

**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners  
January 13, 2023**

Hyacinth McKee, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, January 13, 2023. The meeting was conducted at the Board office and streamed via video conference, and all interested parties were provided the information to join the meeting. Sheri Morris, Legal Counsel, and Emily DeAngelo, Administrator, were present for the meeting.

Bora Sunseri conducted roll call. Board members present at the time of roll call included Hyacinth McKee, LCSW, Melissa Smith Haley, LMSW, Bora Sunseri, LCSW, Trinity George, RSW, Jamie Barney, LCSW, Evan Bergeron, Esq., and Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW.

**AGENDA**

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle, and unanimously carried, to approve the agenda as presented.

Gina Rossi commented that the meeting recordings should be posted on the board's website.

**PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER**

James Raines presented a Consent Agreement and Order for Marjorie Muniz in resolution of Complaint #2022-19.

**Motion** was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Trinity George and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order for Marjorie Muniz.

**MINUTES**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2022 meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Vanessa Hadden, LCSW

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to remove the disciplinary flag from the website. Public comment was made by Michele Guidry and Tamica Dickson.

- b. Michael Keeper, BSW student

Michael Keeper recommended that continuing education in leadership be added to the continuing education requirements for social workers. Board members responded that this recommendation would need to be considered by the Interorganizational Committee (IOC) because it would require a change in the Practice Act.

- c. Kathleen North, LCSW-BACS  
**Motion** was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to remove the disciplinary flag from the website.
- d. LaScott Ellis, LMSW  
**Motion** was made by Bora Sunseri, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to approve position of Chief Operating Officer of Boys & Girls Clubs of North LA for supervision towards LCSW.  
Public comment was given by Cassandra Smith, Rebecca Chaisson, Gina Rossi, and Jennifer Hannon.
- e. Kayla Ogden, JD/MSW Candidate  
**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to deny Kayla Ogden's request to sit for the ASWB Masters exam prior to obtaining her MSW.
- f. Brandy Alexis, LMSW  
**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to defer to the next board meeting.

#### **REHEARING IN THE MATTER OF CAROLINE CARONNA**

Caroline Caronna's attorney, Elizabeth Carpenter, was present via zoom on behalf of her client. Ms. Caronna did not participate.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to accept the affidavit of Holly McKenney, LCSW-BACS, submitted by Ms. Carpenter. Jamie Barney chaired this hearing. Hyacinth McKee recused herself from the matter.

#### **FINANCIAL**

- a. Robert Furman, CPA, provided a report on the board's financial status as of June 30, 2022 and November 30, 2022. As of November 30<sup>th</sup> revenue was \$466,134.41 and expenses totaled \$265,621.86..
- b. Financial Statements – January 2022 – June 2022  
**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Evan Bergeron, and unanimously carried, to accept the financial statements. As of June 30<sup>th</sup> revenue was \$810,100.84 and expenses were \$633,911.86.
- c. **Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Evan Bergeron, and unanimously carried, to pay \$600.00 to exhibit at the NASW-LA Conference.
- d. **Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to offer Matthew Thomasee dba Statewide Security and Investigative Specialists a contract for investigative services at a rate of \$50.00 per hour and a maximum contract amount of \$20,000.00 and Kirk

Menard dba Advanced Investigative Technologies at a rate of \$40.00 per hour and a maximum contract amount of \$10,000.00.

### **BOARD/STAFF MATTERS**

- a. ASWB Exam Presentation – Stacey Hardy-Chandler, CEO, gave a presentation relative to exam development, recently released data, and incorporated answers to LABSWE’s pre-submitted questions. Other ASWB representatives on the Zoom presentation were Dale Atkinson (ASWB legal counsel), Lavina Harless (Sr. Director of Examination Services), Jennifer Henkel (Sr. Director of Member Engagement & Regulatory Services), and Carla Moore (Director at Large).
- b. Report on office workflow and staffing – report is attached.
- c. Rules Committee update  
The Board was advised that the Rules Committee is meeting on February 3, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- d. Continuing Education Ad-Hoc Committee  
The Board was advised that Trinity George is speaking to people about serving.
- e. Town Hall meeting  
The Board was advised that the second Town Hall meeting is February 2, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion** was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 11:51 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, Evan Bergeron, Esq., Jamie Barney, LCSW, yes; Bora Sunseri, LCSW, yes; Melissa Haley, yes; Trinity George, yes; and Hyacinth McKee, yes.

**Motion** was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 2:37 p.m.

Votes for coming out of Executive Session: Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW, yes, Evan Bergeron, Esq., Jamie Barney, LCSW, yes; Bora Sunseri, LCSW, yes; Melissa Haley, yes; Trinity George, yes; and Hyacinth McKee, yes.

### **Compliance Hearing**

LaShanda Ellis requested a compliance hearing to appeal the board's denial of her LMSW application. The hearing panel included Melissa Haley, Trinity George and Bora Sunseri.

**Motion** was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to approve LaShanda Ellis's application.

### **Impaired Professional Program**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron and seconded by Trinity George to accept the IPP report provided by IPP Manager, Kathie Pohlman. The motion was unanimously carried.

### **Disciplinary Monitoring Report**

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to release seven licensees from their Consent Agreement and Order for successfully completing the terms.

**Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to grant Le'Keidra Livingston an extension through April 21, 2023 to complete the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order.

### **Evaluation of Supervision**

**Motion** was made by Bora Sunseri, seconded by Evan Bergeron, and carried by majority vote, to approve the Evaluation of Supervision for JS submitted by PG. Jamie Barney and Trinity George voted against the motion.

### **Rule 117(E)**

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to amend the agenda to discuss Rule 117(E).

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to refer Rule 117(E) to the Rules Committee.

### **Complaints**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron and seconded by Ruth Weinzettle, to dismiss Complaint #2022-04. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle and seconded by Jamie Barney to dismiss Complaint #2022-32. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Bora Sunseri and seconded by Jamie Barney to dismiss Complaint #2022-41. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron and seconded by Melissa Haley to dismiss Complaint #2022-51 CW 2022-69. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Bora Sunseri and seconded by Trinity George to dismiss Complaint #2022-86 with a letter of education. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle and seconded by Melissa Haley to refer Complaint #2023-19 back for further investigation. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron and seconded by Melissa Haley to dismiss Complaint #2023-25. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron and seconded by Ruth Weinzettle to dismiss Complaint #2023-26. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron and seconded by Ruth Weinzettle to dismiss Complaint #2023-28. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Melissa Haley and seconded by Trinity George to dismiss Complaint #2023-49. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle and seconded by Evan Bergeron to refer Complaint #2023-53 back for further investigation. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle and seconded by Melissa Haley to dismiss Complaint #2023-58. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle and seconded by Melissa Haley to dismiss Complaint #2023-61. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle and seconded by Melissa Haley to dismiss Complaint #2023-62. The motion was unanimously carried.

### **Applications**

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Evan Bergeron, and unanimously carried, to deny the LCSW endorsement application submitted by Jane Griffin, to offer her a compliance hearing, and to issue approval to sit the ASWB Clinical exam.

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle, and unanimously carried, to deny the LCSW endorsement application submitted by Sonya Hensley, to offer her a compliance hearing, and to issue approval to sit the ASWB Clinical exam.

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Evan Bergeron, and unanimously carried, to deny the LMSW application submitted by Kenneth Jackson and to offer him a compliance hearing.

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle, and unanimously carried, to deny the LMSW application submitted by Calvin Pouncy and to offer him a compliance hearing.

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle, and unanimously carried, to deny the RSW application submitted by Brittney Williams and to offer her a compliance hearing.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to deny the LMSW reinstatement application submitted by Avril Knox, to offer her a compliance hearing, and to issue approval to sit the ASWB Masters exam.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for Registered Social Work.

Bourgeois, Ashley  
Burks, Ava Claire  
Cuartas, Natalia  
Hale, Kythaia  
Herrington, Tameka  
Hutto, Alexis  
Johnson, Chelsea  
Kochinsky, Alexis  
Love, Kiya  
Matthews, Elegra  
Mitchell, Eula  
Morris, Kourtnei  
Myers, LaTonya  
Nkadi, Shelita  
Parker, Paige  
Perry, Jasmine  
Riley, Tai  
Roberts, Brandi  
Smith, Amber  
Smith, Mya  
Strange, Melva  
Turner, Gabriella  
Williams, Annette

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to approve the following reinstatement applications for Registered Social Work.

Jackson, Andria  
Jackson, Tiffani  
Johnson, Sarah

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Trinity George, 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.

Albert, Morgan  
Alexander, Kylie  
Andrews, Savanna  
Baker, Melissa  
Bercegeay (Ratcliff), Jessie  
Betford, Tangela  
Brumfield, Terrienne Martin

Bullock, Abigail  
Chase, Kiara  
Coner, Aunjenee  
Corley, Victoria  
Day, Hannah  
Dillon, Skylar  
Drake, Mary  
Edwards, Christopher  
Elzy, Jerlissa  
Fruge, Madison  
Guthrie, Martha  
Holden, Antoinette  
Howard, Tirany  
Hunt, Amanda  
Huval, Kevin  
Ingram, William  
Jackson, Jr. Kenneth  
Knox, Avril  
Krasner, Darian  
Kuntz, Heather  
Laferte, Robert  
Laird, William  
Lo, Joanna  
Lord, Arianna  
McGoldrick, Matthew  
Moore, Elizabeth  
Pigott, Brittney  
Ridley, Sasha  
Rodriquez, Fatima  
Thomas, Marie  
Wallace, Tyrienne  
Wilson, Carrie  
Williams, Arlyndria

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to approve the following reinstatement applications for Licensed Master's Social Work.

Sanders, Shelia  
Silva, Anna

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Evan Bergeron, and unanimously carried, to approve the following endorsement applications for Licensed Master's Social Work.

Coffee, Tiffanie  
Corbett, Rebecca  
Eckert, Jennifer  
Fortin, Jennifer Vega

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam.

Blue, Jenita  
Ebarb, Adam  
Ellender, Ryan  
Ferrouillet, Ivan  
Francis, Keondra  
Frank, Danika  
Grunwald, Meaghan  
Harris, Jazzlyn  
Harrison, Felicia  
Haymon, Dakota  
Hill, Crystal  
Jackson, Courtney  
Martin, Anna  
Naomi, Rebekah  
Nevels, Melvin  
Nguyen, Khang  
Tamboli, Ashley  
Turner, Quintell Price  
Weaver, Gina  
Wilford, Tiera  
Williams, Jerrica

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to approve the following endorsement applicants for Licensed Clinical Social Work.

Ainsworth, Christy  
Cabanas, Bianca  
Carter, Chelsey  
Castleman, Tyler  
Cook, Natoya  
Eiselin, Hannah  
Gregg, Jean  
Judd, Ryan  
Kelly, Shijuan  
McLeod, Kamara  
Moore, Haley  
Morrison, Sharon  
Pruitt, Veronica  
Robinson, Yvette  
Sampson, Deidra  
Spurgeon, Michelle  
Smith, Ethan  
Thiesen, Laura

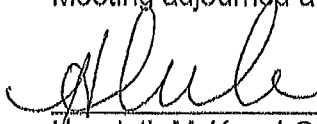


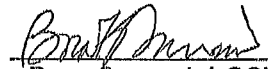
Trundy, Sonia

**Rehearing**

**Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle, and carried by majority vote, to uphold the denial of Caroline Caronna's LCSW application, to allow credit for October 9, 2021 and October 23, 2021, and to issue a letter of education to Holly McKenney. Hyacinth McKee was recused from this matter.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

  
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Hyacinth McKee, LCSW-BACS  
Chairperson

 LCSW-BACS  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bora Sunseri, LCSW-BACS  
Secretary-Treasurer

Workflow Report January 13, 2023

Since December 2nd meeting:

Processed 61 retake applications

Processed 21 BACS applications

Approved 44 Supervision Contracts, 33 Records of Supervision, 45 Evaluations, 36 Professional Experience Verifications

Processed 18 LMSWs following passing score on exam

Processed 23 LCSWs following passing score on exam

Processed 44 license verifications

Background checks received and mailed to LSP 35

Received 24 complaints between November 28, 2022 and January 9, 2023

- 12 requests for a written response

- 2 sent for investigation

- 3 pending review of complaint consultant

- 6 not accepted – not a social worker

- 1 not accepted – not a violation

Team Meeting with Lisa Lipsey and Jim Raines 12/15/22.

Received invoice from Certemy and mailed payment 12/29/22. Data will be delivered within 10 days of receipt of payment for the data request.

*This information is as of January 9, 2023.*