

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

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 23, 2025, BOARD MEETING

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by A. Bulliard, President, and Presiding Officer, on Thursday, October 23, 2025, at the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, 17373 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810.

Roll Call: The following Board members were in attendance:
Amie Bulliard, MSN, RN, CPHQ, President, and Presiding Officer
Jennifer Manning, DNS, APRN, CNS, CNE, Vice President
Denise Bottcher
Ann Carruth, DNS, RN
Michelle Collins, Ph.D., CNM, RNC-EFM, FACNM, FAAN, FNAP
Jennifer Couvillon, PhD, RN-BC, CNE
Teresita McNabb, RN, MHA
Tracey Moffatt, MHA, BSN, RN,
Katrina O’Con, PhD, DNAP, CRNA, FAANA
Frederick Pinkney, EdD
Deborah Spann, MSN, RN-BC, CEN, FAEN (virtually)

The following staff members were in attendance:
Karen C. Lyon, PhD, MBA, APRN-CNS_{BC}, NEA_{BC}, Executive Director/CEO
Isonel Brown, MS, MBA, Chief Administrative Officer
Monique Calmes, DNP, APRN, FNP_C, Chief Credentialing Officer
Alicia Edmond Wheeler, JD, Executive Counsel
Donald M. Bowman, JD, Hearings Director
Geneva Carter, MSN, APRN, FNP, RNCO Team Lead
Urhonda Beckwith, MSN, APRN, FNP, RNP Director
Carl Nagin, BSCS, Technology Manager
Chancelor Fontenot, MSN, RN, RN Program Consultant, Credentialing
Miranda Christopher, Compliance Investigator
Scott Bonnette, IT
Suzanne C. Armand, CCR, CVR, Court Reporter

The meeting was called to order by President Amie Bulliard. Ms. Bulliard was appointed by Governor Landry on October 10, 2025, as Chair of the Louisiana State Nursing Board, replacing President Tracey Moffatt per RS 42:4. President Bulliard then recognized Tracey Moffatt, who had requested to speak to the Board members prior to the start of the meeting. Ms. Moffatt had announced that personal business might keep her from attending our last Board meeting for the year in December. She then went on to express her thanks to the Board and Staff for the hard work that we do and for her appointment by Governor John Bel Edwards. She noted that the reason she had wanted to serve was that she and Dr. Couvillon had been challenged in getting the Chamberlain School of Nursing approved. Over her 8-year tenure, the Board added 8 pre-licensure programs. She also thanked Dr. Manning and Ms. McNabb for serving with her on the Executive Committee. Dr. Manning then spoke to thank Tracey for her leadership and for including

herself and Ms. McNabb in the weekly Friday meetings with Dr. Lyon to discuss issues that might affect nursing regulation in Louisiana. Ms. McNabb then asked to speak and expressed to Tracey that she was upset about what had happened to her, in that she had not been able to complete her term as President. Ms. McNabb continued to express to President Bulliard that Amie joined the Board in a position for which she was not qualified, as the position was a replacement for the APRN position as defined in RS 914. C (1)(d). Although Dr. Lyon was able to reassign members to occupy the statutory positions as defined in RS.914, Ms. McNabb inquired why Ms. Bulliard would accept an officer position from the Governor rather than running for the position, as all Board members are required to do by LSBN Bylaws. Ms. Bulliard responded that her appointment had come as a surprise to her as well. Ms. Bulliard also recommended that Ms. McNabb reach out to Boards and Commissions or to Governor Landry directly for answers to her questions. Ms. McNabb went on to state that Ms. Bulliard did not have to accept the appointment and noted that Ms. Bulliard must have had a conversation with the Governor. Ms. Bulliard stated that she never had a conversation with the Governor and that her appointment had been communicated to her by the staff at Boards and Commissions. She went on to say that she had noted to the staff at Boards and Commissions that there was a process for electing LSBN officers and that there were other Board members with more experience than her. Ms. Bulliard then explained that she was told this was an appointment process that was allowed through RS.42.4.B.(1)(a&b): *B.(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the governor may appoint the chairman or the presiding member of each board and commission, so long as both of the following criteria apply:*

(a) The majority of the members of the board or commission are members of the board or commission by virtue of gubernatorial appointment. (b) The appointment of the chairman or the presiding member is not otherwise prohibited by the Constitution of Louisiana.

Ms. Moffatt then confirmed that she had a conversation with Ms. Bulliard in which she expressed that Amie had an opportunity to turn down the appointment with Boards and Commissions so that Tracey could continue her term through December 31, 2025, but, to her knowledge, that conversation didn't take place. (President Bulliard later confirmed to Dr. Lyon that she had reached out to Boards and Commissions about the appointment). Tracey then expressed that the 70,000+ nurses in Louisiana should write to their legislators and the Governor to express their concerns about politicians taking over Boards and Commissions appointments. She went on to express how important it is that the excellence that happens in nursing practice and regulation can only happen when nurses with experience and expertise are appointed to the LSBN, and that process shouldn't be overtaken by politics. The discussion ended with the following members expressing their thanks to Tracey for her leadership and her 8 years of sharing her experiences in nursing to move our profession forward and to acknowledge the political realities of state board appointments: Denise Bottcher, Dr. Jennifer Couvillion, Dr. Ann Carruth, Dr. Fredrick Pinkney, and Dr. Michelle Collins.

Approval of the Agenda:

Ms. Bulliard requested that the Agenda be rearranged to allow Ms. Brown to present the LSBN FY2025 Financial Audit Report before Unfinished Business.

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, to adopt the Agenda as amended.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes:

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, to approve the minutes from the August 28, 2025, Board Meeting.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.c.

Division of Administration

Agenda Item 2.c.i

Chief Administrative Officer – Ms. Isonel Brown

Agenda Item 2.c.i.1

LSBN FY2025 Financial Audit Report

Ms. Brown reported that LSBN FY2025 Financial Audit for the period ending June 30, 2025, has been conducted by the auditing firm Griffin & Furman LLC. This is their first year conducting LSBN’s audit. LSBN’s independent audit report was issued on August 22, 2025, with no findings, material weaknesses, or significant deficiencies identified.

Mr. Michael Caparotta presented the LSBN FY 2025 Financial Audit Report to the Board and was available for questions.

Motion: by F. Pinkney, seconded, that the Board accept the FY2025 Financial Audit Report

Voice Vote: D. Bottcher-yes; A. Bulliard-yes; A. Carruth-yes; M. Collins-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; K. O’Con-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

Unfinished Business

BSN Exception Rule Change Update: Alicia Wheeler

A public hearing was held on July 28, 2025, on the BSN Exception Rule. From the public comments that were received, a package was put together and presented to the Occupational Licensing Review Program for their approval. The next step after the approval would be to submit a second report to the legislature. If a hearing is not requested by the legislature, they will move forward with rule promulgation.

Publication of PICC Rule Removal, 46:XLVII.3707: Alicia Wheeler

This rule has now been promulgated and has been published in the October 20, 2025, Register. The entire rule has been repealed.

Dr. Calmes recognized Ms. Jan Juneau and Ms. Carol Gonzales (present virtually), who are the original petitioners that brought this rule change forward in 2012.

Clinical clearance for nursing students: Discuss with LACANE at the November 20, 2025, meeting: Dr. Lyon

Dr. Lyon reported that she, Dr. Calmes, and Mr. Fontenot will be going to the LACANE (Louisiana Council of Administrators of Nursing Education) meeting on November 20, 2025. They will discuss the issue with LACANE and get feedback which will be brought back to the Board at the December Board meeting.

Board Pins: Dr. Lyon

Dr. Lyon reported that she has obtained some estimates and ideas for Board pins. Dr. Lyon and Ms. Brown will investigate who is on their state vendor list to purchase Board pins. Dr. Lyon will report back to the Board for the December Board meeting.

LSBN Providing Continuing Education : Dr. Monique Calmes

Dr. Calmes stated that at the August Board meeting Dr. Bulliard inquired whether LSBN can provide some level of education to nurses on an annual basis or every other year for renewal regarding CEUs for RNs and APRNs: Ms. Wheeler and Ms. Calmes did research and did not find any evidence that LSBN has previously been a continuing education provider.

There was discussion at the last Board meeting for the Board to provide “meaningful” CEs. Dr. Calmes opened the subject up for discussion and stated that they would go in whatever direction the Board preferred them to go.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Bulliard stated that she felt this seems like a huge burden for this organization to take on and that there are so many qualified providers already. There was no further discussion for LSBN staff to take on provision of nursing continuing education.

1. Consent Agenda Motions

- a. Education Announcements
 - i. Education Announcement - University of Louisiana at Lafayette
 - ii. Education Announcement - Louisiana Delta Community College
 - iii. Education Announcement - Tulane University

Motion: by D. Bottcher, seconded, to accept the above Consent Agenda Motions.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

2. Division Reports

Agenda Item 2.a

Division of Nursing Practice

Agenda Item 2.a.i

Chief Credentialing Officer – Dr. Monique Calmes

Dr. Calmes reported that as of today, there are 3853 nurses who have renewed. Dr. Calmes thanked Board members for having already renewed. Things have been going smoothly and there have been no glitches this year.

Dr. Calmes was available for questions from the Board.

Agenda Item 2.a.ii

Education and Examination - Mr. Chancellor Fontenot

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.1

Major Substantive Changes

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.1.a

Herzing University

Summary/Background presented by Mr. Fontenot – Recommended approval

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board approve the major substantive change request from Herzing University to add the listed tracks to their current approved program.

Voice Vote: D. Bottcher-yes; A. Bulliard-yes; A. Carruth-yes; M. Collins-yes;
J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; K. O’Con-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.1.b

LSU Alexandria

Summary/Background presented by Mr. Fontenot – Recommended approval

Dr. Sarita James, Director/Professor, LSU Alexandria was present to provide information and to answer questions from the Board.

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board approve the major substantive change request from Louisiana State University of Alexandria to the Mission, Vision, Values, and Program Outcomes for both the Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) and the Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN – BSN) programs.

Voice Vote: D. Bottcher-yes; A. Bulliard-yes; A. Carruth-yes; M. Collins-yes;
J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; K. O’Con-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.1.c
Loyola University

Summary/Background presented by Mr. Fontenot – Recommended approval

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board approve the major substantive change request from Loyola University New Orleans to the school of nursing’s mission, goals, and outcomes, and to approve the missions, goals, and outcomes of the Doctorate, Master’s, and Baccalaureate programs.

Voice Vote: D. Bottcher-yes; A. Bulliard-yes; A. Carruth-yes; M. Collins-abstain;
J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; K. O’Con-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.2
Request for Full Approval

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.2.a
Northshore Technical Community College

Summary/Background presented by Mr. Fontenot – Recommended approval

Dr. James Foley, ASN Program Director, Northshore Technical Community College was present to provide information and to answer questions from Board members.

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board approve the request from Northshore Technical Community College for full approval status of their Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) program.

Voice Vote: D. Bottcher-yes; A. Bulliard-yes; A. Carruth-yes; M. Collins-yes;
J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; K. O’Con-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.3
Out of State Clinical Approval

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.3.a
South College DNP Nurse Anesthesia Program

Summary/Background presented by Mr. Fontenot – Recommended approval

Lois Stewart, Director, DNP Nurse Anesthesia Program, South College, was present (virtually) to provide information and to answer questions from Board members.

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board approve the request from South College for continued approval to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana for their Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Nurse Anesthesia Program until October 23, 2028.

Voice Vote: D. Bottcher-yes; A. Bulliard-yes; A. Carruth-yes; M. Collins-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; K. O’Con-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.4

LSBN Staff Program Status Reports

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.4.a

NCLEX Reports 2025 (3rd Quarter)

Dr. Lyon brought forth the NCLEX Report for 2025, Third Quarter.

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon.

Dr. Lyon stated that they will be looking at these going forward and will present the final reports at the February 2026 Board meeting.

Dr. Lyon was available for questions from the Board.

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board accept the NCLEX-RN pass rate report for 2025 3rd quarter.

Voice Vote: D. Bottcher-yes; A. Bulliard-yes; A. Carruth-yes; M. Collins-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; K. O’Con-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

(Break at 10:15 a.m.)

(Ms. Bulliard called the meeting back to order at 10:30 a.m.)

Agenda Item 2.b

Compliance Division

Agenda Item 2.b.i

Interim Chief Regulatory Officer – Ms. Alicia Wheeler

Agenda Item 2.b.i.1
Compliance Update

Ms. Wheeler updated the Board on the Compliance Division and what they have accomplished since the August 16, 2025, Board meeting. Ms. Wheeler gave a visual presentation. (See attachment)

Ms. Wheeler reported that their new complaints were holding steady. At the August Board meeting, Ms. Wheeler reported they had 633 new complaints and presently are at 635. The submitted reports are steady at 414.

New investigations opened are down at a total of 101.

The 2021 and 2023 cases are criminal cases, and they are waiting on the courts to decide on the case itself.

They are still decreasing their 2025 and 2024 caseload.

Staff have worked hard and have closed 102 investigations in this reporting period, which was up from an average of 16.

Ms. Wheeler stated that the backlog is now a thing of the past.

Ms. Wheeler was available for questions from Board members.

Agenda Item 2.d
Division of Legal Affairs

Agenda Item 2.d.i
Chief Legal Officer

Agenda Item 2.e.
Office of Executive Counsel – Ms. Alicia Wheeler

Agenda Item 2.e.i
Rulemaking Process

Ms. Wheeler gave a visual presentation on the timeline for promulgation of their rules to the Board.

Ms. Wheeler reported that she anticipates within the next 30 days they will get the Occupational Licensing Review Program report which will let them know that the Board can move forward with the BSN Exception Rule Change.

Ms. Wheeler was available for questions.

Agenda Item 3
Office of the Executive Director/CEO

Agenda Item 3.a

2026 Board Hearing and Board Meeting Dates

Dr. Lyon presented the 2026 Board Hearing and Board Meeting date calendar for the Board’s review.
(See attached)

Motion: by K. O’Con, seconded, to approve the proposed 2026 calendar for Board hearings and meeting dates.

Voice Vote: D. Bottcher-yes; A. Bulliard-yes; A. Carruth-yes; M. Collins-yes;
J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; K. O’Con-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

4. Reports

Agenda Item 4.a.

Report of the President

Report Attached.

Agenda Item 4.b

Report of the Vice President

Report attached.

Agenda Item 4.c

Report of the Executive Director

Report attached.

Motion: by D. Bottcher, seconded, to approve the Reports of the President, Vice President, and the Executive Director/CEO.

Voice Vote: D. Bottcher-yes; A. Bulliard-yes; A. Carruth-yes; M. Collins-yes;
J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; K. O’Con-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 5

Professional Development

Nothing presented.

Agenda Item 6
Strategic Plan

No Report.

Agenda Item 7
National Council State Boards of Nursing

Agenda Item 7.a
Post-Board Meeting Update

Dr. Lyon attached the letter from Dr. Phyllis Polk Johnson, President, National Council State Boards of Nursing, for the Board's review.

Dr. Lyon stated that it was time for Board members to vote for the 2026 vice president and alternate officer. There has been one change to the ballot because Debra Spann is the second nominee for the office of vice president. For alternate officer, the two candidates are Dr. K. O'Con and Dr. Carruth, and for Vice President, Dr. Pinkney, and Debra Spann. Ms. Wheeler will be tabulating the vote.

In answer to a question by a Board member, Dr. Lyon stated that the Bylaws and the Nurse Practice Act state that if the president leaves or is replaced, the vice president moves into that position, and the alternate officer moves into the vice president's seat. Last year the governor introduced a bill that allows him to appoint the president from a member of the Board. The bylaws have not been amended or looked at since 2018.

Dr Lyon suggested that Ms. Bulliard should appoint some members of the Executive Committee to investigate the bylaws and change them, that the president and vice president are appointed and any other officers that the Board feels are necessary to carry on its duties. Dr. Lyon quoted from the bylaws that a member of the executive committee, which is the president, vice president and alternate officer, must be the presiding officer at either a Board meeting, or Board hearings. The vice president is responsible for looking at the financials.

Nominations from the floor will be accepted if there is anyone else who wishes to run for either position.

Dr. Lyon announced that she will be retiring effective January 31, 2026. Her first day with the Louisiana State Board of Nursing was December 16, 2013. Dr. Lyon stated that it has been her honor and pleasure to serve as the Executive Director and CEO of the LSBN. Dr. Lyon stated that the past 12 years has been an incredible experience for her and that the legacy she leaves is the transitions that were made here at the Board for staff support for all nurses in Louisiana. Dr. Lyon thanked Ms. Brown and all the staff for doing a magnificent job in accomplishing all the things that go into operations. Dr. Lyon commented she could not have accomplished any of this without all the Board and executive committees she has worked with and that this has been the pinnacle of her career.

Public Comments

No public comments

8. Executive Session

Motion: by D. Bottcher, seconded, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of hearing the Report on Litigation and Personnel Issues.

Voice Vote: D. Bottcher-yes; A. Bulliard-yes; A. Carruth-yes; M. Collins-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; K. O’Con-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

(Dr. Couvillon exits the meeting at 12:00 p.m.)

(Ms. Bulliard called the meeting back to order at 1:20 p.m.)

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, to return to Open Session at 1:20 p.m.

Voice Vote: D. Bottcher-yes; A. Bulliard-yes; A. Carruth-yes; M. Collins-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; K. O’Con-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

Motion: by K. O’Con, seconded, to appoint Alicia Wheeler as the Board Attorney/Executive Counsel amended on her original hire date of April 22, 2024; to adopt her new job description as provided by Ms. Brown; to set compensation agreed on by the Board of Directors during Executive Session to begin today October 23, 2025.

Voice Vote: D. Bottcher-yes; A. Bulliard-yes; A. Carruth-yes; M. Collins-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; K. O’Con-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

Dr. Couvillon and Ms. Spann were not present personally and were not included in the vote.

After voting by the Board, Ms. Wheeler announced that for vice president, there were five votes for Debra Spann and four votes for Dr. Pinkney.

For alternate officer, there were five votes for Dr. Carruth, and three votes for Dr. O’Con and one vote that didn’t include an alternate officer.

Dr. Lyon announced D. Spann as the new vice president starting in 2026, and A. Carruth as the new alternate officer starting today, as Ms. McNabb has resigned her position as alternate officer.

In answer to a question, Dr. Lyon stated that under the current Board's bylaws, if D. Spann wouldn't get reappointed, A. Carruth would move up to vice president if she so chose, and an alternate officer would have to be elected.

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

Voice Vote: D. Bottcher-yes; A. Bulliard-yes; A. Carruth-yes; M. Collins-yes;
J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; K. O'Con-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

Amie C Bulliard

**A. BULLIARD, PRESIDENT, and PRESIDING OFFICER
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING**