

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

**MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 2, 2021 BOARD MEETING**

**Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by T. Kindall, President and Presiding Officer, on Thursday, December 2, 2021, 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  
Tim Cotita, RN, BSN, MSHCE  
Jennifer Couvillon, PhD, RN-BC, CNE  
Kenneth Alexander, MS, RRT  
Ann Carruth, DNS, RN  
Wendi Palermo, PhD, RN  
Frederick Pinkney, EdD  
Mimi Primeaux, MS, BSN, CRNA  
Teresita McNabb, RN, MHA

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  
Jennifer Wright, DNP, APRN, FNP<sub>BC</sub>, Chief Nursing Officer/Interim Education & Exam Director  
Carrie LeBlanc Jones, JD, MBA, Chief Legal Officer/General Counsel  
Monique Calmes, DNP, APRN, FNP<sub>C</sub>, Licensure and Practice Director  
Urhonda Beckwith, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC, RNP Director  
Katrina Duncan, BS, Accounting Manager  
Carl Nagin, BSCS, Technology Manager  
LaQueda Ricks, Human Resource Manager  
Geneva Carter, MSN, APRN, RNCO-Team Leader  
Marcia Carter, Administrative Assistant to CEO  
Suzanne C. Armand, CCR-CVR, Court Reporter

**Adoption of the Agenda**

**Motion:** by K. Alexander, seconded, to adopt the Agenda as presented with the ability to rearrange the Agenda items for efficiency.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;  
T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes;  
M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion:** by T. Moffatt, seconded, to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2021 Board Meeting.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;  
T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes;  
M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

**1. Consent Agenda Motions**

1. LSBN Staff Program Status Reports
  1. NCLEX Reports
  2. Accreditation Reports
2. Approved Program Reports
  1. Baton Rouge General Medical Center's School of Nursing- ACEN
  2. Louisiana Tech University- ACEN
  3. LSU at Alexandria-ACEN
  4. LSU Health Science Center- Program Expansion (RN-BSN and Nurse Educator-MSN)
3. Education Announcements

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

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;  
T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes;  
M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

**2. Division Reports**

**Agenda Item 2.1**

**Division of Nursing Practice**

**Agenda Item 2.1.1**

**Chief Nursing Officer**

Dr. Wright reported that the Division of Nursing through the year has exemplified adaptability and strength. They have upheld the mission of the agency and management of telework. They continue to cross train with the goal of being first-in, first-out to work more efficiently and to work as a team. This has helped expand the skills of the staff and allows them to also proceed on career progression paths.

As previously reported, a new credential evaluation service for Internationally Educated Nurses was approved.

They were able to assist in the transition of the Louisiana Center for Nursing to be under Dr. Lyon and were able to attend the Louisiana Action Coalition meetings until they identified a new co-lead.

Dr. Wright has contributed articles for the Examiner throughout the year as well as the Health Care Journal article and the Nurse Practitioner Journal. The NP Journal provides legislative updates and Dr. Wright writes articles on a regular basis.

The Division of Nursing staff also collaborate with Investigations, especially on closure of APRN and practice-related cases.

Dr. Wright reported she was able to assist and collaborate with some of their stakeholders on legislative activities.

Dr. Wright has been a part of a few stakeholder meetings and groups, including The National Forum of State Nursing Workforce, NCSBN (National Council State Boards of Nursing) conferences, NCLEX meetings, Nurse Licensure Compact meetings. Dr. Wright is on the Policy Committee for the Nurse Licensure Compact.

Dr. Wright has spoken, virtually and in person, at some universities and facilities.

Dr. Wright was available for questions.

## **Agenda Item 2.1.2** **Education and Examination**

### **Agenda Item 2.1.2.1** **Request For New Programs in Louisiana**

#### **Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.1** **Grambling State University - Full Approval**

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

Dr. Meg Brown, Associate Dean, Dr. Rikki Murff, Interim BSN, Program Director, and Dr. Richard Gallot, Jr., President, Grambling State University, were present to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

**Motion:** by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board accept the request for consideration of full approval for the Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing program at Grambling State University.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes; M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

**Motion:** by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board grant continued initial approval for the Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing program at Grambling State University until September 1, 2022 as provided for in LAC 46:XLVII:3533.B.10.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes; M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

**Motion:** by W. Palermo, seconded, that the Board instruct the Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing program at Grambling State University to submit interim progress reports to include changes or review of curriculum, pertinent educational strategies, status of the cohorts and faculty, NCLEX-RN pass rates at subsequent 2022 LSBN Board meetings.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes; M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

Dr. Lyon congratulated Dr. Gallot on Grambling State University's CCNE initial accreditation for a new program.

**Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.2**

**DILLARD UNIVERSITY- STEP III**

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

Dr. Sharon W. Hutchinson, Dean, and Dr. Yolanda Page, Vice-President for Academic Affairs, Dillard University, were present virtually to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

Dr. Palermo offered her congratulations to Dr. Hutchinson and Dillard University.

**Motion:** by W. Palermo, seconded, that the Board approve Step III to establish a Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing education degree program and grant full approval to Dillard University's College of Nursing.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes; M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

**Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.3**

LSU Health Sciences Center – Program Expansion (CARE)

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

Dr. Linda Ledet, Assistant Professor of Clinical Nursing, LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans, was present to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

**Motion:** by K. Alexander, seconded, that the Board approve the request of LSU Health New Orleans to establish the Career Alternative RN Education (CARE) program as an off-campus instructional site at the Louisiana State University Health Shreveport campus.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-recused; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes; M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

In appreciation for their service and contribution to the nursing profession, Dr. Lyon recognized Dr. Jennifer Couvillon, Dr. Jennifer Manning, and Ms. Tracey Moffatt for completing their first four-year term on the Board.

Dr. Lyon recognized and thanked Mr. Tim Cotita for his service and contribution to the nursing profession for completing his second four-year term on the Board.

Dr. Lyon recognized and thanked Mr. Ken Alexander, who was the Board's first public member, for completing his first term. Mr. Alexander is retiring and moving to Houston, Texas.

(Break)

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

**Agenda Item 2.1.2.2**

**Request for Out-of-State Graduate Clinical Experiences in Louisiana**

**Agenda Item 2.1.2.2.1**

## **Fletcher Technical Community College**

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

Ms. Allison Adams, Department Head of Nursing/Assistant Professor of Nursing & Allied Health, Fletcher Technical College, was present to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

**Motion:** by J. Manning, that the Board approve the major substantive change notification from Fletcher Technical Community College of the change in major clinical facility.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes; M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

### **Agenda Item 2.1.2.3**

#### **Request for Out-of-State Graduate Clinical Experiences in Louisiana**

##### **Agenda Item 2.1.2.3.1**

##### **George Mason University**

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

Discussion ensued regarding the level of supervision with the out-of-state students in the state.

**Motion:** by T. McNabb, seconded, that the Board approve the request of George Mason University to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until December 2, 2024 for the following roles/population:

Family Nurse Practitioner (MSN)

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes; M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

Dr. Kindall stated that there could be a discussion later as it relates to forming a committee to address the Board's concerns regarding out-of-state graduate programs.

Ms. Moffatt requested that this be put on the agenda for the February Board meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding gaining additional clarification for future discussion.

Dr. Kindall stated that he will have a discussion with Dr. Lyon and Dr. Wright or perhaps having this matter put on the agenda for the February meeting.

### **Agenda Item 2.1.3**

#### **Licensure and Practice**

Dr. Calmes reported that they continue their mission to prioritize timely and efficient licensing to contribute to their nursing workforce. Dr. Calmes stated that they could not accomplish their work without the department working as a team.

They have begun experiencing an increase in the number of inquiries and call volume due to this year being composed of a larger number of the licensees needing to renew. Dr. Calmes asked that the RNs be mindful of their date to renew.

During 2021, Dr. Calmes attended NCSBN mid-year annual meetings, scientific symposium and APRN roundtable virtually. They provided presentations to six schools virtually and attended eight additional NLC (Nurse Licensure Compact) trainings.

Dr. Calmes reported that during this renewal cycle, Board staff are in the process of completing the legislative mandate of Senate Bill 55 Act 76. Dr. Calmes stated that the APRN license is blocked from renewing until APRNs with controlled substance privileges get the Continuing Education requirements of the legislative mandate processed. Out of a little over 1600 APRNs impacted by this, Dr. Calmes reported they have currently collected documents from approximately 800.

Dr. Calmes was available for questions from Board members.

Dr. Kindall commended Dr. Calmes and her department for making these renewals happen.

### **Agenda Item 2.2**

#### **Compliance Division**

#### **Agenda Item 2.2.1**

##### **Chief Compliance Officer**

As previously reported, Ms. Matthews has worked in collaboration with Chief Jones on multiple projects. They worked on cross-divisional training with the Compliance and Hearings Department staff related to the Investigative Report and the hearing's testimony. They established a team of two Compliance Department staff members and one Legal Department staff member to revise the Investigative Report and create an Activity Log for notes for the investigators and the case managers. They also revised the Consent Order Template.

Professional development training was provided for Board members on Alcohol and CDS Testing. A Compliance Department staff member also presented a powerpoint presentation on the investigation process.

Staff revised and created new policies which were reviewed and approved by Dr. Lyon.

Staff continues to provide presentations virtually to schools during the pandemic.

Ms. Matthews stated she collaborated with Chief Brown to create a master's position description for Compliance Investigators and the Licensing Analysts to provide staff opportunities for development and growth. Staff attended internal and external trainings.

The Compliance Department closed the backlog of 2017, 2018 cases and significantly reduced the number of 2019 open investigations. The Department continue to close the 2020 open investigations and the newly assigned 2021 investigations. A total of 601 investigations were closed in 2021, which equates to a 33% increase in the number of investigations closed compared to 451 investigations closed in 2020.

Presently, the Compliance Department has 16 open Priority 1 investigations which equate to a 73% decrease in the number of open Priority 1 investigations when compared to 61 open Priority 1 investigations during the same period in 2020. Three investigations are out of compliance. One is out of compliance 1 to 3 months, and 2 are out of compliance 4 to 6 months. The investigations cannot be closed as they are waiting on additional evidence from local law enforcement.

Previously, Ms. Matthews reported 3 investigations were open 15 to 18 months as staff was waiting on additional information from the DEA. The investigations are closed.

Ms. Matthews was available for questions.

Ms. Matthews thanked her staff for a very productive year.

### **Agenda Item 2.2.2** **RNP/Monitoring**

Ms. Beckwith reported that this year the RNP collaborated with the Bureau of Community Preparedness, the Louisiana Department of Health, Public Health, with the Opioid to Action Grant to increase awareness of the RNP. With this grant, a new video for the RNP was completed and the information about the RNP was sent to nursing entities and organizations. The video was added to the LSBN RNP Monitoring website in July.

On July 15, 2021 a pre-roll campaign started, and it consisted of a 30 second ad prior to review of the RNP video. Since the pre-roll campaign started, approximately 430,000 people have viewed the ad as of October. Sixty-three percent watched the entire ad, 2,913 people clicked and went to the LSBN website and 2,901 clicked on the video.

The Department continues to provide presentations to nursing schools and approximately 5 presentations have been done virtually to date.



Two new policies were completed: A random drug screen frequency policy and a missing report letters policy.

As of October 1, approximately 23 nurses joined the RNP viadisciplinary action and 25 confidentially. Approximately 45 participants have completed the RNP, and 77 completed monitoring.

RNP has 350 participants and monitoring 108 for a total of 458 through October 29<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Beckwith manages approximately 60 participants.

All staff, director and program managers have attended a variety of trainings.

Ms. Beckwith was available for questions.

In answer to a question by Mr. Cotita, Ms. Beckwith stated she will provide the percentage for the successful completions in the RNP program.

In an answer to a question by Ms. Carruth, Ms. Beckwith stated that they have seen an increase in difficulty with nurses maintaining the RNP Program during the pandemic.

Dr. Kindall had some concerns regarding schools of nursing not being aware of the opportunity to have presentations on the RNP program.

Dr. Lyon noted that through the third quarter of 2021, there was a total of 122 totally successfully completed participants. In Monitoring, there were 77 totally successfully completed participants for 2021.

Dr. Palermo stated she was very pleased to know that Ms. Beckwith does presentations at colleges and universities and had some suggestions as to what schools Ms. Beckwith could provide these presentations going forward.

### **Agenda Item 2.2.3** **Compliance**

Ms. Carter presented an update for the Compliance Department regarding training, accomplishments, and open cases.

The Compliance staff members have participated in a variety of training opportunities both internal and external.

Ms. Carter thanked the leadership at LSBN with supporting the Compliance Department in assisting with implementation of policies and procedures to improve productivity and case management.

Some of their accomplishments include work and collaboration with the Compliance Team Leader to develop tools to facilitate the investigation process.

There were 347 open 2019 cases as reported at the August 2021 Board meeting. They currently have 251 open 2019 cases, 163 2020 cases, and 241 2021 cases.

Ms. Carter thanked the Compliance Department for all their hard work and for protecting the public with timely investigations. Case closure remain their top priority and continually work diligently towards accomplishing this goal.

Ms. Carter was available for questions.

**Agenda Item 2.3**  
**Division of Administration**

**Agenda Item 2.3.1.1**  
**FY2023 Annual Budget**

Chief Brown presented the 2023 Annual Budget. The Budget was attached for the Board's review.

Chief Brown was available for questions.

Discussion ensued regarding the projected 2023 Annual Budget.

**Motion:** by T. McNabb, seconded, that the Board approve the proposed FY2023 annual budget.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;  
T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes;  
M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

**Agenda Item 2.3.1**  
**Chief Administrative Officer**

A report on the Division of Administration was given by Chief Brown, addressing achievements for the past year.

Chief Brown stated that she felt her number one success is in leading and managing a team of professional administrative staff who are committed to safeguarding LSBN's physical, human, and operational assets willingly and cheerfully.

She has continued to serve as a leader and mentor to other state agencies who are working within NCSBN (National Council for State Boards of Nursing) or considering working with NCSBN with the implementation of ORBS. They continue to work with the LPN Board. They also work with Kentucky and Texas, fielding questions and sharing their experiences and how they handle operations over their ORBS implementation journey.

She continues to serve as a member on two committees for CLEAR, the Regulatory Agency Committee and the Executive Leadership Committee.

In 2021, Chief Brown and her staff successfully designed the framework for the implementation of paperless accounting processes.

Chief Brown attended three virtual professional development opportunities in the areas of auditing, risk management and electronics records management, along with several state-type trainings lead by Civil Service, the Office of Risk Management, and LASERS.

Chief Brown reminded the Board that they are required to complete their annual training on Ethics and Sexual Harassment by December 31st.

She has successfully led the agency in their response to an unexpected audit from the FBI and the State Police relative to their authority to access and utilize criminal background records.

Several new policies have been created, including criminal background checks, the telecommute policy, the remote policy, policies relative to movable property, and most recent a new legal hold policy for the dispose of certain records.

Chief Brown was available for questions.

Discussion ensued regarding safeguards and internal controls incorporated in the paperless accounting processes

### **Agenda Item 2.3.2** **Information Technology**

Mr. Nagin reported that most of their major accomplishments centered around work-from-home initiatives with the purchase of the new computers which is allowing staff to be able to work remotely. They have implemented the Always On VPN solution, which will allow staff to securely connect to the network as if they were in the building. They also enhanced their capability to support those uses with a remote-control application which allows IT access to their PC while staff is home. Part of the computer purchase included Computrace.

In addition, IT implemented their phone system, which supports the work-from-home initiative.

Part of their later purchases were Cisco amp per endpoints, which is a cloud-based security platform for all notebooks, laptops, and computers, and it uses the power of the Cisco cloud to catch viruses and malware.

Part of this year was the end of life on 2012 servers. IT tries to keep their servers as upgraded as possible.

Mr. Nagin was available for questions.

**Agenda Item 2.3.3**  
**Human Resources**

Ms. Ricks reported that the Office of Human Resources continues to be busy and thanked Dr. Lyon for her support.

The PES evaluations have been completed and all reports have been sent off to Civil Service. The planning sessions for 2022 have been turned in to HR and they are complete.

They had a Catapult clinic July 20. Twenty-five people participated who will receive a discount on their health premiums.

Market adjustments have been given out to employees on July 15<sup>th</sup>.

LSBN has 59 employees with four vacancies and 15 parttime student workers in WAE (When Actually employed) positions.

Open enrollment is complete. Staff has completed their online ethics and sexual harassment training requirements. Managers also took an additional sexual harassment class.

Ms. Ricks was available for questions.

**Agenda Item 2.3.4**  
**Administration Services**

Ms. Duncan has been in her for nine months and has successfully completed her first PES evaluation with her staff.

The department has completed its first rounds of ACH payments to vendors.

The accounting process for Accounts Payable is currently paperless. All supporting documentation is electronic. Their goal is now to get all existing and any new vendors connected to the ACH process and make payment electronically.

Ms. Duncan was available for questions.

(Break)

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

**Agenda Item 2.4**  
**Division of Legal Affairs**

**Agenda Item 2.4.1**  
**Chief Legal Officer**

Chief Jones stated she works with an excellent group of people which makes it a pleasure to do her work as well as her co-workers and supervisor.

The Legal Division has had a very successful year. They continue to collaborate with LSBN leadership and staff in response to the ever-changing issues presented by COVID.

Chief Jones enumerated a list of NCSBN trainings and meetings which Legal Division staff participated in during the year. (Virtual attendance due to Covid.)

As of October, of this year, all the employees in the Legal Division have completed the NCSBN BBONIT (Basic Board of Nursing Investigator Training) training, which is a very intense training. Staff attended the NCSBN Discipline Case Management Conference, the NLC Conference, and have done various Nurse Alert education sessions. The Legal Division also had representation at the NCSBN midyear and annual meeting.

The prosecuting attorney attended the FARB (Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards) regulatory law seminar as well as various NCSBN knowledge network calls throughout the year.

Chief Jones collaborated with other Louisiana Regulatory Board representatives to conduct a continuing legal education on Administrative Law in the Pandemic for the Louisiana State Bar Association Administrative Law Section.

Chief Jones and her staff have conducted new Board member orientation. Ms. Papillion, Dr. Lyon, and Chief Jones in February presented a training for the new executive Board members regarding presiding over disciplinary hearings.

Chief Jones stated she is proud of the cross-divisional training and collaboration between the Legal Division and the Compliance Division. Out of that training, staff had a discussion that led to a complete revision of the Case Review Report. The revision was led by staff and the new Case Review Report has been approved and implemented.

Legal Division staff have also completed optional ICRS (International Center for Regulatory Excellence) courses. These courses are available for all Board staff as well as Board members at no charge for the agency. Chief Jones recited a list of courses beginning in January of 2022 and early 2022 and asked Board members to let her know if anyone is interested in receiving more information about the courses.

#### **Agenda Item 2.4.2**

##### **Hearings**

The Hearings Department continues to use MS Teams for hearings to accommodate witnesses, respondents, and staff for consent order discussions when they are working remotely.

Regarding legislation that impact nursing and nursing regulation, Chief Jones has had the opportunity to collaborate with the executive team, working closely with Dr. Lyon and Dr. Wright and other key

stakeholders. Even though HB 495 was not successful in getting full practice authority, Chief Jones has learned a lot about LSBN APRN rules, roles, scopes, populations as part of that process.

Chief Jones is staying up to date on Open Meeting Laws and the changes post COVID. The legislator has made some changes to allow agencies and boards to meet virtually if the required notices are made.

The Department goes through a continuous document revision project. Most notably the consent order template has been revised and been implemented and the Board will be seeing consent orders using the revised template in early 2022.

Chief Jones was available for questions.

### **3. Office of the Executive Director/CEO**

#### **Agenda Item 3.1**

##### **NCSBN Policy Brief on RNs Providing Misinformation.**

Dr. Lyon provided the NCSBN Policy Brief on RNs Providing Misinformation to Board members to discuss to get their feedback on how the Board feels and if they wish for Dr. Lyon to post this on LSBN's website.

Discussion ensued regarding any concerns with the Policy and RNs providing misinformation.

Dr. Ecoee Rooney, Director of Nursing Leadership Development Ochsner Health New Orleans, joined the discussion virtually and stated that their response would be based on understanding better what the State Board's response is. Dr. Rooney stated that RNs providing misinformation is an ethical dilemma and potentially creates a danger to the public. And while not being sanctioned by the State Board of Nursing, it is their duty to uphold the ethical standards of the nursing profession, and any information that nurses share should be in the best interest of the public in ensuring that they are upholding their duty to the public and to their profession by sharing information that is provided by the types of resources that would be acceptable to share. Any information should be shared through validated sources.

Discussion continued.

Dr. Couvillon asked if there is someone on the current LSBN full time team that could be asked to expand their responsibilities so that they could do one-on-one counseling with a nurse who may be struggling with this.

Dr. Lyon stated she would take the question under advisement.

Dr. Lyon commented that she would think of how they could post this policy on their website with some sort of statement, which she will send out to Board members for their feedback.

#### **Agenda Item 3.2**

##### **Center for Nursing**

Dr. Lyon reported that they have completed the Nursing Education Capacity Report and the Nursing Supply in Louisiana Report which were previously published in early 2021. Licensed Registered Nurses Survey has been finished, which is done every two years and received a 30 percent response rate. They continue to analyze the data received and use this data to inform their decision making both for Nurse Supply and Demand Council and for the Healthworks Commission in terms of increasing capacity for nurse education, increasing members of BSN and higher degree nurses and financing nursing education.

The challenges that they are currently facing are the nursing shortage, along with a lack of faculty to teach in the nursing schools. They will continue to identify ways to retain the current nursing workforce and encourage others to enter the field.

Dr. Lyon will be sharing what came out of their strategic planning initiatives they engaged in earlier this week.

An email was shared with the Board from Dr. Joseph Kanter.

Dr. Lyon received an alert from the Louisiana Department of Health concerning Omicron that was found on November 24<sup>th</sup> in South Africa. On November 26, the WHO (World Health Organization) declared Omicron to be a variant of concern. Health alerts come out regularly and Dr. Lyon will be following up with additional information.

Discussion ensued.

#### **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 F. Pinkney, seconded, to accept the report of the President, Vice President, and the CEO/Executive Director as submitted.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;  
T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes;

M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

**5. Professional Development**

Nothing presented

**6. National Council State Boards of Nursing**

Nothing presented

**7. Public Comments**

No public comments.

**8. Executive Session**

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

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;  
T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes;  
M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

**Motion:** by F. Pinkney, seconded, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

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