

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
June 18, 2026**

Brandon Reeves called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m. on Friday, June 18, 2026. 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 Brandon Reeves, LCSW-BACS, Katie Dotie, LCSW-BACS, Jacqueline Garrison, LCSW-BACS, and Kentrell Boyd-Heisser, RSW. Sheri Morris, Legal Counsel, and Emily DeAngelo, Administrator, were also present at the meeting.

Jody Strother, LCSW-BACS, was absent.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Agenda

Additions approved:

- Jasmine Garrison, under applications.
- Taylor Thomas, under applications

Motion was made by Jacqueline Garrison, seconded by Katie Dotie and unanimously carried to adopt the agenda as amended.

Minutes

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Jacqueline Garrison and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of the meeting held May 15, 2026.

Correspondence

Jessi Hise, LMSW

Motion was made by Jacqueline Garrison, seconded by Katie Dotie and unanimously carried, to deny the request for supervised work experience credit and offer a compliance hearing.

Claire Puissegur, LMSW

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Jacqueline Garrison and unanimously carried, to approve the supervision completed between April 25, 2024, and May 12, 2026.

GLO Therapeutics

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Kentrell Boyd-Heisser and unanimously carried, to approve the renewal application from GLO Therapeutics to be a continuing education approval organization.

Mellie Mamas Preaux, LLC

Motion was made by Jacqueline Garrison, seconded by Katie Dotie and unanimously carried, to deny the application to be a continuing education approval organization.

Rivers Psychotherapy Services, LLC

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Jacqueline Garrison and unanimously carried, to approve the renewal application from Rivers Psychotherapy Services, LLC to be a continuing education approval organization.

Dr. Diamond Nickelson, RSW

Dr. Nickelson sent an inquiry regarding permissible professional activities as a Registered Social Worker and marketing. Board members responded that they cannot authorize or approve titles. They advised that RSWs cannot practice independently; they must be an employee of an agency. It was recommended that Dr. Nickelson review the scope of practice for RSWs in the Practice Act, La R.S. 37:2706(B) and the definitions of agency and social work practice in La R.S. 37:2703(1) and (15)(a). It was also recommended that she review the Occupational Standards §301 for the definition of independent practice and §303(C)(1) – (4). Lastly the Board reminded Dr. Nickelson that RSW must be indicated in conjunction with her name on all professional correspondence to include advertising in accordance with §119(A).

Elizabeth Standifer, LCSW

Elizabeth Standifer submitted an inquiry regarding participation in an audio recording that will be utilized by her church. Board members responded that based on the information provided there are no concerns.

Kei Lee Moore, LCSW

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Kentrell Boyd-Heisser and unanimously carried, to approve the request to complete all continuing education hours for the 2025-2026 collection period via distant learning due to her work at a U.S. military installation in Japan.

Tara Morris, LCSW

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Jacqueline Garrison and unanimously carried, to deny the request for all continuing education hours to be completed via distance learning. The Board referred Tara Morris to Chapter 13 of the Rules, Standards and Procedures for a list of approved learning situations.

Michael O'Hara, LMSW

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Jacqueline Garrison and unanimously carried, to approve the request to complete all continuing education hours for the 2025-2026 collection period via distant learning due to his military orders in South Korea.

Celeste Walther, LCSW

The situation regarding billing Medicaid as presented is not a licensing issue, it is a personal value issue she must process.

Executive Session

Motion was made by Jacqueline Garrison, seconded by Katie Dotie and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 9:33 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: Jacqueline Garrison, yes; Kentrell Boyd-Heisser, yes; Brandon Reeves, yes; and Katie Dotie, yes.

Motion was made by Jacqueline Garrison, seconded by Kentrell Boyd-Heisser and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 3:05 p.m.

Votes for coming out of Executive Session: Jacqueline Garrison, yes; Kentrell Boyd-Heisser, yes; Brandon Reeves, yes; and Katie Dotie, yes.

Hearing on the Petition for Summary Suspension

A hearing was conducted in the matter of a petition for summary suspension of the license held by William O'Connor, LCSW. The hearing panel included Brandon Reeves, Katie Dotie, and Jacqueline Garrison. James Raines was present as prosecuting attorney. William O'Connor appeared in person without counsel.

Motion was made by Jacqueline Garrison, seconded by Kentrell Boyd-Heisser and unanimously carried to issue an order summary suspension of William O'Connor's license and set the administrative hearing for July 31, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

Disciplinary Monitoring Report

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Jacqueline Garrison and unanimously carried, to acknowledge that two licensees successfully completed the terms of their Consent Agreements and Orders and have no additional obligations under those orders.

Pending Complaints

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Jacqueline Garrison and unanimously carried, to dismiss complaint #2026-77.

Motion was made by Kentrell Boyd-Heisser, seconded by Jacqueline Garrison and unanimously carried, to dismiss complaint #2026-119 with a letter of education.

Motion was made by Jacqueline Garrison, seconded by Katie Dotie and unanimously carried, to dismiss complaint #2026-125.

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Kentrell Boyd-Heisser and unanimously carried, to dismiss complaint #2026-142.

Recovering Professional Program

Dr. Emily George Tilley, LCSW-BACS, provided members of the board with a compliance report regarding participants of the Recovering Professional Program.

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Kentrell Boyd-Heisser and unanimously carried, to accept the report as information.

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Jacqueline Garrison and unanimously carried, to release JH-21 from the RPP for successful completion of the program.

Compliance Hearing

A compliance hearing was conducted at the request of Andrew Scallan to appeal the board's decision to deny supervision that occurred between November 1, 2025, and February 20, 2026. The hearing panel included Kentrell Boyd-Heisser, Katie Dotie, and Brandon Reeves. Andrew Scallan participated via zoom.

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Kentrell Boyd-Heisser and unanimously carried, to approve the supervision hours and work experience completed during the period of November 1, 2025, and February 20, 2026.

A compliance hearing was conducted at the request of Tia Cage to appeal the board's decision to deny her request for 80 hours of unsupervised work experience to be applied toward the requirements for LCSW. The hearing panel included Jacqueline Garrison, Katie Dotie, and Kentrell Boyd-Heisser. Tia Cage participated via zoom.

Motion was made by Jacqueline Garrison, seconded by Kentrell Boyd-Heisser, and unanimously carried, to uphold the denial of 80 hours of work experience during which she did not meet for a supervision session.

Correspondence

Kenisha Caster, LCSW

Board members advised Kenisha Caster that limited to the facts as presented, there does not appear to be a violation. She was advised to review the standards of practice which are found in Chapter 1 of the Occupational Standards.

Crystal Moore, LMSW

Motion was made by Jacqueline Garrison, seconded by Kentrell Boyd Heisser and unanimously carried, to deny the request to complete all continuing education hours via distance learning for the 2025-2026 collection period.

Personnel

Brandon Reeves set July 10, 2026, as the due date for the Administrator's evaluation.

Applications

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Jacqueline Garrison and unanimously carried, to deny the LMSW reinstatement application submitted by Whitney Holsten and offer a compliance hearing.

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Jacqueline Garrison and unanimously carried, to deny the RSW application submitted by Kendra Braxton and offer a compliance hearing.

Motion was made by Jacqueline Garrison, seconded by Katie Dotie and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for Registered Social Work.

Adrianna Maddox
Allie Dardar
Amanda Spraggins
Amy Nesbit
Arielle Turner
Asha Holmes
Ashleigh Usannaz
Asia Green
Ava Ward
Breunna Capers
Brittany French
Cherokee Daniels
Deja Tanks
Derriona Glodd
Dustina Guillot
Dyiamond Levings
Janelle Mosley
Jarae Neal

Jayna Hamilton
Jomarie Watson-Malave
Jordan Cole
Kaila White
Kaili Johnson
Kaylan Rosette
Keaundra Tobin
Kianda Davis
Kora Llorente
Malachya Lilly
Shalacia Leflore
Shelley Chretien
Taylor Thomas
TraNika Johnson
Trayvion Bruno
Treshawn Wade

Motion was made by Jacqueline Garrison, seconded by Katie Dotie and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for RSW Reinstatement:

Brittney Ferguson
Tashon Adams

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Kentrell Boyd-Heisser and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for MSW students requesting early testing for the Masters exam.

Ally Degruise
AvaClaire Burks
Elizabeth Elmore
Kayla Carson
Sarah Brouillette
Victoria Disher

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Kentrell Boyd-Heisser 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.

Abigale Licciardi
Alexander Tirrell
Alice Burkhalter
Amanda Wilson
Ambreshia Wells
Andrea McClinton
Audrey Chunn
Bria Washington
Dannae White
DeAsia Burrell
Emily Spence
Eva Scallan
Gabriella Masters
Haley Bruce
India Rachal

Jasmine Garrison
Jasmine Powell
Jazmin Carey
Jennifer Allemand
Jesse Miller
JNai Smothers
Johnesia DeSalle
Jordan Drake
KaNyjah Boyd
Karrington Ned
Katie Boudreaux
Kourtney Jackson
LaDoya Macklin
Latasha Guillory
Laura Foxall
Laura Foxall
Logan Page
Lorie Melbert
Madaline Perkins
Mary Wood
May Yuratich
Melvin Hunter Sr.
Micah Marchand
Mya Smith
Nekita Battle-Ceasar
Reagan Jones
Samantha Royal
Sarah Martin
Shakendra Christmas
Shereka Johnson
Starkeysia Dyes
Sydnie White
Terrica Emery
William Alfred
Yolanda Brooks

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Kentrell Boyd-Heisser and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for reinstatement of the Certified Social Work certification and approval to take the ASWB Masters exam.
Andrea Zito

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Kentrell Boyd Heisser and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for the Restricted-Certified Social Work certification.
Ernika Williams
LaKisha McClinton
Lexus Randolph
Seleta Jones
Sharon Johnson

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Jacqueline Garrison, and unanimously carried, to approve the following Endorsement applications for Licensed Master's Social Work.

Desmond Kudji
Elizabeth Dombrock
Lily Estrada
NeTarshia Rena
Nicole Jenks
Takia Byrd
Tara Williams

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Jacqueline Garrison, and unanimously carried, to approve the following reinstatement application for Licensed Master's Social Work.

Kaleigh Jackson

Motion was made by Jacqueline Garrison, seconded by Kentrell Boyd-Heisser, and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam.

Abby Mitchell
Alizea Alvarez Sookram
Anissa Webster
Arkeia Solomon
Deja Granier
Jada Price
Jade Olivier
Janice Shedrick
Joanna Lo
Kateri Armand
Kathryn Wyatt
Kimberly Clofer
Lauren Porter
Ronny Smith
Shanah Bartram
Tabatha Hudspeth
Tia Keenan
Tiffany Castille

Motion was made by Jacqueline Garrison, seconded by Kentrell Boyd-Heisser, and unanimously carried, to approve the following Endorsement applicants for issuance of the LCSW.

Abigail Plaisance
Ashley Bonner
Charles Satterfield
Denia Descartes
Felicia Davis
Holly Bertram
Jada April-Brown
Jasmine Robinson
Jennifer Gonzalez
Johnathan Starko
Keeaundra Richardson
Natasha Vargas
Tracie Harris

Tyron Slack

Motion was made by Jacqueline Garrison, seconded by Katie Dotie and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for early testing at the Clinical level:

Anna Kligler
Bridgett Haggstrom
Courtney Bloodsaw
Jessica Murphy
Joshua Hamburg
Lauren Cunningham
Lindsey Champagne
Maddison Kidder
Marsha Guthrie
Peyton Jeffcoat
Sara Yaeger
Victoria Duarte

Board/Staff Matters

Office Workflow and Staffing Report

The report on the office workflow is attached. Motion was made by Jacqueline Garrison, seconded by Katie Dotie and unanimously carried, to approve the report and to move forward with hiring process for an Administrative Program Specialist.

Resolution Draft – Process for Application Approval

Board members considered draft 3 of a resolution involving application reviews.

Motion was made by Jacqueline Garrison, seconded by Katie Dotie and unanimously carried, to adopt the resolution as revised and include the triage scale.

LA Department of Justice – Good Governance Program Training

Board members Brandon Reeves and Katie Dotie requested that they be registered for the training scheduled for November 17, 2026.

Request to share Medicaid informational bulletins

Ivory Wilson, Program Manager with the LA Department of Behavioral Health requests the Board's assistance with dissemination of information regarding implementation of the American Society of Addiction Medicine Criteria, 4th Edition, within Louisiana Medicaid reimbursed substance use disorder treatment services. Board members agreed to share this information and applicable links to its licensees.

Social Work Compact Update

Katie Dotie advised that she was appointed to the Commission's rules committee and that New Mexico has joined the compact. Dr. Dotie also reported that the Commission anticipates roll out beginning in February 2027.

Financial

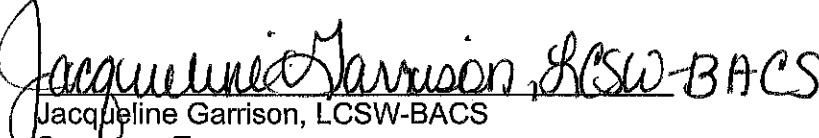
Financial Reports for the period ending April 30, 2026

Motion was made by Katie Dotie, seconded by Kentrell Boyd-Heisser and unanimously carried to accept the report as information.

ASWB Delegate Assembly – November 5-7, 2026
Tabled for a later meeting.

Compact Commission Meeting – Coincides with ASWB Delegate Assembly
Tabled for a later meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:57 p.m.


Jacqueline Garrison, LCSW-BACS
Secretary-Treasurer

WORKFLOW REPORT PRESENTED ON June 18, 2026

Since May 15, 2026 Meeting

Requests for early testing – Masters	4
Requests for early testing – Clinical	17
Early testers issued LMSW	25
Early testers issued LCSW	9
LMSWs issued (not early testers)	48
LCSWs issued (not early testers)	25
BACS issued	0
Retake applications approved	93
Supervision Contracts approved	46
Supervision Contracts denied	6
Eval/Terminations approved	22
License verifications	69
Emeritus Status	2
Open Book Exam Invitations	36

COMPLAINTS: 05/01/2026 – 05/31/2026

Complaints	25
Self-reports	0
Sent to investigator	0
Written response requested	18
Under consideration	2

**L.A.C. 46:XXV.1009(C) REPORT OF REJECTED COMPLAINTS
05/01/2026 through 05/31/2026**

File Number	1009(B)(1) Respondent undetermined	1109(B)(2) Respondent not licensed	1109(B)(3) Complaint illegible	1109(B)(4) No violation alleged	Nature of Complaint
2026-109		X			Respondent's RSW lapsed in 2016. Two requests made to complainant asking for more info. No response rec'd.
2026-136				X	Personal family matter. Requested add'l info from complainant to determine purview. No response rec'd.
2026-137				X	Needed more info from complainant, requested in March, no response.
2026-138				X	Needed more info from complainant, requested in March, no response.
2026-157				X	Info provided is not a violation.
2026-177					Same complainant, respondent and allegations as 2026-147 which was accepted.
2026-184		X			
2026-194				X	Workplace matter.
2026-199				X	Complaint against 2 social workers. Based on the info provided, there are no identified violations.
2026-200				X	Personal matter btwn former dating partners.

Staffing:

Kaleigh Christman was hired to fill the Licensing Analyst vacancy. Her first day was June 1st.

A potential student worker has been identified. I am waiting for her application and letter from university.

Civil Service has approved us having an Administrative Program Specialist. I started working with Civil Service to get this position in August 2025. The duties include some of the administrative duties I have been responsible for as well as the tasks that Regina DeWitt started handling after the departure of the Administrative Coordinator 3 on May 27, 2025.

Administrative Program Specialist-A

\$37,523 - \$73,632

Position Summary

The purpose of this position is to assist with the management of numerous administrative programs and functions for the agency, which include but are not limited to: human resources, book keeping, complaints, procurement, property control, record retention, information technology and telecommunications and other duties related to the proper operation of the agency to include coordination of mail operations, printing and compliance.

25% Board Operations: Coordinate agency meetings and training for social workers, including preparation of meeting space and materials, coordinating meals and travel arrangements, and maintaining meeting and training records.

5% Communications: Coordinate incoming and outgoing mail. Assist with requests for information.

20% Complaints and Investigations: Assist investigative committee with maintaining accurate electronic and hard copy files related to complaints against social workers and other administrative assistance. Prepare for administrative hearings by scheduling court reporter, hearing officer and security.

5% Compliance and Reporting: Coordinate agency compliance with applicable state laws, policies, procedures, legislative directives and executive orders.

Examples include:

- Civil Service Reporting: Complete Board and Commissions Reporting Forms.
- Fleet Management: Track and report mileage reimbursement for personally owned vehicles used for state business.
- Legal and Risk Reporting: Submit quarterly reports to the Louisiana Attorney General and Office of Risk Management regarding judgments, legal fees, and risk-related matters.
- Facility Reporting: Complete biannual reporting to Facility Planning and Control on underutilized office space.
- Training Compliance: Coordinate mandated training for board members and staff.

5% Fiscal Responsibilities: Assist with data entry of deposits, generation of accounts payable and provide necessary information and documents to CPA. Coordinate quarterly accounts receivable reporting.

5% Human Resources: Assist with verification of prior work experience for employment applicants and eligibility to work in the U.S. Coordinate with Civil Service, Office of Group Benefits, Louisiana State Employee Retirement System and LA Workforce Commission.

5% Information Technology: Request IT assistance for complex issues that cannot be resolved independently and request support for issues related to telephone system. Update agency website (create new content pages, upload meeting files, update email lists). Request email address and network access for new employees and members and request deactivation of access for separated employees and board members.

5% Office Operations: Coordinate building maintenance and repair of equipment.

5% Procurement: Coordinate agency's procurement of equipment, supplies and professional services including development of specifications, recommending selection of vendors, and maintaining existing vendor relationships.

Follow up on orders to ensure deliveries are received and accurate. Coordinate the issuance, reporting and renewal of contracts for professional services. Maintain records of transactions and vendor files.

5% Production Support: Coordinate agency's printing needs.

5% Property Control: Coordinate inventory of moveable assets owned by the agency, including assignment of property tags to new equipment, proper disposal of retired assets, and annual inventory.

10% Record Retention and Reporting: Coordinate record retention program including digitization of records, disposal requests and destruction of documents, maintaining records, making recommendations for record retention schedule changes, and ensuring agency compliance. Submit required records to the Louisiana Public Depository Program.