

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
May 30, 2025**

Hyacinth McKee, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. on Friday, May 30, 2025. The meeting was conducted at the Board office and streamed via video conference, and all interested parties were provided with the information to join the meeting.

Board members present during the roll call included Jamie Barney, LCSW-BACS, Hyacinth McKee, LCSW-BACS, Liam Doyle, Consumer Member, and Melissa Haley, LMSW. Sheri Morris, Legal Counsel, Sara Banks, Licensing Analyst, and Emily DeAngelo, Administrator, were also present at the meeting.

Trinity George, RSW was absent from the meeting.

Public Comments

No public comments.

Agenda

Motion was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Liam Doyle and unanimously carried, to adopt the agenda with the following amendments: reschedule item D.1.c. hearing in the matter of Jamilah Ayad, replace Trinity George, RSW as hearing panel member for D.1.a hearing in the matter of Emery Cummings and D.1.b. hearing in the matter of Abbie Sussman, and remove item D.6. Evaluation-Griffin & Furman.

Minutes

Motion was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Jamie Barney and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of the meetings held April 25, 2025 and April 26, 2025.

Presentation of Consent Agreement and Orders

In the matter of Amber Smith, RSW, File #2024-99

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agreement and Order for Amber Smith.

In the matter of Patricia Mortillaro-Percy, LCSW, File# 2022-45.1 cw 2022-45.2, 2022-102 cw 2023-79

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Liam Doyle and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agreement and Order for Patricia Mortillaro-Percy

Public comment made by Lisa Stablier.

Executive Session

Motion was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Jamie Barney and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 8:56 a.m.

to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person, provided that such person is notified in writing at least twenty-four hours before the meeting, and/or to discuss prospective litigation.

Votes for going into Executive Session: Jamie Barney, yes; Hyacinth McKee, yes; Melissa Haley, yes; and Liam Doyle, yes.

Motion was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Liam Doyle and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 1:00 p.m.

Votes for coming out of Executive Session: Melissa Haley, yes; Jamie Barney, yes; Hyacinth McKee, yes; and Liam Doyle, yes.

Pre-eligibility Determination

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to issue a pre-eligibility determination letter to Kheria Leshay advising that the information provided does not prohibit her from licensing.

Motion was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Jamie Barney and unanimously carried, to issue a pre-eligibility determination letter to Amy Pellegrin advising that the information provided does not prohibit her from licensing.

Correspondence

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to deny the request for remote supervision submitted by Glory Deaton and offer a compliance hearing.

Applications

Motion was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Jamie Barney and unanimously carried, to deny the LCSW Endorsement application submitted by Kayla Allison and to offer a compliance hearing.

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Liam Doyle and unanimously carried, to deny the CSW/LMSW application submitted by Tanisha Bennett and to offer a compliance hearing.

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to deny the CSW/LMSW application submitted by Joshua Carpenter and offer a compliance hearing.

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to deny the LCSW Endorsement application submitted by Donyell Davis and to offer a compliance hearing.

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to deny the LMSW Endorsement application for Jennifer Maxwell and to offer a compliance hearing.

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to deny the RSW application submitted by Dawn Quebedeaux and to offer a compliance hearing.

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to deny the RSW application submitted by Ashley Ricks and to offer a compliance hearing.

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to deny the LMSW Endorsement application submitted by Shaleshia Snowden and to offer a compliance hearing. She is also offered certification as a Certified Social Worker and approval to sit for the ASWB Masters exam.

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for Registered Social Work.

Broussard, Monique

Brown, Kristen

Bryant, Courtney

Carter, LaNya

Ceasar, Monique

Couvillion, Jana

Craft, Marshay

Delasalle, Brooke

Disher, Victoria

Egans, Patrice

Fagan, Lekeyta

Hebert, Michelle

Johnson, Juan

Karrington, Ned

Moore, Haley

Pitcher, Darquarius

Robinson, Amara

Roundtree, Jazsmin

Simms, Alisha

Stansberry, Briannah

Vallot, Nicole Ann

Walker, Tracey

White, Ebony

Williams, Ryan

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for Reinstatement for Registered Social Work.

Johnson, Wilshonda

Johnson, Zachary

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for Endorsement for Registered Social Work.

Davis, LaShonda

Motion was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for Licensed Master's Social Work, issue Certified Social Work certification and approval to take the ASWB Masters exam.

Abdel-Aziz, Suzan

Albert, Ronya

Anderson, Aaron

Anderson, Nyah

Ard, Ashley

Avery, Jamie

Brierre, Joseph
Broussard, Miah
Brown, Monique
Collins, Zari
Cox, Amy
Davis, Sandra
Day, Hailey
Doucet, Celia
Edwards, Ulissa
Felix, Jaida
Fisher, Dominique
Fulton, Renada
Guidry, Christopher
Hardin, Alexis
Hart, Jamaica

Jackson, Emily
Johnson, Latejla (early test approval)
Jones, Farrah
Kelly, Eshea
Keys, Destiny
Landry, Riley (early test approval)
Lantto, Kathleen
Layssard, Kelsey
Lege, Helen
Logan, Jillique
Mackey, Emily
Penny, Jovetta
Pinell, Ashlie
Pittman, Kaitlyn
Poydras, Oscar
Robertson, Rachel
Scott-Thomas, Deanice
Sims, Ashley
Smith, Katie
Thomas, Anne (early test approval)
Traylor, Tasia
Walsh, Catherine
Walter, Nancy
Weaver, William
Wehunt, Heather
Wells, Tammy
Williams, Jazzmine (early test approval)
Williams, Tracy
Williamson, Lisa
Young, Davius
Young, Vanessa

Motion was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to approve the following Reinstatement applications for Licensed Master's Social Work.

Fleming, Kathryn

McDonnell, Kearney

Schully, Charles

Motion was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to approve the following Endorsement applications for Licensed Master's Social Work.

Bell, Sabrina

Page, Sasha

Salinas, Jocelyn

Savage, Bria

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam.

Anderson, Amanda

Brown, Justyn (early test approval)

Chargois, Shavanah (early test approval)

Crosby, Claire

Dehart, Sandra

Droddy, Mackenzie

Ellis, LaScott

Franklin, Iriele (early test approval)

Garrick, Autumn

Hernandez, Mallory

Horton, Deanna

Jenkins-Gethers, DaVante

Johnson, Darion (early test approval)

Lagasse, Donald

Lang, Rachel (early test approval)

Lessinger, Eva

Lindse-Lowe, ShaKiyla (early test approval)

Lord, Arianna (early test approval)

Louviere, Angela (early test approval)

Parrish, Tara

Quinn, Jonah

Rabalais, Chloe (early test approval)

Webre, Destiny

Williams, Johnna

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to approve the following Reinstatement applicants for issuance of the LCSW.

Ursin, Marcella

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to approve the following Endorsement applicants for issuance of the LCSW.

Chanda, Victoria

Davis-Dozier, Jacquelyn

Dunn, Brittan

Fuchs, Anna

Green, Joycelyn

Hodges, Shannon

Johnston, Sarah

Julia, Tanisha

Perera, Jennifer

Pickett, LaTonja

Siegel-Williams, Jessica

Woods, Lakeisha

Impaired Professional Program

Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to accept the monthly report submitted by Kathie Pohlman, IPP Manager, as information and file a complaint against MK-24 for non-compliance.

Personnel Matter

There were no motions made related to this discussion.

Compliance Hearings

A compliance hearing was scheduled at the request of Emery Cummings. Mr. Cummings did not appear for his scheduled hearing.

A compliance hearing was conducted at the request of Abbie Sussman to appeal the board's decision to deny her supervision completed with Kathleen Whalen, LCSW-BACS, for the period of November 17, 2022 through April 6, 2024. The hearing panel included Hyacinth McKee, Melissa Haley, and Liam Doyle. Abbie Sussman and Kathleen Whalen participated via zoom.

Motion was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Liam Doyle and unanimously carried, to approve the supervision completed from November 17, 2022 through April 6, 2024.

Correspondence

- A. Happy Camper Wellness, LLC- **Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to approve the application submitted by Happy Camper Wellness, LLC to be a continuing education pre-approval organization.
- B. Council on Social Work Education- Board members reviewed correspondence from CSWE regarding the practice doctorate program accreditation.
- C. Eddie Jenkins, LCSW-BACS- Mr. Jenkins requested clarification for the proposed emeritus status. Mr. Jenkins was advised that the proposal would allow a social worker in emeritus status to provide social work services on a voluntary basis.
- D. Dawn Curole, LCSW-BACS- The board advised her to review the Continuing Education Preapproval Organization requirements regarding issuing continuing education credit.

- E. Fiona Francis-LCSW- **Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to accept the 6.5-hour BACS workshop that was completed in 2022 to be used towards her BACS application.
- F. Tomika Hardy, LMSW- Ms. Hardy was advised to seek legal advice regarding multi-disciplinary roles in relation to the LMSW. She was referred to 2703.15(a) of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act.
- G. Francine Levenstein, LCSW- **Motion** was made by Liam Doyle, seconded by Jamie Barney and unanimously carried, to deny her request to complete all continuing education hours via distance learning for the collection period ending August 31, 2025 and offer a compliance hearing.
- H. Jessica Nichols, RSW- **Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to approve the request to complete all continuing education hours via distance learning for the 2024-2025 collection period.
- I. April Spotsville, LCSW- **Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to deny the request to complete all continuing education hours via distance learning for the 2024-2025 collection period and offer a compliance hearing.
Public comments made by Steven Byrd and Ronisha Johnson.
- J. Madison Texada, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Jamie Barney and unanimously carried, to deny the request to allow unpaid work hours to be used towards the supervised work experience requirement and offer a compliance hearing.
- K. Whitney Allen, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to deny the request for remote supervision and offer a compliance hearing.
- L. Undrea Beasley, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Jamie Barney and unanimously carried, to approve the request for remote supervision.
- M. Lisa Deroche, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to approve the request for remote supervision with Kristen Eymard, LCSW-BACS.
- N. Myiesha Gilyard, CSW- **Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to approve remote supervision with Lisa Larochelle, LCSW-BACS.
- O. Natasha James, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Jamie Barney and unanimously carried, to approve remote supervision with Leatrice Wilson, LCSW-BACS.
- P. Rynika Polk, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to approve remote supervision with Kerindra Maberry, LCSW-BACS and approve supervision completed March 26, 2025 through May 9, 2025.
- Q. Caity Robin, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Jamie Barney and unanimously carried, to approve the request for remote supervision with Gary McDaniel, LCSW-BACS.
- R. Jun Scott, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to approve remote supervision with Sarah Dulaney, LCSW-BACS.

- S. Lev Singer, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Jamie Barney and unanimously carried, to approve remote supervision with Catherine Poehling, LCSW-BACS.
- T. Robert Pierce- The board members reviewed job descriptions provided by Mr. Pierce. He was referred to La. R.S. 37:2706 the scope of practice for an RSW and 37:2703(15)(a) the definition of social work practice. He was advised that an individual with a degree from a CSWE accredited program must have a credential to practice.
- U. Breanna Brown, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Jamie Barney and unanimously carried, to approve supervision hours obtained from October 19, 2022, through February 10, 2025.
- V. Frances Currie, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to approve supervision hours obtained from May 12, 2023 through January 31, 2025.
- W. Skylar Dillon, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to approve supervision that began with Mary Hart, LCSW-BACS on April 5, 2023 and supervision with Frederick Buttell, LCSW-BACS that began September 6, 2023.
- X. Wesley Harris, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Liam Doyle and unanimously carried, to approve supervision with James Delany, LCSW-BACS that began on August 24, 2023.
- Y. Gabrielle Landry, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried to approve supervision with Shelly Weaver, LCSW-BACS that took place June 19, 2024 through December 5, 2024.
- Z. Anna Plaisance, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Liam Doyle, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to deny the request for supervised work experience credit and offer a compliance hearing.
Public comments made by Anna Plaisance and Ronisha Johnson
- AA. Taylor Reinhart, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Liam Doyle and unanimously carried, to deny the request for supervised work experience. Taylor Reinhart made a public comment.

Board/Staff Matters


- A. Report on office workflow and staffing is attached to minutes.
- B. Elections
Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Liam Doyle, and unanimously carried, to elect Melissa Haley as Secretary-Treasurer.
Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to elect Jamie Barney as Vice-Chairperson
Motion was made by Hyacinth McKee, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to elect Hyacinth McKee as Chairperson.
- C. Evaluation of ethics workshop at NASW-LA conference- Members of the Board reviewed the evaluation of the ethics workshop presented at the NASW-LA Annual Conference.
- D. Rules Promulgation- Sheri Morris advised that the substantive change hearing was conducted on May 21, 2025. There were no additional comments received regarding the changes made in the original Notice of Intent published in the January 2025 edition of the *Louisiana Register*.

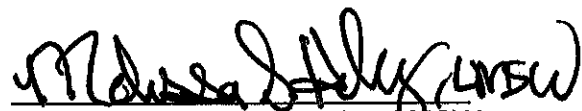
- E. Covalent licensing platform update- Board members were advised that notice will be sent out the week of June 2, 2025 letting social workers know that renewal is open and how to set up their account in Covalent.
- F. Senate Bill No. 153- Dr. Hyacinth McKee advised that SB153 passed and will become law effective upon signature of the governor or August 1, 2025 whichever is first. This legislation allows CSWs to extend their certification to provide CPST services subject to specific conditions.
- G. 2025 ASWB Education Meeting information- Dr. McKee also gave board members a brief summary of topics covered at ASWB's Education Meeting which included the workforce study results and AI in social work practice.

Financial

- A. Certemy- Read only access- **Motion** was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried to approve the read-only access option for one year at \$12,000.
- B. Cicero Licensing & Web Accessibility Compliance Proposals- Liam Doyle volunteered to gather information regarding alternative options.

Motion made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 5:00 p.m.


Hyacinth McKee, LCSW-BACS
Chairperson


Melissa Smith Haley, LMSW
Secretary-Treasurer