

Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, September 23, 2021

FINAL APPROVED: October 22, 2021

The meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (Board or LSBEP) was noticed, agenda certified, and signed by LSBEP Chairperson Amy Henke, posted, emailed to individuals and the news media who have requested to receive notices of LSBEP meetings, and widely distributed to every known news media outlet that broadcasts or publishes news within Louisiana through the Louisiana Press Association on September 21, 2021. The notice included information on how to join the meeting virtually via Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84112383863?pwd=Y3h6a0RlcmFwcmRDNjRdkIwcmRDdz09>

Meeting ID: 841 1238 3863 **Passcode:** 1mhp8P **One tap mobile:** +13126266799,,84112383863#,,,,,0#,,442710# US (Chicago) +19292056099, 84112383863#,,,,,0#,,442710# US (New York) **Dial by your location**+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago), +1 929 205 6099 US (New York), +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown), +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston), +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose), +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) **Meeting ID:** 841 1238 3863 **Passcode:** 442710 **Find your local number:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84112383863?pwd=Y3h6a0RlcmFwcmRDNjRdkIwcmRDdz09>

Board Chairperson, Dr. Gina Gibson, called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. on Thursday, September 23, 2021.

Attendance:

Board Member attending virtually: Dr. Gina Gibson, Dr. Gregory Gormanous, Dr. Michelle Moore Dr. Shannae Harness and Dr. Thomandra Shavaun Sam

Board Members Absent: Mr. Darren “Chance” McNeely

Staff Present: Executive Director, Jaime T. Monic and Compliance Officer, Justin Owens.

Guests Present for Open Meeting (partial attendance): Emily Dixon (La Legislative Auditors Office), Lauren Pendas ((La Legislative Auditors Office), Matthew Carlin (La Legislative Auditors Office), Dr. Richard Nilon (LPA), Dr. Melissa Lane, Sandy Hyatt, Philip Richard, Michael West and Karen Froming.

Dr. Gibson read the mission statement as follows, *“It is hereby declared that the creation of a state board of examiners of psychologists is necessary in order to safeguard life, health, property, and the public welfare of this state, and in order to protect the people of this state against unauthorized, unqualified, and improper application of psychology.”*

Dr. Gormanous requested that his statement of service be recorded into the minutes as follows, *“My serving on LSBEP is to ensure that consumers of psychological services are protected against any unqualified, harmful and unauthorized practice, application or use of psychology. My service is as a consumer advocate and educator. My service is not as a market participant.”*

Ms. Monic reminded board members to adhere to LSBEP’s policy for Video Meeting Decorum and to keep their video on to ensure a quorum. Ms. Monic advised that the meeting would run progressively through all Agenda Items with coffee breaks as needed and a formal lunch break from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Further that the Board would likely be in executive session at least until 2:30 p.m.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA Dr. Gormanous moved approve the agenda with a correction to Dr. Philip R. Richard’s specialty from Clinical “CL” to School “SC” and adding a file review under in Executive Session for Shannon Bierma, Ph.D.. The Board discussed the motion, the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the

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members present as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Moore, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Dr. Gormanous moved to enter Executive Session pursuant to LSA R.S.42:17.A(2) and (4) to discuss oral examinations. The Board discussed the motion, the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows: In favor: (4) Gibson, Gormanous, Moore, Harness; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (2) McNeely, Sam.

Dr. Gormanous moved to close Executive Session to enter the Open Meeting to report on and receive motions for Executive Session matters. The Board discussed this motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Moore, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely.

COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS:

1. Oral Examination Committee –

a. Oral Examination Committee Recommendations:

- i. **Melissa M. Lane, Psy.D.** appeared for examination in Executive Session via Video Conference at 8:30 a.m. before an LSBEP Examining Committee consisting of Drs. Gormanous, Moore and Sam. The Board discussed the results of the examination in executive session. Finding that **Dr. Lane** has met the qualifications for licensure, Dr. Gormanous moved that **Dr. Lane** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Moore, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely.
- ii. **Joseph W. Boffa, III, Ph.D.** appeared for examination in Executive Session via Video Conference at 8:30 a.m. before an LSBEP Examining Committee consisting of Drs. Gibson and Harness. The Board discussed the results of the examination in executive session. Finding that **Dr. Boffa** has met the qualifications for licensure, Dr. Gibson moved that **Dr. Boffa** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Moore, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely.
- iii. **Lillian A. Odera, Ph.D.** appeared for examination in Executive Session via Video Conference at 10:30 a.m. before an LSBEP Examining Committee consisting of Drs. Gormanous, Harness and Sam. The Board reviewed recorded examination and discussed the results of the examination in executive session. Finding that **Dr. Odera** had not met the qualifications for passing the Oral Examination, Dr. Harness moved that **Dr. Odera's** application be continued for a minimum of one year with additional feedback to be given to Dr. Odera regarding requirements for re-examination. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Moore, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely.
- iv. **Philip R. Richard, III, Ph.D.** appeared for examination in Executive Session via Video Conference at 10:30 a.m. before an LSBEP Examining Committee consisting of Drs. Gibson and Moore. The Board discussed the results of the examination in executive session. Finding that **Dr. Richard** has met the qualifications for licensure, Dr. Moore moved that **Dr. Richard** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Moore, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely.
- v. **Jeffry Luria, Ph.D.** appeared for examination in Executive Session via Video Conference at 12:30 p.m. before an LSBEP Examining Committee consisting of Drs. Gibson and Moore. The Board discussed the results of the examination in executive session. Finding that **Dr. Luria** has met the

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qualifications for licensure, Dr. Moore moved that **Dr. Luria** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Moore, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely.

- vi. **Sandy B. Hyatt, Psy.D.** appeared for examination in Executive Session via Video Conference at 12:30 p.m. before an LSBEP Examining Committee consisting of Drs. Gormanous and Sam. The Board discussed the results of the examination in executive session. Finding that **Dr. Hyatt** has met the qualifications for licensure, Dr. Gormanous moved that **Dr. Hyatt** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (1) Moore; Absent: (1) McNeely.
- vii. **Michael K. West, Psy.D.** appeared via Video Conference at 2:00 p.m. in Executive Session before Board members Gormanous and Harness for licensure via reciprocity as a Diplomat of the American Board of Professional Psychology. Finding that **Dr. West** has successfully completed the requirements for licensure, Dr. Gormanous moved that the Board grant **Dr. West** a license to practice psychology. The Board discussed this motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Moore, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely.
- viii. **Karen B. Froming, Ph.D.** appeared via Video Conference at 2:00 a.m. in Executive Session before Board members Gibson, Moore and Sam for licensure via reciprocity as a Diplomat of the American Board of Professional Psychology and holder of a Certificate of Professional Qualifications. Finding that **Dr. Froming** has successfully completed the requirements for licensure, Dr. Moore moved that the Board grant **Dr. Froming** a license to practice psychology. The Board discussed this motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Moore, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely.

Due to time constraints, Dr. Gormanous moved to take the agenda out of order to hear recommendations from the Supervision and Credentials Review Committee then move to the Discussion and Action Items and return to Committee reports if time permits. The Board discussed this motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Moore, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely.

2. Supervision/Credentials Committee –

a. Committee Recommendations: Dr. Moore reported on file reviews conducted in executive session as follows:

- i. Dr. Moore reported file reviews for applicants **Anne H. Lipscomb, Ph.D.** and **Claire O. Burns, Ph.D.** Finding that **Drs. Lipscomb** and **Burns** had submitted the documentation required for consideration of their Candidacy Status, Dr. Moore moved that the Candidacy Status of **Drs. Lipscomb** and **Burns** be affirmed and the Candidates admitted to the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology. The Board discussed this motion. In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Moore, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely.
- ii. **Venette C. Westhoven, Ph.D.** – Dr. Moore reviewed the Reciprocity Application for License of **Dr. Westhoven** as a holder of the Certificate of Professional Qualifications. Finding that **Dr. Westhoven's** documentation was complete, Dr. Moore moved that the candidacy status of **Dr. Westhoven** be confirmed and that the Board invite **Dr. Westhoven** to an Oral Examination with the board to complete the requirements for licensure. The Board discussed this motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Moore, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely.

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- iii. **Bern G. Lee, Ph.D.**– Dr. Moore reviewed the Application for License of **Dr. Lee**. Finding that **Dr. Lee’s** documentation was complete, Dr. Moore moved that the candidacy status of **Dr. Lee** be confirmed and that the Board invite **Dr. Lee** to complete the Oral Examination requirements for licensure. The Board discussed this motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Moore, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely.
- iv. **Jacqueline A. Philpot, Ph.D.**– Dr. Moore reviewed the Application for License of **Dr. Philpot**. Finding that **Dr. Philpot’s** documentation was complete, Dr. Moore moved that the candidacy status of **Dr. Philpot** be confirmed and that the Board invite **Dr. Philpot** to complete the Oral Examination requirements for licensure. The Board discussed this motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Moore, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely.
- v. **Margaret B. Powell, Ph.D.**– Dr. Moore reviewed the Application for License of **Dr. Powell**. Finding that **Dr. Powell’s** documentation was complete, Dr. Moore moved that the candidacy status of **Dr. Powell** be confirmed and that the Board invite **Dr. Powell** to complete the Oral Examination requirements for licensure. The Board discussed this motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Moore, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely.
- vi. **Shannon Bierma, Ph.D.**– Dr. Gormanous reviewed the Application for License of **Dr. Bierma**. Finding that **Dr. Bierma’s** documentation was complete, Dr. Gormanous moved that the candidacy status of **Dr. Bierma** be confirmed and that the Board invite **Dr. Bierma** to complete the Oral Examination requirements for licensure. The Board discussed this motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (1) Moore; Absent: (1) McNeely.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. **Review and Approval of Minutes: August 27, 2021-** This matter was tabled.
2. **ASPPB Meeting October 15 – 16, 2021; Voting Delegate Objectives** – Ms. Monic reported that ASPPB did has not yet sent any candidate statements for consideration. Ms. Monic also reported that during the registration process she was required to identify a Voting Delegate for our jurisdiction. Given that Dr. Gormanous planned to attend the entire meeting, she named him as the Voting Delegate for Louisiana. The Board discussed the meeting and attendance. Dr. Moore moved that the Board affirm Dr. Gormanous as the Voting Delegate for Louisiana. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Moore, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely.
3. **ASPPB Survey RE: Program Equivalent Guidelines/Toolkits** – Ms. Monic reported that ASPPB requested the Board’s participation in a survey regarding whether the Board would support ASPPB’s development of guidelines for *evaluating program equivalency*. The Board reviewed and completed the survey as a group during the meeting, answering that there would be no objection to ASPPB developing guidelines as a resource for its member jurisdictions; and affirming that it would consider sending a representative/volunteer to participate in an ASPPB workgroup on this topic.
4. **Next Meeting Dates and Location** – The Board discussed and confirmed the next regular board meeting dates as follows: October 22, 2021; November 12, 2021; December 10, 2021 (8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., respectively, prior and subsequent to LSBEP CPD Offering: “*Multicultural and Ethical Issues in psychology: The example of neuropsychological assessment of Spanish speakers*” by Antonio E. Puente, Ph.D.); and Thursday, January 20, 2022 – Friday, January 21, 2022 for Long Range Planning and Awards.

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The Board also discussed future options of hybrid (in-person/virtual) meetings to accommodate the continued participation of board members who may be considered high-risk. Ms. Monic agreed to follow up with the Division of Administration on their position.

5. **Staff Development: Administrative Assistant Position** – Dr. Gormanous requested this item be docketed for update. Ms. Monic reported the reason for delaying this hire was due to the continuing financial position of the Board explaining that rulemaking initiatives were not in place to allow the Board to begin collecting new revenue to support a new hire. Additionally explaining that the difference from the original plan for adding an in-house attorney involved moving currently available funds designated for the current contract position into an employee position. Dr. Gormanous moved to reaffirm hiring an administrative assistant to assist with the operations of the Board. The Board discussed this motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (1) Moore; Absent: (1) McNeely.
6. **Proposal from Healthcare Professionals' Foundation of Louisiana** – Ms. Monic reported that following the Board's last meeting she did not have clear direction on whether or not the Board wanted to continue to consider a contract with HPFL. The Board discussed this matter and some members expressed that there were still outstanding questions related to HPFL's organization structure and demographics. Dr. Gormanous moved to designate Dr. Gibson and Ms. Monic to continue to vet the organization and report back to the Board with recommendations. The Board discussed this motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows: In favor: (5) Gibson, Gormanous, Harness, Sam; Against: (0); Abstained: (1) Moore; Absent: (1) McNeely. Dr. Gibson requested individual Board members review the material previously provided and let Ms. Monic know if individual members had specific questions or concerns that they should address.
7. **LSBEP Policy and Procedure: Board meetings/functions/frequency of meetings** – The Board briefly discussed this topic. Ms. Monic outlined potential delegations that the Board could consider in order to move forward with the initiative of reorganizing board meeting dates; facilitating productivity during Board Meetings; and streamlining the overall functioning of the agency. Ms. Monic suggested that each Board Member review the duties and responsibilities under their respective committees and bring forth recommendations for policy changes for the Board's consideration. Ms. Monic explained that this is not unlike what the Board already does with file reviews, oral examination scheduling, licensing determinations, and etc., however new policy is required to move things forward outside of monthly meetings toward a model where individual members of the Board would be delegated more authority and then the full Board would review a consent agenda at regularly scheduled meetings. Only formally scheduling a discussion for recommendations that may negatively impact an individual.

At 4:33 p.m. the Board did not a quorum to continue. The meeting adjourned. The following items were not considered and will be taken up on October 22, 2021: Board Meeting Minutes August 27, 2021; Financial Statements through July 31, 2021 and August 31, 2021; Annual Financial Report for FYE 6/30/2021.

LEGAL NOTICES

LA R.S. 42.14.D. Public comments** – In accordance with LA R.S. 42.14.D., the LSBEP shall allow public comments at any point in the meeting prior to action on an agenda item upon which a vote is to be taken. Individuals who wish to comment on a matter must sign in and state their intent to comment on a matter.

La. R.S. 44:33.1 - In compliance with La. R.S. 44:33.1, the LSBEP hereby gives notice that information submitted to the LSBEP may become public record pursuant to the provisions of Louisiana Public Records Law, La. R.S. 44:1, et seq.

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