

**Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
*December 15, 2017*

*FINAL APPROVED: January 12, 2018*

The meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (Board) was noticed and agenda posted on, Wednesday, December 13, 2017. Dr. Phillip Griffin, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, December 15, 2017 at 8706 Jefferson Highway, Suite B, Baton Rouge, LA 70809. Present were Board Members, Drs. Phillip Griffin, Koren Boggs, Jesse Lambert, Amy Henke, and, Executive Director, Jaime T. Monic. Attorney Courtney Newton was present for part of the meeting to present and discuss complaint matters in Executive Session. Dr. Leah Crouch was absent.

Dr. Griffin opened the meeting by reading the Board's Declaration of Purpose.

Dr. Henke moved to approve the agenda for the day. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Griffin - YEA, Boggs- YEA, Lambert – YEA, Henke – YEA.

The Board reviewed and discussed the meeting minutes from November 16-17, 2017. Dr. Lambert moved to approve the minutes of November 16-17, 2017 as discussed. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present.

Dr. Lambert moved to enter Executive Session pursuant to LSA R.S.42:6.1, to review complaints and conduct oral examinations and file reviews. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Griffin - YEA, Boggs- YEA, Lambert – YEA, Henke – YEA.

Dr. Lambert moved to close executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board opened the meeting to the public at 4:30 p.m. no one from the public community was present for the open meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

The Board received the following committee reports:

**Executive Director Report** – Ms. Monic reported on the following:

- Elections opened on November 22, 2017 and will close on December 22, 2017.
- The LSBEP appeal in the LA First Circuit in the matter of Dr. Eric Cerwonka (Plaintiff/Appellee) and LA State board of Examiners of Psychologists (Defendant/Appellant) was set for oral argument on January 10, 2018.
- A Motion to Dismiss was filed in the Civil Suit against the Board by Eric Cerwonka in the U.S. District Court, and is set for Oral Argument on January 18, 2018.

**Finance Committee Report**

Dr. Griffin reported that he reviewed and approved Leave Reports for Ms. Monic. Dr. Griffin reported that he reviewed and approved Bank Reconciliations prepared by Ms. Monic from November 2017. The Board reviewed and by motion of Dr. Henke accepted the Financial Statements for November 2017 prepared by Valerie Dominique, CPA.

The Board tabled the discussion concerning amending the dollar amount of the contract for Taylor, Porter, brooks & Phillips, LLC.

**Oral Examination Committee Report** –Dr. Boggs reported with regard to oral examinations conducted in executive session, that 1 candidate cancelled and 8 individuals were licensed this date as follows:

***Deldon Anne McNeely, Ph.D.*** appeared before Board Members, Drs. Griffin and Boggs for an oral examination for licensure in Clinical Psychology. Dr. Griffin moved that **Dr. McNeely** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Griffin – YEA, Boggs - YEA, Lambert – YEA, Henke – YEA.

***Edward A. Toyer, III, Ph.D.*** appeared before Board Members, Drs. Lambert and Henke for an oral examination for licensure in Clinical Psychology. Dr. Lambert moved that **Dr. Toyer** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Griffin – YEA, Boggs - YEA, Lambert – YEA, Henke – YEA.

***James L. McAbee, Ph.D.*** appeared before Board Members, Drs. Lambert and Henke for an oral examination for licensure in Clinical Psychology. Dr. Lambert moved that **Dr. McAbee** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Griffin – YEA, Boggs - YEA, Lambert – YEA, Henke – YEA.

***Eleanor Claire Trant Heaton, Ph.D.*** appeared before Board Members, Drs. Boggs and Griffin for an oral examination for licensure in School Psychology. Dr. Boggs moved that **Dr. Heaton** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in School Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Griffin – YEA, Boggs - YEA, Lambert – YEA, Henke – YEA.

***Bryce Summers, Ph.D.*** appeared before Board Members, Drs. Lambert, Boggs and Henke for an oral examination for licensure in Counseling Psychology. Lambert moved that **Dr. Summers** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Counseling Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Griffin – YEA, Boggs - YEA, Lambert – YEA, Henke – YEA.

**Stephanie M. Long, Ph.D.** appeared before the Board for licensure via reciprocity as a Diplomat of the American Board of Professional Psychology. Dr. Lambert moved that **Dr. Long** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Griffin - YEA, Lambert – YEA, Boggs – YEA, Henke – YEA.

**Michael R. Plumeri, Psy.D.** appeared before the Board for licensure via reciprocity as a holder of the Certificate of Professional Qualifications. Dr. Lambert moved that **Dr. Plumeri** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Griffin - YEA, Lambert – YEA, Boggs – YEA, Henke – YEA.

**John M. Fabian, Psy.D.** appeared before the Board for licensure via reciprocity with Texas. Dr. Lambert moved that **Dr. Fabian** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Griffin - YEA, Lambert – YEA, Boggs – YEA, Henke – YEA.

**Supervision/Credentials Review** - Dr. Henke reported the results of the file reviews conducted this date in Executive Session as follows:

**FILE REVIEWS [LSA-R.S. 42.6.1]:**

Dr. Lambert reviewed and presented the Application for License of **Kristen Leigh Joiner Miller, Ph.D.** to the Board with a motion to confirm her Candidacy status and invite her to take the Oral and Jurisprudence Examinations for Licensure. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Henke reviewed and presented the Application for License of **James F. Sanders, Psy.D.** to the Board with a motion to confirm his Candidacy status and invite him to take the Oral and Jurisprudence Examinations for Licensure. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Amy M. Bertucci, M.Ed.** – The LSBEP considered the recommendation of the LSSP Committee, to grant **Ms. Bertucci** licensure as a Specialist in School Psychology upon receipt of passing the LSSP Jurisprudence Examination. Dr. Griffin moved in favor of accepting the recommendation and issue a license to **Ms. Bertucci** upon receipt of passing scores on the LSSP Jurisprudence Examination. The motion passed unanimously.

**Katherine D. Bennett, S.S.P.** – The LSBEP considered the recommendation of the LSSP Committee, to grant **Ms. Bennett** licensure as a Specialist in School Psychology upon receipt of passing the LSSP Jurisprudence Examination. Dr. Griffin moved in favor of accepting the recommendation and issue a license to **Ms. Bennett** upon receipt of passing scores on the LSSP Jurisprudence Examination. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Griffin reviewed the Application for Respecialization in Clinical Neuropsychology for **Sandra Viggiani, Ph.D.**

Dr. Henke reviewed the annual attestation required of **Lisa C. Abbrecht, Psy.D.** concerning citizenship process.

Dr. Henke and Dr. Lambert reviewed and approved the Supervised Practice Plan as well as the Internship Documentation required of **Billie C. Myers, Ph.D.**, admitting her to candidacy status.

Dr. Henke reviewed and approved the Supervised Practice Plans for **Natalie R. Smith, Ph.D.** and **Katherine Guyon-Harris, Ph.D.**

The Board reviewed the application file for licensure of **Chad Lewing, Ph.D.** and met in person with Dr. Lewing in Executive Session, this date, to review his credentials and consider his application for licensure as a Psychologist in Louisiana. Accompanying Dr. Lewing was Dean Lewing and Joshua Gibbson. Also present was Attorney Courtney Newton and Executive Director for the Board, Jaime Monic. The Board, after consideration and discussion of the information presented by Dr. Lewing in support of his application, including his testimony and the testimony of Dean Lewing and Joshua Gibbson, affirmed a motion by Dr. Lambert to deny Dr. Lewing's candidacy status and ultimately licensure for failure to meet the minimum requirements for licensure under La. R.S. 37:2356A.(2), 37:2359.B.(1), 37:2359.B.(5), 37:2359.B.(9), 37:2359.B.(11), 37:2359.B.(12), 37:2359.B.(13) and 37:2359.B.(14). The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Griffin - YEA, Lambert – YEA, Boggs – YEA, Henke – YEA.

**Complaints Committee: -**

Dr. Griffin reported that he and Ms. Monic interviewed two qualified candidates for the contract position of Complaints Coordinator II. Dr. Griffin moved in favor of offering the contract for Complaints Coordinator II to Dr. Erin Skaff. Which role will be to serve the Board in reviewing and overseeing the direction of complaint investigations, including negotiating Consent Orders for the Board when needed, where the primary Complaints Coordinator I may be recused due to conflict of interest, or unable to serve due to workload. The contract amount shall not exceed \$5,000, with standard terms and travel reimbursement established by contract. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Griffin - YEA, Lambert – YEA, Boggs – YEA, Henke – YEA. Ms. Monic was directed and empowered to facilitate the contract with Dr. Skaff.

Dr. Griffin noted for the record that upon the execution of Dr. Skaff's contract, the Board will have three Complaint Coordinators contracted for complaint reviews.

Dr. Lambert reported the following cases were reviewed by the Board in executive session:

1. **P17-18-02C** – The Board reviewed this matter and considered the written recommendation of Dr. Sasha Lambert, Complaints Coordinator in this matter. Dr. Sasha Lambert presented via telephone conference to discuss and answer questions for the Board. After discussion, by motion of Dr. Jesse Lambert, the Board unanimously voted to close the matter by roll call vote as follows: Griffin – YEA, Boggs - YEA, Lambert – YEA, Henke – YEA.

2. **P17-18-03C** – The Board reviewed this matter and considered the written recommendation of Dr. Sasha Lambert, Complaints Coordinator in this matter. Dr. Sasha Lambert presented via telephone conference to discuss and answer questions for the Board. After discussion, by motion of Dr. Jesse Lambert, the Board unanimously voted to close the matter by roll call vote as follows: Griffin – YEA, Boggs - YEA, Lambert – YEA, Henke – YEA.

3. **In the matter filed by KH received 5/10/2017** – The Board reviewed and considered the written recommendation of Dr. Mark Vigen, Complaints Coordinator II in this matter. After discussion, by motion of Dr. Jesse Lambert, the Board unanimously voted to close the matter by roll call vote as follows: Griffin – YEA, Boggs - YEA, Lambert – YEA, Henke – YEA.

4. **In the matter filed by AT received 9/20/2017** – The Board reviewed and considered the written response sent to AT as well as a follow up letter sent to the licensed psychologist with clarifying dual licensure as it relates to the scope and practice of the licensed psychologist. In reviewing the response of the licensed psychologist, and having no evidence that the current practices of the licensed psychologist are outside of the scope of practice of a licensed psychologist, by motion of Dr. Lambert, unanimously voted to close the matter by roll call vote as follows: Griffin – YEA, Boggs - YEA, Lambert – YEA, Henke – YEA.

5. **In the matter filed by LSBEP received 11/16/2017** – The Board reviewed the final notice letter to Dr. Judith Steward concerning the current status of her license to practice psychology being lapsed effective September 30, 2017, as required under 37:2357.A(2), and providing her with requirements and procedures for reinstatement including those required under La. R.S. 37:2356.H. This matter is non-disciplinary.

Due to time constraints, the following reports were tabled: **Liaison to Professional Organizations and Boards Report; Continuing Professional Development Committee; Long Range Planning/Awards Committee; Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board (LBAB) Liaison; Jurisprudence Examination Committee; Legislative Oversight Committee Report**

## **DISCUSSION ITEM**

**1. Audit for Reciprocity requirements with ASPPB, Certificate of Professional Qualifications and ABPP Diplommat\*** - Due to time constraints, this matter was tabled.

**2. Letter from Texas Board of Examiners of Psychologists RE: Reciprocity Agreement\* -**

The Board reviewed the letter from Darrel Spinks, Executive Director for the Texas Board of Examiners of Psychologists, wherein Texas terminated reciprocity with Louisiana, effective December 18, 2017, due to recent legislative changes which no longer require Texas to administer an oral examination for licensure. By motion of Dr. Lambert, the Board accepted the termination letter from Mr. Spinks. Ms. Monic was directed to facilitate the necessary revisions on the application process.

**3. Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) Part I and Part II -** Due to time constraints, this matter was tabled.

**4. Request for Quarterly Verification Report from the Office of Behavioral Health\*** - The Board reviewed the email request from LDH, to assist them with auditing MHO's by providing a quarterly report to LDH so they could audit a sampling of the providers credentialed by MHO's. Noting that such a report is not currently developed and further that this information is readily available at the LSBEP website for LDH to access, the Board suggested Ms. Monic discuss the needs of LDH further and also direct LDH to the information available on its website.

Dr. Henke moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.