LOUISIANA STATE RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY BOARD OF EXAMINERS
BUSINESS MEETING

Louisiana Hospital Association
9521 Brookline Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

July 18, 2024

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES – APPROVED

1. CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Susan Hammonds-Guarisco called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL
The following Board members were present:
Naveed Awan
Desiree Bell
Brett Bennett
Brent Boudreaux, M.D.
Gregory Bradley
Susan Hammonds-Guarisco
Robert Newsome, M.D.
Jessica Soileau-Canning

The following board members were absent with excuse:
Frederick Drouant
Abbie Kemper Martin, M.D.
Kirk Soileau

Also in attendance
Hollie Taranto, Executive Director and counsel, Valerie Bargas and Sallie Dupont

3. MINUTES
Minutes of the April 11, 2024 meeting had been previously circulated to the Board Members by email and were accepted as presented.

MOTION to approve minutes of April 11, 2024 by: Dr. Newsome
SECOND by B. Bennett
ACTION Voice Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT
Financial Review Committee: Brett Bennett, Susan Guarisco, and Greg Bradley. February, March, April and May reports were reviewed with questions answered by the previous Executive Director. June report is to be sent.
Financial Report by Chairman:

- Fiscal Year Comparison: July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024
- Fiscal Year Comparison to Budget: July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024
- Assets and Liabilities as of June 30, 2024

Discussion was held on reports, and Chairman of board answered Board member's questions.

5. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT
The Chairman provided a verbal report. The 2024 renewal season was completed with 319 licenses processed. 442 licenses were expired on June 1, 2024. There were approximately an additional 31 licenses placed in expired status due to CE issues. These have since become compliant with late fees collected.

The Compliance Officer position was filled, and many complaint codes were resolved with the assistance of an interim legal team. There were a few items to be addressed and voted on at this meeting which will be discussed in greater detail during the meeting.

The Chairman has continued to work with Dr. Newsome on transitioning the duties of Chairman. The officers of the board have also been involved in several board issues.

6. LICENSURE STATISTICS

Chairman reported on progress of renewals and provided current statistics since renewal season thus ended on May 31, 2024. On June 1, 2024, there were thirty-one outstanding renewals that has since been reduced to three. Current licensure renewal status for 2024 were as follows: 6,377 active, 3,193 renewed, and 442 expired. These statistics were further broken down by category, resulting in the following: Radiography 5695, Nuclear Medicine 381, Radiation therapy 277, and Fusion technology 24.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

A. BOARD OPERATIONS

1. **Staffing**
   Compliance Officer Position
   Position was filled since the April board meeting but has since then become vacant due to an internal transfer. Position is currently open with interviews pending.

2. **IT Services**
   Turn Key Computer Services – current contract was discussed. Due to concerns of the monthly cost, the Chairman suggested having a meeting with Turnkey to see what is necessary. There are still multiple issues, and it was discussed that other options need to be considered.

   MOTION to approve alternative options for IT services by J. Canning
   SECOND by N. Awan
   ACTION Voice Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Board Member Attendance Report** – Annual board member attendance report was provided for viewing.

B. CLOSED INVESTIGATIONS REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL

The Executive Director reported 29 investigations were open since the April board meeting. Since then, 11 investigations have been closed that do not require board approval. Currently 11 investigations remain open, and 5 are being monitored. There are 2 suspensions.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. NUCLEAR MEDICINE/ NMTCB

An update was given of recent activity surrounding an attempt to make changes to the law via S. Youngblood in which she was referred to the LSRT. The LSRTBE was contacted by S. Youngblood in May to provide her a letter of support. The LSRTBE cannot and did not provide her with a letter.

B. PRIVATE RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS

The letters sent to Ochsner and the LSBME were provided for review, as well as the response received from Ochsner. LSRT involvement and support with this was discussed.

MOTION to produce position statements to send to various organizations for awareness by J. Canning
SECOND by Dr. Newsome
ACTION Voice Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

C. ANNUAL REQUIRED TRAINING FOR BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF
This is an annual requirement. Board members who have not provided the documents were requested to do so and to provide to the Executive Director.

D. OPERATIONAL VS MANAGEMENT BOARD
It was discussed that the purpose of our board is to license and regulate.

E. AD HOC COMMITTEES:
Per the Chairman's request, Ad Hoc committees are on hold, however a committee will be requested to advise changes on renewal applications.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
An update was given on the Acts from the 2024 Regular Legislative session.
Board Appointments- The board has not received any communication from the Governor's Office on any board appointments.
Brett Bennett informed the board that this was his last meeting. The Chairman thanked Mr. Bennett for his services to the board.

B. 2024 STATE AUDIT
The Board is awaiting communication for the start of the 2024 financial audit.

C. VA LETTER
It was noted that the VA is making changes to ensure consistency. The changes outlined will not affect us. Discussed that a VA employee does not need a Louisiana Radiography license due to federal law. Chairman confirms that the VA wants a response and counsel agreed to draft a response for us to provide by the deadline of September 9, 2024.

Our Code of Ethics as well as ARRT's was discussed, and it was agreed that our code is vague. It was requested that the board review both codes and it will be discussed at the upcoming October meeting to determine if any changes need to be made.

MOTION made to move into Executive Session: Dr. Newsome
SECOND by: B. Bennett
ACTION Voice Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

9. NOMINATION, ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
It was discussed that this can be done since there is no current timeline on board appointments by the Governor.

Officers were elected as follows:

NOMINATION for Chairman- Susan Hammonds-Guarisco
MOTION made by: Dr. Newsome
SECOND by: B. Bradley
ACTION Voice Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

NOMINATION for First Vice Chairman- Dr. Newsome
MOTION made by: B. Bennett
SECOND by: J. Canning
ACTION Voice Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

NOMINATION for Second Vice Chairman- Greg Bradley
MOTION made by: B. Bennett
SECOND by: N. Awan
ACTION Voice Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

NOMINATION for Secretary/Treasurer**-** Frederick Drouant
MOTION made by: G. Bradley
SECOND by: B. Bennett
ACTION Voice Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION made to move into Executive Session by N. Awan
SECOND by: B. Bennett
ACTION Voice Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION made by: G. Bradley to close Executive Session
SECOND by: N. Awan
ACTION Voice Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

RETURN TO BUSINESS SESSION

VOTE TO CLOSE CONSENT ORDERS

MOTION made to approve the consent orders discussed in Executive Session: B. Bennett
SECOND by: G. Bradley
ACTION Voice Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION TO APPROVE LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT:

MOTION made to approve legal services with amendments to contract as discussed in Executive Session: N. Awan
SECOND by: Dr. Newsome
ACTION Voice Vote: 7 in favor, 1 abstain.

NEXT MEETING DATE
Thursday, October 10, 2024, 11 am
Louisiana Hospital Associate office, 9521 Brookline Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809

FUTURE MEETING DATES
Thursday, January 9, 2025
Thursday April 10, 2025
Thursday July 10, 2025 (tentative pending LSRT Annual Meeting)
Louisiana Hospital Associate office, 9521 Brookline Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809

ADJOURN

The Chairman requested a motion to adjourn meeting.
MOTION made to adjourn by: Brett Bennett
SECOND by: Dr. Newsome
ACTION Voice Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

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Hollie Taranto, MBA, RT(R)(ARRT)
Executive Director