

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
October 2, 2020**

John Shalett, LCSW, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. on Friday, October 2, 2020. The meeting was conducted at the board office and by video conference and all interested parties were provided the information to join the meeting. The allowance of a video conference is authorized by Proclamation 30 JBE 2020, Section 4 as extended by subsequent executive proclamations including 75 JBE 2020. 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 Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW, John Shalett, LCSW, Evan Bergeron, Consumer Member, Hyacinth McKee, LCSW, LaTonya Charles, LMSW, and Jennifer Burch, LCSW.

Ada Nelson, RSW, was absent.

Members of the public that attended all or a portion of the public meeting are on the attached list.

AGENDA

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the agenda with the addition of Complaint #2020-113.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

COMPLIANCE HEARINGS

Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW, Evan Bergeron, Consumer Member, and LaTonya Charles, LMSW, served as the hearing panel for the compliance hearings.

Marissa Batie-Collier requested a compliance hearing to appeal the board's decision to lapse her Certified Social Work certification for failing to complete the criminal background check requirements by July 15, 2020.

Renee Bias requested a compliance hearing to appeal the Consent Agreement and Order that was offered to her for the unlicensed practice of social work.

Ashley Delavega requested a compliance hearing to appeal the board's decision to lapse her Licensed Master's Social Work license for failing to complete the criminal background check requirements by July 15, 2020.

Dennis Dillon requested a compliance hearing to appeal the Consent Agreement and Order that was offered to him for the unlicensed practice of social work.

Alicia Norris requested a compliance hearing to appeal the board's decision to lapse her Licensed Clinical Social Work license for failing to complete the criminal background check requirements by July 15, 2020.

Lara Viator requested a compliance hearing to appeal the board's decision to lapse her Licensed Clinical Social Work license for failing to complete the criminal background check requirements by July 15, 2020.

Antionette Washington requested a compliance hearing to appeal the Consent Agreement and Order that was offered to her for the unlicensed practice of social work.

PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDERS

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and carried by majority vote, to approve Consent Agreement and Order #2020-55 for Shirley Washington. LaTonya Charles was recused from the vote.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and carried unanimously, to approve Consent Agreement and Order #2020-148 for Patsy Andrews.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and carried by majority vote, to approve the Consent Agreement and Order #2021-4 for Constance Konikoff. Hyacinth McKee was recused from the vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Jennifer Burch, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 10:05 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; Hyacinth McKee, LCSW, yes; Jennifer Burch, LCSW, yes; and LaTonya Charles, yes.

Hearing in the Matter of Administrative Complaint #2019-203

This matter was heard by a panel of board members which included John Shalett, Evan Bergeron, Hyacinth McKee, Jennifer Burch, and Ruth Weinzettle. Sheri Morris was present as legal counsel to the hearing panel. Madeline Carbonette was present as prosecutor. The respondent was present. A court reporter with Baton Rouge Court Reporters recorded the proceedings.

Hearing in the Matter of Administrative Complaint #2015-146

This matter was heard by a panel of board members which included John Shalett, Jennifer Burch, Hyacinth McKee, LaTonya Charles, and Ruth Weinzettle. Sheri Morris was present as legal counsel to the hearing panel. Madeline Carbonette was present as

prosecutor. The respondent was present. A court reporter with Baton Rouge Court Reporters recorded the proceedings.

Hearing in the Matter of Administrative Complaint #2019-249

This matter was heard by a panel of board members which included John Shalett, LaTonya Charles, Hyacinth McKee, Jennifer Burch, and Ruth Weinzettle. Sheri Morris was present as legal counsel to the hearing panel. Madeline Carbonette was present as prosecutor. The respondent was present. A court reporter with Baton Rouge Court Reporters recorded the proceedings.

Hearing in the Matter of Administrative Complaint #2019-272

This matter was heard by a panel of board members which included John Shalett, Evan Bergeron, Hyacinth McKee, Jennifer Burch, and Ruth Weinzettle. Sheri Morris was present as legal counsel to the hearing panel. Madeline Carbonette was present as prosecutor. The respondent was present with her attorney. The attorney requested a continuance. The attorney testified that he accepts notice that the matter is continued to November 6, 2020. A court reporter with Baton Rouge Court Reporters recorded the proceedings.

During Executive Session, board members:

- a. Were presented Consent Agreement and Order by Madeline Carbonette, Assistant Attorney General, that are not public record.
- b. Reviewed the Impaired Professional Program report.
- c. Reviewed the Disciplinary Monitoring report.
- d. Received updates on open complaints.
- e. Reviewed the proposed order in the matter of Administrative Complaint #2017-34.
- f. Reviewed applications.
- g. Conducted deliberations.

Compliance Hearing

Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW, Evan Bergeron, Consumer Member, and LaTonya Charles, LMSW, served as the hearing panel for one compliance hearing conducted in Executive Session.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jennifer Burch and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 5:00 p.m. and to recess until 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 3, 2020.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
October 3, 2020**

John Shalett, LCSW, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. on Saturday, October 3, 2020. The meeting was conducted at the board office and by video conference and all interested parties were provided the information to join the meeting. The allowance of a video conference is authorized by Proclamation 30 JBE 2020, Section 4 as extended by subsequent executive proclamations including 75 JBE 2020. 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 Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW, John Shalett, LCSW, Evan Bergeron, Consumer Member, Hyacinth McKee, LCSW, and LaTonya Charles, LMSW.

Jennifer Burch, LCSW, and Ada Nelson, RSW, were absent.

Members of the public that attended all or a portion of the public meeting are on the attached list.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A member of the public asked the board how long the return time is for a response following a hearing.

MINUTES

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of the meeting held August 21, 2020.

CORRESPONDENCE

St. Joseph Hospice of the Carpenter Health Network

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to approve the application to be a continuing education pre-approval organization submitted by St. Joseph Hospice of the Carpenter Health Network.

LSU School of Social Work

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve the application to be a continuing education pre-approval organization submitted by LSU School of Social Work.

Maxine Jean-Louis, LCSW

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to remove disciplinary action from Maxine Jean-Louis's record.

Yettia Benn-Jasmine, LCSW

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to remove disciplinary action from Yettia Benn-Jasmine's record.

Douglas Roome, LCSW

Board members considered an email from Douglas Roome relative to extending the renewal period for at least three more months or until a COVID vaccine and medication are available.

Cassandra Smith, LCSW-BACS

Cassandra Smith suggested that the board read correspondence aloud during meetings so that the public understands the request, situation, etc. Board members advised Emily DeAngelo that correspondence can be uploaded with the agenda to the website for the public to read prior to the meeting.

Samantha LaRoque, LCSW

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to grant Samantha LaRoque an extension through June 30, 2021 to collect continuing education.

Linda Phillips, LCSW

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to grant Linda Phillips an extension through June 30, 2021 to collect continuing education.

Sonya Williams, RSW

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by E Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to grant Sonya Williams an extension through June 30, 2021 to collect continuing education.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to grant staff authority to approve extensions to those affected by Hurricane Laura through June 30, 2021 upon their written request for extension.

New Orleans Association of Black Social Workers

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the application to be a continuing education pre-approval organization submitted by New Orleans Association of Black Social Workers.

Tanya Stuart, Inc.

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve the application to be a continuing education pre-approval organization submitted by Tanya Stuart, Inc.

Integrated Social Services, LLC

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to approve the application to be a continuing education pre-approval organization submitted by Integrated Social Services, LLC.

Eleanor Wohl, LCSW

Eleanor Wohl submitted an email advising that she is setting up a private practice to provide therapy services, and that she is also wanting to provide services as a behavior management coach and personal trainer. Board members responded that behavior management is a social work intervention, so that type of coaching falls under her social work license. Ms. Wohl was advised that the personal training aspect could be considered an ethical violation according to Rule 113(B)(6). It was recommended that she consult with her malpractice insurance carrier or attorney regarding legal concerns.

Behavior Health Learning Collaborative, LLC

Motion was made Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve the 6.5 hour supervision workshop scheduled on November 11, 2020 to become a Board Approved Clinical Supervisor sponsored by Behavior Health Learning Collaborative, LLC.

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 59 retakes processed, 136 licenses issued/reissued due to score reports, 120 new applications, and 12 BACS applications. There are 133 licenses being monitored following disciplinary action. 3 Consent Agreement and Orders have been issued for unlicensed practice. 85 license verifications have been processed. Board members reviewed the turn-around time for the latest set of Supervision Contracts. Board members were also provided with a status report on all open complaints. Lastly, it was reported that as of October 1, 2020 there were 953 licenses with a status of lapsed in renewal.

Election for Vice-Chairperson

Evan Bergeron nominated Ruth Weinzettle as Vice-Chairperson.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to close nominations and nominate Ruth Weinzettle as Vice-Chairperson.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to amend agenda to include nominations for Secretary-Treasurer.

Evan Bergeron nominated LaTonya Charles as Secretary-Treasurer.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to close nominations and nominate LaTonya Charles as Secretary-Treasurer.

Set meeting dates for 2021

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to set the 2021 board meeting dates for January 22, February 26, March 26, April 23, June 4, July 16, August 20, September 17, October 29, and December 10.

Reciprocity agreement with Virginia

The board requested that Emily DeAngelo speak with Jaime Hoyle, Executive Director of the Virginia Board of Social Work about the board's interest.

Palliative Care Task Force meeting

Edgar Guedry reported that the task force met on August 20. They discussed the latest research and studies on the best approach for palliative care with payment sources and medical organizations.

Rules Committee – recommended revisions to §301

John Shalett thanked Evan Bergeron for accepting the role of chair for this committee.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to adopt the committee’s proposed changes to Rule 301 and to forward to Sheri Morris for her to determine legal sufficiency.

ASWB Delegate Assembly

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to appoint John Shalett as the board’s delegate.

CSW’s testing requirement

Testing availability remains limited and it is unknown if the governor’s proclamation that authorized a suspension of testing deadlines will be extended. It is recommended that a request be sent to the governor’s office requesting an extension of the proclamation and that the bills in the special session be reviewed to see if we can get something added on to a bill that would suspend testing deadlines.

FINANCIAL

Lease

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to authorize Emily DeAngelo to negotiate and sign new lease in consultation with John Shalett on behalf of the board.

Certemy and Covalent quotes for database services

Board members requested that Emily DeAngelo obtain a quote from a third company and provide a cost benefit analysis.

Impaired Professional Program

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

Disciplinary Monitoring Report

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to accept the staff’s recommendation to release individuals who have successfully completed the terms of their Consent Agreements and Orders.

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to grant Kendra Young an extension to complete the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order.

Complaints

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2017-87.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to set Administrative Complaint #2018-11 for hearing on January 22, 2021.

Motion was made by LaTonya Charles, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2019-151.

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to request that Madeline Carbonette proceed with prosecution of Complaint #2019-265.

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2020-23 with a letter of education.

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to refer Complaint #2020-78 back to Madeline Carbonette.

Motion was made by LaTonya Charles, seconded by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2020-92.

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2020-93.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to set Administrative Complaint #2020-113 for hearing on January 22, 2021.

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to rescind the previous motion to dismiss Complaint #2020-145 with a letter of education and to hold the matter open for further investigation.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2020-176.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2021-7.

Motion was made by LaTonya Charles, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2021-9.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2021-10.

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to continue the hearing in the matter of Administrative Complaint #2019-272 to November 6, 2020.

Motion was made Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to take Administrative Complaint numbers 2019-203, 2015-146 and 2019-249 under advisement and to consider a draft decision at the November 6, 2020 meeting.

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by LaTonya Charles and carried by majority vote, to approve the Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Sanctions in the matter of Administrative Complaint #2017-34. Hyacinth McKee abstained from the vote.

Compliance Hearings

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to reinstate Marissa Batie-Collier's credential upon receipt of criminal background check results that meet criteria for staff to approve application.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to reinstate Ashley Delavega's credential upon receipt of criminal background check results that meet criteria for staff to approve application.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to reinstate Alicia Norris's credential upon receipt of criminal background check results that meet criteria for staff to approve application.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to reinstate Lara Viator's credential upon receipt of criminal background check results that meet criteria for staff to approve application.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the application submitted by Renee Bias.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the application submitted by Dennis Dillon.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the application submitted by Antionette Washington.

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to approve the application submitted by Sierra Wright.

Consent Agreement and Orders

Motion was made by LaTonya Charles, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve Consent Agreement and Order #2018-55.

Motion was made by LaTonya Charles, seconded by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to approve Consent Agreement and Order #2019-260.

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to approve Consent Agreement and Order #2020-129.

Motion was made by LaTonya Charles, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve Consent Agreement and Order #2020-130.

Motion was made by LaTonya Charles, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve Consent Agreement and Order #2020-131.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to approve Consent Agreement and Order #2020-139.

Applications

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the LCSW application submitted by Sara Blomkalns and reinstate her license.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to request that Tiffany Woods submit a description of her day to day activities at DreamCatchers.

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to deny Robert Brisco's request that his LMSW be reinstated without testing, and to approve the application conditional of a Consent Agreement and Order for unlicensed practice.

Motion was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to approve the LCSW application submitted by Alisa Zachery and to issue her a license based on the meeting requirements for licensure to include passing the Clinical exam.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by LaTonya Charles and carried by majority vote, to approve the LMSW application submitted by Eloris Smith. Hyacinth McKee recused herself from the vote.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for Registered Social Work registration:

Bigard Jr., Brian	Flemings, Genintra
Braselman, Riana	Flowers, Keyshia
Bryant, Andrea	Frank-Ridgeway, Joyce
Dauphine, Krystal	Furlow, Jasmine
Diggs, Lacey	Holmes, Jennifer
Dugas, Charlesha	Jackson, Megan

Juluke, Denise
Newborne, Jamila
Merchant, Jordyn
Minifield, De'Angelo
Minor, Anebra
Phillips, DaVaughn
Riche, Shelby
Ritter, Autumn
Robertson-Delone, Rayshonka

Scott, Shawnderrick
Shief, Shaysa
Sims, Antoinette
Singer, Claire
Smith, Leesha
Wayne, Breanna
Williams, Meesha
Young, Lanhia

Motion was made by LaTonya Charles, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the Masters exam and to issue Certified Social Work certification:

Blackwood, Kaycee L.
Boreros, Marion I
Braun, Emily S.
Brumley, Bailey Z.
Coleman, Ashley S.
Duplantis, Claire
Elbert, Sydney A.
Elliot, Gisset
Fleming, Lindsey T.
Fontenot, Sondia F.

Govan Sykes, Ykeisha N.
Hollingsworth, Breona M.
Johnson, Da'jia L.
Jones, Toni J.
Perkins, John
Roque, Viola N.
Sanders, Courtney M.
Smith, Jessica
Williams, JeVannica B.
Williams, Naquandria D.

Motion was made by LaTonya Charles, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the Masters exam and to issue Certified Social Work certification upon receipt of official masters transcript:

Kalm, Jane
Pebbles, Kellie

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by LaTonya Charles and unanimously carried, to issue Licensed Master's Social Work through endorsement to the following applicants:

Green, Veronica (End-MS)
Hooper, Autumn Y. (End-MS)
Merola, Amanda (End-PA)

Motion was made by LaTonya Charles, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam:

Bardwell, Laurie M.
Bayham, Rachel L.
Billiot, Katrina D.
Brent, Tyler J.
Calvin, Clarence

Dawson, Rebecca L.
DeGroat, Taylor C.
Gilchrist, Jennifer W.
Humphrey, Dana
Kelleher, Catherine

Lorando, Thomas M.
Malone, DeAndra C.
Manning, Crystal M.
Maranto, Nathan M.
Martinez, Laura
Moore, Shakisha F.
Poencot, Nicole S.

Polk, Shayla V.
Shaw, Tiffany R.
Sherrard, Alice
Walker, Crystal A.
Williams, Bernadette M.
Williams, Mallori S.
Wilson, Marisa G.

Motion was made by LaTonya Charles, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to issue Licensed Clinical Social Work through endorsement to the following applicants:

Brooke, Sarah (Rein/End-OK)
Entrup, Erika (Rein/End-MA)
Gabriele, Samantha (End-NC)
Garrett III, Ernest
Hammond, Leigh (End-AL)
Litt, Anna (End-VA)
Mays, Rechele (End-FL)
Tryon, Megan (End-NC)

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to approve the renewal application submitted by Meghan Brave, LCSW.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.



John Shalett, LCSW-BACS
Chairperson



Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW-BACS
Secretary-Treasurer