

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING
17373 PERKINS ROAD
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70810**

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 16, 2022 BOARD MEETING

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by T. Kindall, President, and Presiding Officer, on Thursday, June 16, 2022, at the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, 17373 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810.

Roll Call: The following Board members were in attendance:
Tavell Kindall, PhD, DNP, APRN, FNP, President and Presiding Officer
Tracey Moffatt, MHA, BSN, RN, Vice President
Jennifer Manning, DNS, APRN, CNS, CNE, Alternate Officer
Denise Bottcher
Ann Carruth, DNS, RN
Jennifer Couvillon, PhD, RN-BC, CNE
Teresita McNabb, RN, MHA
Wendi Palermo, PhD, RN
Frederick Pinkney, EdD
Mimi Primeaux, MS, BSN, CRNA (virtually)
Deborah Spann, MSN, RN-BC, CEN, FAEN

The following staff members were in attendance:
Karen C. Lyon, PhD, MBA, APRN-CNS, NEA, Executive Director/CEO
Isonel Brown, MS, MBA, Chief Administrative Officer
Wanda Matthews, MPA, Chief Compliance Officer
Carrie LeBlanc Jones, JD, MBA, Chief Legal Officer/General Counsel
Monique Calmes, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, Licensure and Practice Director
Urhonda Beckwith, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC, RNP Director
Nicole Battle, CI Team Leader
Geneva Carter, MSN, APRN, RNCO-Team Leader
Lauren Papillion, JD, Prosecuting Attorney
Tarneisha Scott, BA, CAA, Executive Assistant to CEO
Suzanne C. Armand, CCR, CVR (virtually)

Dr. Lyon reported that under the Office of the Executive Director/CEO, Agenda Item 3.3 has been removed.

Adoption of the Agenda

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, to adopt the Agenda as amended.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2022 Board Meeting.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

1. Consent Agenda Motions

1. LSBN Staff Program Status Reports

- 1. NCLEX Report
- 2. Accreditation Reports

2. Approved Program Reports

- 1. University of Holy Cross - ACEN
- 2. Grambling State University - CCNE

3. Education Announcements

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, to accept the Consent Agenda Motions.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

2. Division Reports

Agenda Item 2.1

Division of Nursing Practice

Agenda Item 2.1.1

Chief Nursing Officer

Agenda Item 2.1.2

Education and Examination

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1

Grambling State University – Interim Report

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended acceptance.

Dr. Rikki Murff, Assistant Professor of Nursing and Dr. Meg Brown, Associate Dean/Professor, Grambling State University, were present to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, that the Board accept Grambling State University’s interim report and action plan regarding the Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2
Probationary Status Reports

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2.1
Bossier Parish Community College

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended acceptance.

Ms. Cathy Maddry, Associate Dean of Nursing, Bossier Parish Community College, was present to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board accept Bossier Parish Community College's report and action plan regarding the probationary status of the Associate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2.2
Louisiana Christian University

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended acceptance.

Dr. JoAnn M. Brown, Assistant Professor of Nursing and Interim Chief Administrative Officer for Louisiana Christian University, Dr. Alicia Newell, Dean of Nursing and Dr. Karen Sicard, Professor of Nursing, William Carry University, and Dr. Cheryl D. Clark, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Louisiana Christian University, were present (virtually) to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board accept Louisiana Christian University's report and action plan regarding the probationary status of the Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2.3
Southern University Baton Rouge - BSN

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended acceptance.

Dr. Sandra Brown, Associate Dean of Nursing & Chief Nursing Officer, Southern University Baton Rouge, was present to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, that the Board accept Southern University at Baton Rouge's report and action plan regarding the probationary status of the Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2.4

South Louisiana Community College

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended acceptance.

Dr. Carry DeAtley, Dean of Nursing and Allied Health, Graci-Ana Breaux, Instructor, Allied Health Registered Nursing Program, and Dr. Elaine Vallette, Interim Chief Nursing Officer, South Louisiana Community College, were present to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board accept South Louisiana Community College’s report and action plan regarding the probationary status of the Associate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.3

New Louisiana Programs

Agenda Item 2.1.2.3.1

Southern University at New Orleans – Step II, Initiation of a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Education Degree Program: Step II Initial Approval

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended approval.

Dr. James H. Ammons, Jr, Chancellor and Dr. Kelly D. Smith, Assistant Professor, Interim Chair, Chief Administrative Officer, Southern University New Orleans, were present to provide information, and to answer questions by Board members.

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, that the Board approve Step II from Southern University at New Orleans to establish a baccalaureate of science in nursing education degree program and grant initial approval.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.3.2

Northshore Technical Community College’s Initiation of an Associate of Science in Nursing Education Degree Program.

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended acceptance.

Dr. William Wainwright, Chancellor, Dr. Christi Marceaux, Dean of Health Sciences, Northshore Technical Community College, were present to provide information, and to answer questions by Board members.

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, that the Board accept the letter of intent and feasibility study from Northshore Technical Community College and approve Step I to reestablish an Associate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

And further, that the Board instruct Northshore Technical Community College to provide LSBN Staff evidence of approval from Louisiana Board of Regents prior to initiation for Step II to establish the Associate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.4
Major Substantive Changes

Agenda Item 2.1.2.4.1
Loyola University

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended approval.

Dr. Cherie Burke, Director of the School of Nursing and Dr. Michelle Collins, Dean of Nursing and Health, Loyola University New Orleans, were present to provide information, and to answer questions by Board members.

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, that the Board approve the major substantive change request from Loyola University to add the Post Master's Family Nurse Practitioner (PMFNPC) certificate role and population to the currently approved Master of Science in Nursing program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.4.2
Texas Wesleyan University

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended approval.

Dr. Denise DeLaRosa, Assistant Professor of Family Nurse Practitioner, Texas Wesleyan University, was present (virtually) to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board approve the addition of a Family Nurse Practitioner MSN and post-master's certificate program of study to the currently approved MSNA CRNA role/population at Texas Wesleyan University.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.5
Request for Program Expansion

Agenda Item 2.1.2.5.1
Fletcher Technical Community College's Request for Approval of an Off-Campus Site of the Associate of Science in Nursing Program in Alexandria

Dr. Kindall welcomed the nursing students from Fletcher Technical Community College who participated virtually.

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended approval.

Dr. Danielle Vauclin, Dean College of Nursing and Allied Health and Allison Adams, Department Head of Nursing, Fletcher Technical Community College, were present to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board approve the request of Fletcher Technical Community College (FTCC) to establish an off-campus location of the LPN to RN program at Central Louisiana Technical Community College in Alexandria, LA.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Dr. Lyon reported to the Board that for Bossier Parish Community Associate Degree program from January 1st to June 15th first time testers' pass rate is at 93.44%; Louisiana Christian University is at 60%; Southern University Baccalaureate Program is at 70.91%; South Louisiana Community College is 100%.

Agenda Item 2.1.3 **Licensure and Practice**

Agenda Item 2.1.3.1 **Hemodialysis Technicians Declaratory Order Request**

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Calmes. Recommended approval.

Ms. Lisa Fontenot, Regional Vice President of Fresenius Kidney Care, Ms. Malinda Buentello, Davita Dialysis, and Ms. Wendy Schrag, (virtually) Director of Advocacy & State Government Affairs, Fresenius Medical Care, were present to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

Motion: by J. Couvillon, seconded, approve board staff revising the Declaratory Statement on the Role and Scope of Practice of the Registered Nurse in Dialysis Nursing in Renal Dialysis Centers and Facilities to allow RNs to delegate initiation and termination of dialysis treatments using a central venous catheter (CVC) and perform exit site dressing changes in the out-patient dialysis setting to properly trained Certified Clinical Hemodialysis Technicians in Louisiana.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

(Break)

(Dr. Kindall called the meeting back to order.)

Unfinished Business

BSN Exception Task Force

At the April 14, 2022 Board meeting, a Task Force was formed to discuss increasing the percentage of BSN Exceptions allotted in a nursing education degree program to address the faculty shortage in Louisiana.

Dr. Palermo thanked the Task Force members who volunteered to serve to take a critical look and evaluate lots of metrics including the Louisiana Workforce Commission, the Nurses Supply and Demand information included in the LSBN Annual Report.

The recommendation from the Task Force was to revise the Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC) regarding BSN Faculty exceptions.

The recommended language to revise LAC regarding BSN Faculty is: That LSBN Approved Schools of Nursing may employ faculty; with their highest degree earned being BSN preparation as permitted by national accreditation which aligns program outcomes with quality indicators. The rationale is that Schools of Nursing Approved in Louisiana offer student learning experiences in varied settings and BSN-prepared nurses can prepare student nurses for patient care. Quality indicators remain un-changed: All LSBN Schools of Nursing are approved by LSBN and School of Nursing faculty are approved by LSBN.

The 80% pass rate for first-time test takers for NCLEX-RN remains.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the recommendation from the BSN Exception Task Force.

Joining the discussion were Dr. Cheryl D. Clark, Provost at Louisiana Christian University, (virtually), Ms. Traci Thibodeaux, Chief Executive Officer at Beauregard Health System, Dr. Michelle Dennis, Dean of Nursing and Allied Health at Baton Rouge Community College, Dr. Catherine Cormier, Chair of LSU Alexandria's Nursing Department (virtually), and Dr. Deborah Garbee, Associate Dean Professional Services, LSU Health New Orleans' School of Nursing, (virtually).

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, that the Louisiana State Board of Nursing accepts the Recommendation from the BSN Exception Task Force as written and commission the Task Force to further evaluate guardrails and parameters around BSN faculty and make a further recommendation to the Board in preparation for a potential rule change.

Discussions ensued regarding the motion.

The Motion was rescinded by Ms. Moffatt and the seconder, Ms. Couvillon.

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, that the LSBN approved Schools of Nursing may employ faculty with their highest degree earned being BSN preparation as permitted by National and Regional accreditation which aligns program outcomes with quality indicators. Rationale: Schools of Nursing approved in Louisiana to offer student learning experiences in various settings and BSN-prepared nurses can prepare student nurses for patient care. Furthermore, the Task Force will reconvene to establish and identify

guardrails regarding BSN faculty and make further recommendations in preparation for rule change. Quality indicators will remain unchanged. All LSBN accredited Schools of Nursing and Schools of Nursing faculty are approved by the LSBN. Eighty percent pass rate for first-time test takers for NCLEX remains.

Voice Vote: D. Botcher-yes; A. Carruth-no; J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-no; J. Manning-no; T. McNabb-no; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-no; D. Spann-yes

Dr. Lyon stated that the ayes are five and the nays are five.

Dr. Kindal stated that the Board will recess on the issue.

(Break)

(Dr. Kindall called the meeting back to order.)

Dr. Lyon stated that the information from Robert's Rules state that a majority vote is normally required to adopt a motion. A majority vote is defined as more than half of the votes cast by persons entitled to vote. The President is entitled to vote and votes at every meeting. Therefore; a majority did not support this motion, so the motion does not pass.

Discussion followed to gather clarity and direction from the Board as to what the Task Force is being asked to bring back to the August 11, 2022 Board meeting.

Dr. Palermo stated that the meeting of the BSN Exception Task Force was an open meeting. There were people from the public and many of the schools joined and listened in and there was plenty of opportunity to hear from everyone through Microsoft TEAMS.

Discussion followed as to the Open Meetings Law.

C. Jones stated that since the public health emergency is over, all committee meetings should be in person.

Discussion ensued regarding the FTE language.

Agenda Item 2.2
Compliance Division

Agenda Item 2.2.1
Chief Compliance Officer

No Report

Agenda Item 2.2.2
RNP/Monitoring

No Report

Agenda Item 2.2.3
Compliance

No Report

Agenda Item 2.3
Division of Administration

Agenda Item 2.3.1
Chief Administrative Officer

Agenda Item 2.3.1.1
Contract for Professional Legal Services

Ms. Brown reported that LSBN received a voluntary termination of contract from Rutledge Law Firm LLC with an effective date of April 4, 2022. Carrie Jones, Chief Legal Officer, recommends that the Board considers the Devillier Law Firm, LLC to serve as special counsel. The proposed contract is for \$30,000 for one year for the Fiscal Year starting July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

Motion: by F. Pinkney, seconded, that the Board accepts and approves the LSBN Board Resolution for contractual legal services with Devillier Law Firm, LLC as special counsel.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.3.1.2
CE Broker – Follow up

After an extensive analysis of how CE Broker services would benefit the LSBN, Chief Brown recommended that the Board not enter into any contractual agreement or memorandum of understanding with CE Broker. She further stated that if a future business need justifies a change in LSBN's CE Audit processes, staff will secure those services through a formal RFP or a process open to all potential vendors that could satisfy that need.

Dr. Kindall recommended that Chief Brown send out a letter to CE Broker informing them of the Board's decision.

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, that the Board accepts the recommendation of Chief Brown.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.3.2
Information Technology

No Report

Agenda Item 2.3.3.
Human Resources

No Report.

Agenda Item 2.3.4
Administrative Services

No Report

Agenda Item 2.4.
Department of Legal Affairs

Agenda Item 2.4.1
Chief Legal Officer

No Report

Agenda Item 2.4.2
Hearings

No Report

3. Office of the Executive Director/CEO

Agenda Item 3.1
2021 Nurse Supply Report

Dr. Lyon presented the 2021 Nurse Supply Report to the Board. Dr. Lyon thanked Ms. Sarah Luneau for her help in getting the Report completed which includes the Snapshot of both the Nursing Education Capacity and the Nursing Supply in Louisiana. Report is attached.

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board accepts the 2021 Nurse Supply Report.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 3.2
2021 Newly Licensed Registered Nurse Survey Report

Dr. Lyon presented the 2021 Newly Licensed Registered Nurse Survey Report to the Board. Dr. Lyon recommended Board members go through the narrative comments in the Report. Report attached.

Ms. Spann commented that this was an important report and was very appreciative of it being put together.

Dr. Lyon recognized Ms. Luneau for her work in assembling the Report.

Motion: by J. Couvillon, seconded, that the Board accepts the 2021 Newly Licensed Registered Nurse Survey Report.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

4. Reports

Agenda Item 4.1

Report of the President

Report Posted.

Agenda Item 4.2

Report of the Vice President

Report Posted

Agenda Item 4.3

Report of the Executive Director

Report Posted.

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, to accept the report of the President, Vice President, and the CEO/Executive Director as submitted.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

5. Professional Development

Nothing presented.

6. National Council State Boards of Nursing

Agenda Item 6.1

International Availability of the NCLEX-RN Examination

For the Board's information, Dr. Lyon commented that a letter was sent to her from an individual from West Jefferson Medical Center regarding international nurses requesting to increase the availability of international nurse candidates for taking the NCLEX exam at Pearson VUE.

Dr. Lyon notified Dr. Philip Dickison, Chief Operating Officer for NCSBN, who reported that Pearson VUE has opened all its testing seat capacity for testing centers for the international candidates. There is no shortage of candidate testing availability dates. Those candidates can test within 45 days of receiving their authorization to test.

This individual also stated that there is a need to identify different testing and virtual environments . Dr. Lyon commented that NCLEX RN and NCLEX PN are not only the most psychometrically sound examinations offered but also safe and secure because of security measures taken. NCSBN is constantly looking for ways to offer a virtual testing environment in the future that could include the same security and that is being investigated. At the present time, there is not a virtual testing platform that can meet NCSBN's stringent testing standards.

Dr. Lyon reported that they are not permitting international nurses to take the NCLEX and have nothing to do with whether they can get a seat at a Pearson VUE testing site.

Dr. Lyon stated that she is the Board liaison for NCSBN's Board to the NCLEX Examination Committee. In April of 2023, the Next Generation NCLEX examination will be rolling out . In an effort for feedback, Dr. Lyon was able to take the test along with other staff who volunteered to take the new exam throughout the United States.

8. Public Comments

Ms. Annette M. Rousseau, MBA, RN, addressed the Board regarding COVID and Vaccination Resources.

9. Executive Session

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, to go into Executive Session for the purposes of hearing the Report on Litigation and Personnel Issues.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

After returning from Executive Session, the Board Meeting was adjourned.

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

**T. KINDALL, PRESIDENT and PRESIDING OFFICER
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING**