

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
December 10, 2021**

Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:32am on Friday, December 10, 2021. The meeting was conducted at the Board office and streamed via 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.

Jamie Barney conducted roll call. Board members present at the time of roll call included Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW, Hyacinth McKee, LCSW, Carla Moore, LMSW, and Evan Bergeron, Consumer Member.

Ada Nelson, RSW, was absent.

AGENDA

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Carla Moore, and unanimously carried, to add Petition for Judicial Review.

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Hyacinth McKee, and unanimously carried, to approve the agenda with the addition of Petition for Judicial Review.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Emily DeAngelo provided explanation of public comments and continuing education. Public comment can be made during the meeting or submitted in advance of the meeting to edangelo@labswe.org. The public comment must pertain to an item on the agenda and persons are allowed two minutes per comment.

Attendees of the public portion of both meetings can obtain 1 hour of continuing education in ethics and 1 general hour of continuing education. A certificate will be available at <https://www.labswe.org/board-member-meetings-and-agendas/> for you to save and upload to next year's renewal workflow or in your digital wallet.

There was a public comment that was not related to the agenda. The Board advised that the questions asked during the public comment section should be made to the board staff.

MINUTES

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Hyacinth McKee an unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of the meeting held October 29, 2021. There were no public comments regarding the minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE

Kathryn Dietzway, LCSW

Kathryn Dietzway submitted an inquiry regarding working with a client with phobias and anxiety. Board members advised that they do not approve or disapprove interventions and that the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act does not exclude exposure therapy. The Rules, Standards and Procedures advise that a social worker must practice within their level of competency and Ms. Dietzway was referred to Rule 109(A)(2). In addition, she was reminded that a LMSW must be supervised by a LCSW when providing clinical services.

Tyler Fore, LMSW

Tyler Fore submitted an inquiry regarding social workers serving on disciplinary boards for the Department of Corrections creating dual relationships. Board members responded that they consider this a dual role rather than a dual relationship. Dual roles like this are common in school systems and group homes. The Board advised he should address his concerns within the agency.

Edmond Major, LCSW

Edmond Major submitted an inquiry regarding the total number of distance continuing education hours that will be allowed for 2022-2023. Distance continuing education hours for all 20 hours has been approved through June 30, 2022. Board tabled discussion until the January 14, 2022 meeting.

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention-LA Chapter

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Carla Moore to approve the application submitted by Meghan Goldbeck for American Foundation for Suicide Prevention to be a preapproved provider of CEUs. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Louisiana Child Welfare Training Academy

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Carla Moore to approve the application submitted by Jan Byland for Louisiana Child Welfare Training Academy to be a preapproved provider of CEUs. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

New Orleans Public Schools

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Carla Moore to approve the request submitted by Dr. Shannon Perry for NOLA Public Schools/Office of Student Support and Attendance to be a preapproved provider of CEUs. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

New Orleans Family Justice Center

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Evan Bergeron to approve the request submitted by Mary Claire Landry for New Orleans Family Justice Center to be a preapproved provider of CEUs. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Daybreak Therapy Solutions, LLC

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Carla Moore to approve the request submitted by Melissa Sepeda for Daybreak Therapy Solutions to be a preapproved provider of CEUs. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Serena Chaudhry, LCSW

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Hyacinth McKee to remove Serena Chaudhry's September 21, 2018 disciplinary flag from public view. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Benita Baucom, LCSW-BACS

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Carla Moore to approve the request submitted by Benita Baucom for 6.5 hour BACS workshop through December 31, 2022. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Traci Lilley, LCSW-BACS

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Carla Moore to approve the request submitted by Traci Lilley for 6.5 hour BACS workshop. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Kay Marley-Dilworth

Kay Marley-Dilworth submitted an inquiry regarding it being in the scope of LCSWs to order lab tests (drug screens). The Board refrained from issuing an opinion in a legal dispute.

Ava Manouchehri, LCSW

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Evan Bergeron to deny the request submitted by Ava Manouchehri to accept her score on the clinical exam. The board does not have the authority to take this action. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Allyson Pardue, LCSW-BACS

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Evan Bergeron to approve the request submitted by Allyson Pardue to supervise Portia Henderson, LCSW, in accordance with the Consent Agreement and Order. Jamie Barney recused herself from discussion and vote. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Center for Evidence to Practice

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee seconded by Ada Nelson to approve the request submitted by Eva Lessinger for her position as a Program Director of Family Justice System to count towards supervision. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Courtney Alvarez, LCSW

Courtney Alvarez made an inquiry regarding confidentiality and gang activity in a K-12 setting. The information provided does not appear to meet standard for Title 9 2800.2 Protection of Liability for Breaching Confidentiality. Ms. Alvarez was referred to Rule 115(B)(2) and 115(D)(4). She was also advised to research the school's policy and seek legal counsel from the school board's attorney. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Michael Miller, LCSW

Michael Miller submitted an inquiry regarding creating a LLC for private practice. Board advised that he seeks guidance from an attorney and avoid dual relationships in accordance with Title 46 Part XXV. 113(A) and 113(B). Advised to speak to Board staff regarding inquiry of ethics in Certemy.

BOARD/STAFF MATTERS

Office Workflow and Staffing

Emily DeAngelo provided a verbal report on office workflow and staffing.

- Currently does not have instructions from Certemy on getting a count of applications processed.
- Request to change office hours to 7:30am – 4pm. This would be beneficial to LABSWE Board Office Staff. Does not anticipate the request will harm licensees in any way.

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Evan Bergeron to change the office hours to 7:30am – 4:00pm effective January 1, 2022. There were nine public comments heard on this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Response from Certemy Relative to Contract

Two responses from Certemy relative to contract received (11/8/2021 and 12/6/2021). November 8, 2021 response responded to LABSWE problems with the system.

- “Ability to ensure that licensees maintain the same license number” and “Ability to assign license numbers consistent with LABSWE’s longstanding numbering system” - License numbers cannot be fixed. Our staff has to manually enter changes. Current LABSWE office staff has not issues with this.
- “Integrated payment system to eliminate the requirement that applicants and licensees pay licensing fees through a separate transaction and upload the payment receipt to the Certemy application”- Integration of credit card processing system, Authorize, with Certemy. New projection date of March 2022 is established. This is the third projected date provided by Certemy. This process was extremely problematic during the 2021 renewal.
- “Ability for participants to edit CEUs” and “ability for applicants and licensees to enter more than the required number of CEUs for the collection period” Entering CEUs. Emily DeAngelo provided Board Members review of workflow that is scheduled for rollout . Contract funds due and Certemy asking for a notice of Board’s intention by December 20, 2021.

- “December 6, 2021 letter from Certemy offering a discounted rate, reduction of \$7,500 for year 1 and year 2. because disciplinary module that was going to be ready in 2022 is on hold. There is not a date available for the rollout. A different disciplinary module is available.

Administrator and Counsel will follow-up with Certemy to discuss outstanding issues and payment.

FARB-2022 Annual Conference

FARB Conference will be held January 27-29, 2022 in Fort Worth, TX.

Motion by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Carla Moore for one LABSWE staff person to attend the FARB 2022 Annual Conference. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Report on ASWB Fall Delegate Assembly

- LABSWE represented in attendance by Emily DeAngelo at the entire meeting virtually; Ruth Weinzettle and Hyacinth McKee virtually on Thursday; Carla Moore attended as a member of the ASWB Board in person.
- Meetings will be in Arizona in Fall and Chicago in the Spring.
- 2021 Board of Directors Elections
 - Treasurer: Brian Philson, MI
 - Director at Large, Public Member: Thomas Brooks, MW
 - Director at Large, Licesed Social Worker: Glenda Webber, NL
 - Director at Large, Sharolyn Wallace, OK
 - Nominating Committee: Vikki Erikson, NV and Erin Michel, OH
- On December 9, 2021 ASWB decided to gather analyze and release performance data. ASWB staff and consultants will develop a plan to implement this important data sharing initiative. Broken down by demographic group as well as schools of social work. The information will be available to the schools and the Boards.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 11:05 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; Hyacinth McKee, yes; Carla Moore, yes; Evan Bergeron, yes; and Jamie Barney, yes.

Motion was made by Carla Moore seconded, by Hyacinth McKee and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 1:05 p.m.

Votes for coming out of Executive Session: Ruth Weinzettle, yes; Hyacinth McKee, yes; Carla Moore, yes; Evan Bergeron, yes; and Jamie Barney, yes.

Presentation of Consent Agreement and Order

Motion was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Carla Moore to accept the Consent Agreement and Order #2018-109. There were no public comments. The motion was unanimously carried.

Impaired Professional Program

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Carla Moore to accept the written IPP report provided by IPP Manager, Kathie Pohlman. There were no public comments. The motion was unanimously carried.

Disciplinary Monitoring Report

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Evan Bergeron to accept the disciplinary monitoring report provided by Emily DeAngelo and release 18 people from their Consent Agreement and Orders due to successfully meeting all requirements.

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Evan Bergeron to approve Kendra Braxton's request for a 90-day extension to make payment on her Consent Agreement and Order. There were no public comments. The motion was unanimously carried.

Complaints

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Carla Moore to dismiss complaint #2021-104 as recommended. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Evan Bergeron to dismiss complaint #2022-14 as recommended. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Applications

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Evan Bergeron to approve the LMSW by Endorsement/Reinstatement application submitted by Nancy Canterbury, MSW. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Motion made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Evan Bergeron to approve the LCSW by Endorsement application submitted by John Collins, MSW. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Motion made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Carla Moore to deny the LCSW application request submitted by Leslie Fluence, MSW and exclude the supervision hours for which contract submitted timely. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Evan Bergeron to approve the LCSW by Reinstatement application submitted by Linda Furgason, MSW. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Evan Bergeron to approve the RSW application submitted by Willynette Green conditional to a Consent Agreement and Order for unlicensed practice. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Carla Moore to approve the RSW by Reinstatement application submitted by Breanna Henry, BSW. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Motion made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Carla Moore to approve the application submitted by Tomika Mack, MSW and to approve application to sit for the ASWB Masters exam. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Motion made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Evan Bergeron to deny the RSW application submitted by Christopher McDowell, MSW and offer a compliance hearing. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Motion made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Evan Bergeron to approve the LCSW by Endorsement application submitted by Kristyn Neidermeyer, MSW. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Motion made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Evan Bergeron to deny the LCSW by Reinstatement application submitted by William O'Conner, MSW and offer a compliance hearing. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Carla Moore to approve the LMSW by Endorsement application submitted by Amanda Steele, MSW. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Evan Bergeron to approve the LCSW by Endorsement application submitted by Tonya Walton, MSW. There were no public comments relevant to this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for Registered Social Work. There were no public comments on this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Arnold, Staci
Bob, D'Nez
Bowman, Felicia
Briscoe, Najae
Brooks, Yolanda
Byrd, Sharnice
Calvaruso, Courtney

Cotton, Danielle
Easter, Latresha
Edwards, Shuneza
Gipson, Gabrielle
Griffin, Kendra
Harrison, Javaughni
Jeanpierre, Yasmine
Jordan, A'Drian
Joseph, Andrea
Kieffer, Chrystal
Richards, Rekailla
Sherman, Susannah
Thompson, AnDreanna
Wells, Jordan
Williams, Taheera
Williams, Tyisha

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Jamie Barney and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for Licensed Master's Social Work, issue Certified Social Work credential and approval to take the ASWB Masters exam. There was one public comment on this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Allen, Myra
Braddock, Debra
Burns, Alana
Cambias, Ryan
Chandler, Andrena
Clark, Bridget
Gaubert, Hannah
Johnston, Ramona
Nash, Destiny
Pinkston, Robin
Swent, Hunter
Whittaker, Shavanah
Wilkinson, Elisha
Williams, Allison

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Jamie Barney and unanimously carried, to approve the following endorsement applications for Licensed Master's Social Work. There were no public comments on this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

Adzema, Stefanie (End)
Brown, Ornisha (End)
Loughran, Susan (End)
Reed, Amber (End)
Robinson, Kolby (End)

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam. There were no public comments. The motion was unanimously carried.

Brown, Phyllis
Finesilver-Saunders, Sararose
Grant, Karissa
Grenda, Laura
Heintz, Mary
Jackson, Tia
Jackson Tobias, Jamecia
Kurr, Travers
Ortiz, Sam
Retter, Paige
Romero, Dacia
Slaughter, Chenise
Speaks, Charisse
Thomas, Freda
Toussaint, Alexis

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried, to approve the following endorsement applicants for LCSW. There were no public comments. The motion was unanimously carried.

Anderson, Alyssia (End)
Carney, Jeremy (End)
Embden, Alecia (End)
Geraghty, Pamela (End)
Hoffpauir, Randolph (End)
Lloyd, Kierra (End)
McCrary, Teresa (End/Rein)
Meza-Hernandez, Veronica (End)
Pollock, Naomi (End)
Vayda, Daniel (End)
Vincent, Hortensia (Rein)
Williams, Corey (End)
Williams, Kineta (End)

Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Evan Bergeron and unanimously carried to adjourn. There were no public comments. The motion was unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:19 p.m.

Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW-BACS
Chairperson

Jamie Barney, LCSW-BACS
Secretary-Treasurer