

**Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
*June 17, 2016*

*FINAL*

The meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (Board) was noticed and agenda posted on June 16, 2016. Dr. Zimmermann, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, June 17, 2016 at 8706 Jefferson Highway, Suite B, Baton Rouge, LA 70809. Present were Board Members, Drs. Marc Zimmermann, Darla Burnett, Phillip Griffin, Koren Boggs, Jesse Lambert; and, Executive Director, Jaime T. Monic.

Dr. Zimmermann opened the meeting by reading the Board's Declaration of Purpose. Dr. Lambert moved to approve the agenda for the day and affirm the budget not to exceed \$250 for the Board Luncheon in Honor of Former Board Member, Dr. Rita Culross. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Zimmermann - YEA, Burnett - YEA, Griffin - YEA, Boggs- YEA, Lambert - YEA

The Board reviewed and discussed the meeting minutes from May 13, 2016. Dr. Boggs moved to approve the minutes of May 13, 2016 with corrections to Telepsychology and Psychologist Emergency Certificate. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present.

Dr. Lambert moved to enter into executive session pursuant to LSA R.S.42:6.1, to conduct oral examinations, conduct file reviews and consider complaint P14-15-13C. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Zimmermann - YEA, Burnett - YEA, Griffin - YEA, Boggs- YEA, Lambert - YEA

Dr. Griffin moved to close Executive Session to enter the following:

**COMPLAINTS [LSA-R.S. 42.6.1]:**

The following complaint matter was considered in Executive Session:

**P14-15-13C** – Dr. Christopher Garner was in partial attendance to present this matter to the Board. Upon review and discussion Dr. Burnett moved that the matter be deferred back to Dr. Garner for further investigation. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote as follows: Zimmermann - YEA, Burnett - YEA, Griffin - YEA, Boggs- YEA, Lambert - YEA

At 11:50 a.m., Dr. Griffin moved that the Board break for the luncheon in honor of Dr. Rita Culross. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Zimmermann - YEA, Burnett - YEA, Griffin - YEA, Boggs- YEA, Lambert - YEA

At 2:00 PM, Dr. Griffin moved to reenter Executive Session to conduct oral examinations. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Zimmermann - YEA, Burnett - YEA, Griffin - YEA, Boggs- YEA, Lambert - YEA

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

The Board opened the meeting to the public at 3:06pm. Attendees for public hour were as follows: Dr. Julie Nelson representing the Psychology Times.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

The Board received the following committee reports:

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

- LSSP COMMITTEE met on Tuesday, June 14, 2016. They finalized Non-NASP Approved Review Form and Application Referral form and also provided a recommendation to fill the next LSSP committee member vacancy.
- CONTRACTS: Garner, Dominique & Sparkhound were approved; Teknarus contract for renewal program development was cancelled; Legal Contracts appear to be in limbo and are still pending approval.
- ONLINE RENEWALS: With the Sparkhound contract approved, LSBEP is on track to have the upgrades in place to open online renewals on July 1, 2016. Ms. Monic reported that due to the delays incurred in initiating this contract, LSSP's and Provisional Licensees would not be able to participate in online renewals and would be required to submit a paper renewal subject to the additional \$15 fee. Dr. Burnett moved, in light of this issue, that the Board waive the \$15 paper renewal fee for LSSP's and Provisional licensees for the 2016 Renewal period. The motion passed unanimously.
- 2016 Regular Legislative Session ended on June 6, 2016 and the legislators immediately went into special session. There is no word on a new appointment for the LSBEP.
- New Telepsychology/PEC Opinion has been published on the board's website.
- Legislative Audit is complete, we were advised to expect another Audit beginning October 2016.
- Emergency Rules, along with a new Notice of Intent, pertaining to Continuing Professional Development will be published on June 20, 2016. The Emergency Rule will be considered effective June 1, 2016, the Notice of Intent is expected to be finalized in the September 20, 2016 Louisiana Register.

### ***Finance Committee Report***

The Board reviewed Financial Statements for May 2016 prepared by Ms. Valerie Dominique. Ms. Dominique did not provide a statement on the financial status, however Ms. Monic stated that judging from the financial statements, the Board finances are in good shape and it is anticipated that the Board will end with a fund balance to carry over for expenses for next fiscal year. Dr. Griffin moved to accept the financial statements provided by Ms. Dominique. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Zimmermann reported that he reviewed and approved Bank Reconciliations prepared by Ms. Monic from May 2016; and he reviewed and approved Ms. Monic's Timesheets/Leave reports.

***Oral Examination Committee Report*** – Dr. Griffin reported that during executive session, the Board conducted oral examinations for licensure. Those examinations are as follows:

**ORAL EXAMINATIONS [LSA-R.S. 42.6.1]:**

***Elizabeth Carey, Ph.D.*** appeared before Board Members, Drs. Zimmermann, Burnett, Griffin and Lambert for an oral examination for licensure. Dr. Boggs recused herself from this oral examination. Dr. Griffin moved that the Board grant **Dr. Carey** a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in School Psychology. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows: The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Zimmermann - YEA, Burnett - YEA, Griffin - YEA, Lambert - YEA

***Robert J. Sawyer, II, Ph.D.*** appeared before the full Board for an oral examination for licensure. Dr. Griffin moved that the Board grant **Dr. Sawyer** a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Neuropsychology. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present.

***Fernando Pastrana, Ph.D.*** appeared before the full Board for an oral examination for Respecialization in Clinical Neuropsychology. Dr. Griffin moved that the Board approve **Dr. Pastrana's** additional declared specialty in Clinical Neuropsychology. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present.

***Legislative Oversight Committee Report*** – Dr. Burnett reserved her report on SCR 65 under the scheduled discussion item scheduled for this meeting.

***Liaison to Professional Organizations and Boards Report*** – Dr. Griffin reported that the presentation at LPA seemed well received and suggested that we request 2 hours next year to have more time to receive and answer questions. Dr. Nelson, representing LPA, noted the suggestion for consideration by LPA.

***Supervision/Credentials Review*** - Dr. Burnett 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 the Respecialization Application for License of **Kimberly S. Hutchinson, Ph.D.** and moved that the Board confirm her Candidacy status and invite her to take the Oral Examination for Respecialization in Clinical Neuropsychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Griffin reviewed the Application for License of **Melissa Bonnell-Weidlich, Ph.D.** and moved that the Board 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. Boggs reviewed the Application for License of **Aimee L. Blackham, Ph.D.** and moved that the Board 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. Zimmermann reviewed the Application for License of **Leo J. Burke, III, Ph.D.** and moved that the Board 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.

The Board reviewed the Application for License of **Alyse Blanchard, Ph.D.** and discussed her credentials as they relate to meeting the requirements for an initial specialization and/or respecializing in Clinical Neuropsychology. It was requested that Ms. Monic contact Dr. Blanchard to provide guidance and reference to the LAC Title 47, Part LXIII, Section 307.

Dr. Burnett reported that she reviewed and approved the Supervised Practice Plans for **Cedrina K. Averette, Ph.D., Matthew D. Sobesky, Psy.D.** and **Eliza S. McManus, Ph.D.**

***Long Range Planning/Awards Committee:*** Dr. Burnett requested to affirm that Ms. Monic was tracking the LRP Discussion items. Ms. Monic affirmed that she indeed keeps an electronic and hard copy file to keep up with these matters, but also appreciates that the LRP Committee Chair tracks this information for checks and balances.

***LBAB Liaison Report:*** Dr. Burnett reminded LSBEP members that the new Liaison to the LBAB Board would need to be considered for July. The LBAB Board currently meets once per month on a Tuesday.

***LSBEP Education & Outreach:*** Dr. Griffin reported that he still aspired to the production of a webinar or online training for continuing professional development requirements and ethics for psychologists. Dr. Julie Nelson suggested that the Board approach the La. Psychological Association to coordinate such events if the Board felt as though there was a need for continuing education on a certain topic. Dr. Griffin agreed to discuss the matter and opportunities with Dr. Nelson and LPA regarding this matter.

Ms. Monic reported that the YouTube video was well received and has reduced the number of phone calls and email questions. She reported that the one recurring question concerned Approved Sponsored Continuing Education obtained online vs. Self-directed learning, explaining that psychologists were associating the mode of delivery (online/video) with Self-directed learning without considering sponsorship. If an activity is offered by an approved sponsor, regardless of the mode of delivery, it is an Approved Sponsored CE. Dr. Griffin suggested offering an exhaustive list of Q&A for CPD questions.

***Professionalism Workgroup:*** Dr. Zimmermann reported that in his opinion, this workgroup had served its purpose but is no longer needed. Dr. Zimmermann moved that this workgroup be dissolved. The motion passed unanimously.

There was no report from the following committees:

*Jurisprudence Examination Committee Report; Continuing Professional Development Committee.*

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**LSSP Committee Recommendation to LSBEP for 2016-17 Committee Member** – The Board reviewed the LSSP recommendation of Amy Childress, Ph.D. for the 2016 LSSP Committee Member appointment. The Board also considered her self-nomination letter and resume. The LSSP Committee agreed that her experience in supervising specialists and doctoral level interns would benefit this committee. Dr. Burnett moved to accept LSSP’s recommendation and appoint Dr. Amy Childress to the LSSP Committee.

**Designate one member to serve on the Task Force for Meaningful Oversight as required by Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 65** –Dr. Zimmermann called for nominations/volunteers to serve as the representative for the Task Force for Meaningful Oversight. Dr. Burnett volunteered to serve. No other nominations/volunteers were presented. Dr. Griffin moved that the Board designate Dr. Burnett to represent the LSBEP on this committee. The motion passed unanimously.

**Walgreens Referral Services** – Dr. Lambert volunteered to investigate this matter and present information to the Board in order that a letter of education may be formulated if needed. Dr. Zimmermann recommended that the matter be tabled until such time that Dr. Lambert could conduct an investigation into the matter. The recommendation stands without objection.

**Complaint Coordinator Position II** – Ms. Monic requested that an additional position be considered for the 2016-17 Fiscal Year in order that the backlog of complaints may be investigated timely. Dr. Burnett moved in favor of offering Dr. Erica Meyers, an original applicant for the position, the additional contract, for the same terms as the current Complaint Coordinator contract for FY 2016-17.

Dr. Nelson requested clarification on the LSBEP policy concerning media, expressing that she would like to be able to verify information prior to publication in her newsletter. Dr. Griffin moved that the item be added to the July 2016 agenda for review and discussion. The motion unanimously passed.

Dr. Griffin was excused from the meeting and was not present for the following discussion items:

**International Doctors in Alcoholics Anonymous: 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference** – The Board reviewed information received concerning IDAA’s Conference in New Orleans on August 3-7, 2016. The Board agreed that while this would be a great conference for impaired psychologists, it is not able to disseminate such information as it could be construed as advertising/favoritism. The Board requested Ms. Monic file this information for the Board’s references when dealing with Impaired Psychologist Agreements.

**Serafine v. Branaman and Texas Board of Examiners of Psychologists** – Ms. Monic provided the Board with information concerning this case as it pertains to Texas’ definition of the practice of psychology and a Texas 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court opinion. The Board also received an email from Rusty Hickman, Executive Director for the Louisiana Dental Board expressing his board’s view of the case.

**LSBEP and LA Behavior Analysts Board: Board Memorandum of Understanding** – The Board reviewed the final draft of the LSBEP/LBAB MOU approved and signed by LBAB Chair, Cassie

Bradford. Dr. Lambert moved in favor of accepting the agreement as presented; the motion passed unanimously. Dr. Zimmermann executed the MOU on behalf of the LSBEP.

All business being considered, Dr. Boggs moved to adjourn at 4:07 p.m. The motion unanimously passed by the members present.