sierra  
Schlessel, Stevie  
Stanford, M'ghan  
Zanders, Felicia

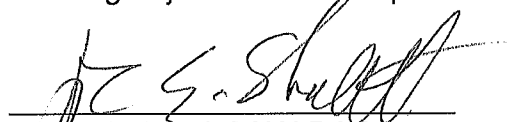
**Motion** was made by Brent Villemarette, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam:


Allison, Kayla D.  
Aponte, Jennifer  
Brewer, Jeremy D.  
Butler, Samantha K.  
Cambrice, Trinette M.  
Dornier, Lynley K.  
Freeman, Asia J.  
Ghoram, Valerie L.  
Goldberg, Jacob C.  
Howard, Deondra  
Jean Baptiste, Milca  
Jones, Tara M.  
Lawrence, Misty H.  
Marchand, Karen D.  
Murdock, Joshua J.  
Peart-Bryd, Kimberly A.  
Stillman, Jayne W.  
Trice, Karen R.  
Turner-Satcher, Tressie  
Wesley, Gayberyl L.  
Williams, Alaiyia N.  
Williams, Megan G.  
Williams, Tiffany K.

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

Lawrence, Mary (End-TX)  
Nunnery, Brandy (End-GA)  
Paschal, Stephanie (End-WA)  
Wilson, Melissa (End-IL)

Meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

  
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John Shalett, LCSW-BACS  
Chairperson

  
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Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW-BACS  
Secretary-Treasurer