

**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners  
December 6, 2024**

Hyacinth McKee, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. on Friday, December 6, 2024. 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.

Bora Sunseri conducted a roll call. Board members present during the roll call included Bora Sunseri, LCSW-BACS, Jamie Barney, LCSW-BACS, Hyacinth McKee, LCSW-BACS, and Trinity George, RSW. Melissa Haley, LMSW, joined the meeting at 8:40 a.m. Sheri Morris, Legal Counsel, and Emily DeAngelo, Administrator, were also present at the meeting.

Evan Bergeron, Esq., Consumer Member, was absent. There is one vacant position on the board.

**Public Comments**

The floor was opened for public comment on each agenda item requiring a vote.

**Agenda**

**Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to adopt the agenda with the following amendment, table item 5(F) Exam committee recommendations to the January 10, 2025 meeting.

**Presentation of Consent Agreement and Orders**

In the matter of Shaniqua Wesley, File #2021-190

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agreement and Order for Shaniqua Wesley.

In the matter of Marlon Washington, File #2024-12

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to reject the Consent Agreement and Order for Marlon Washington. The Consent Agreement and Order will be reconsidered once additional requirements are included.

**Executive Session**

**Motion** was made by Bora Sunseri, 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: Bora Sunseri, yes; Jamie Barney, yes; Hyacinth McKee, yes; Melissa Haley, yes; and Trinity George, yes.

**Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 11:36 a.m.

Votes for coming out of Executive Session: Melissa Haley, yes; Jamie Barney, yes; Bora Sunseri, yes; Hyacinth McKee, yes; and Trinity George, yes.

### **Compliance Hearings**

A compliance hearing was conducted at the request of Chiera Randall to appeal the board's decision to deny her supervision completed under Celeste Lanclos, LCSW-BACS. The hearing panel included Trinity George, Melissa Haley, and Hyacinth McKee. Chiera Randall participated in-person and Celeste Lanclos participated via zoom.

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to approve supervision completed between October 6, 2022 and October 9, 2024.

A compliance hearing was conducted at the request of Carlee Swindle to appeal the board's decision to deny her supervision with Kellie Barbay, LCSW-BACS, that was completed more than 60 days prior to submitting a Supervision Contract. The hearing panel included Trinity George, Melissa Haley, and Hyacinth McKee. Carlee Swindle Shelton participated in-person.

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried deny supervision completed between October 6, 2022 and August 22, 2024.

### **Impaired Professional Program**

**Motion** was made by Bora Sunseri, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to approve the report submitted by Kathie Pohlman, IPP Manager.

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to lift the suspension from the license of MK-24 and be allowed to return to the practice of social work.

**Motion** was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to issue a summary suspension for the license of MM-24 and set a hearing for January 10, 2025.

### **Complaints**

- i. **Motion** was made by Melissa Haley and seconded by Bora Sunseri to dismiss Complaint #2024-118. The motion was unanimously carried.
- ii. **Motion** was made by Melissa Haley and seconded by Trinity George to dismiss Complaint #2025-11. The motion was unanimously carried.
- iii. **Motion** was made by Bora Sunseri and seconded by Trinity George to dismiss Complaint #2025-12. The motion was unanimously carried.
- iv. **Motion** was made by Trinity George and seconded by Bora Sunseri to dismiss Complaint #2025-31. The motion was unanimously carried.
- v. **Motion** was made by Melissa Haley and seconded by Trinity George to table Complaint #2025-40. The motion was unanimously carried.
- vi. **Motion** was made by Bora Sunseri and seconded by Trinity George to dismiss Complaint #2025-57. The motion was unanimously carried.

### **Applications**

**Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Melissa Haley and unanimously carried, to deny the supervised work experience Tamar Stark obtained prior to 60 days from the date the Supervision Contract was received and to offer her a compliance hearing. Denial of this supervised experience means that Tamar Stark has not met the requirements for LCSW.

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

Breland, Cheri  
Hall, Cynthia  
Hilliard, Emme  
Jarvis, Tukey'a  
McKenzie, Mytchiko  
Owens, LeChundra  
Wilson, Elanah

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for Reinstatement of the RSW.

Alexander, Anita  
Lewis, Sr., Edward

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

Bergeron, Alyssa  
Bergeron, Reese  
Donahue, Breona  
Ellis, Anika  
Grisby, Shanice  
Haywood, Laura  
Kinsey, Jasmine  
Lanphere, Margaret  
Murchison, Lynn  
Pontiff, Brianna  
Rodney, Lachante  
Rushing, Maria  
Salsberry, LaTavia  
Scallan, MacKenzie (early test approval)  
Simon, Megan  
Vidrine, London (early test approval)  
Vines, Hannah (early test approval)  
Williams, Kem'Michelle

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

Fontenot, Paulette  
Mercado, Veronica  
Walker, Tionna

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam.

Allegretti, Maria Casati (early test approval)  
Anderson, Emma (early test approval)  
Bermudez, Victor  
Brint, Jordan (early test approval)  
Carroll, Katherine  
Colly, Shawanna (early test approval)  
Cox, Corie  
Crear, Latondra (early test approval)

Cwik, Jessica (early test approval)  
Dougharty, Allie  
Dryden, Candice  
Frizzell, Jessica  
Hammontree, Willie  
Holmes, Melinda (early test approval)  
Jenkins, Darlene (early test approval)  
Johnson, Cynthia  
Johnson, Dajia  
Mercadel, Chanel  
Nyanganso, Queen (early test approval)  
Price, Joseph  
Soctt, Tanya Ralph  
Sevario, Alexis  
Smith, Jasmine  
Stevens, Jade  
Stewart, Ashley  
Templet, Layne (early test approval)  
Trahan, Gracie (early test approval)  
Vince, Sherlene

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for Reinstatement of the LCSW.  
Wilder, Angellun

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to approve the following Endorsement applicants for issuance of the LCSW.

Broughham, Jenifer  
Calhoun, Aisha  
Early, Patrice  
Gordon, Tamika  
Howland, Caroline  
Johnson, Chavonn  
Jones, Treva  
Owens, Yantale  
Pleshek, Megan  
Polk, Marcela  
Quigley, JoEllen  
Ritchey, Michael  
Silveira, Chelsie  
Sommerstein, Shira  
Tighe, Apryl  
Toth, Derek  
Twining, Shelby

**Personnel Matter**

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Jamie Barney and unanimously carried to approve the updated employment contract of Emily DeAngelo.

### Correspondence

- i. A'Leycia Stills, RSW- **Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to deny the request to accept an unofficial school transcript for the CSW/LMSW application.
- ii. Rosemary Berardino, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to grant the request for remote supervision with Samantha King, LCSW-BACS, through August 31, 2025.
- iii. Jessica Cwik, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Bora Sunseri, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to grant the request for remote supervision with Samantha King, LCSW-BACS, through August 31, 2025.

### Minutes

**Motion** was made by Bora Sunseri, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of the meeting held October 25, 2024.

### Board/Staff matters

- A. Report on office workflow and staffing – report attached to minutes.
- B. ASWB 2024 Delegate Assembly – verbal report from Hyacinth McKee. ASWB delegates elected seven members to the ASWB Board of Directors and three members to the Nominating Committee at the organization's 2024 Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly in San Diego, California, on Saturday, November 9, 2024. Kenya Anderson of Tennessee was voted president-elect. Endsley Real of Georgia was elected as secretary. Adrienne Ekas of Maryland and Stephan Viehweg of Indiana were elected as directors at large, licensed social worker; Vikki Erickson of Nevada was elected as director at large, member board administrator; Scott Stephens of South Carolina was elected as director at large, public member; and Brian Brumley of Texas was elected as director at large, open. Anderson will serve in the office of president for four years, one year as president-elect, two years as president, and one year as past president. Real, Ekas, Viehweg, Erickson, and Stephens will all serve two-year terms on the Board. Brumley will serve for one year to fill an unexpired term. Both resolutions and the proposed bylaws amendment passed.

**Motion** was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Trinity George to break for lunch, returning at 1:00 p.m.

### Executive session

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 1:05 p.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: Bora Sunseri, yes; Jamie Barney, yes; Hyacinth McKee, yes; Melissa Haley, yes; and Trinity George, yes.

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 1:16 p.m.

Votes for coming out of Executive Session: Melissa Haley, yes; Jamie Barney, yes; Bora Sunseri, yes; Hyacinth McKee, yes; and Trinity George, yes.

### Board/Staff matters

- C. Rules Update- Board members were provided with a list of the rules effective November 20, 2024 and a list of the rules that will be submitted to the Occupational Licensing Review Program (OLRP) for approval which includes telesupervision.
- D. Update on Contract with OLRP- Board members were advised that the contract with the Department of Justice has been executed with a maximum contract amount of \$35,990.28 for the period of January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 with half of the payment due at execution and half due prior to July 1, 2025.
- E. Social Work Compact Survey Results- There were a total of 1,343 responses to the survey. 83% indicated that they will apply for multistate licensure. The survey results will be published in the next newsletter.

### Financial

- A. Motion was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to approve funding for Hyacinth McKee to attend the 2025 Social Work Compact Commission meeting scheduled for 02/04/2025 through 02/05/2025. Funding includes airfare, hotel and meals at GSA rate for Lexington, Kentucky.
- B. Motion was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Bora Sunseri and unanimously carried, to approve funding for an exhibitor at the 2025 NASW-LA Annual Conference.

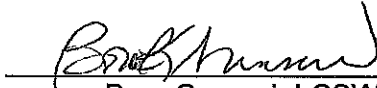
### Correspondence

- a. American Foundation for Suicide Prevention LA-Chapter- **Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to approve the application submitted by American Foundation for Suicide Prevention LA-Chapter to be a continuing education pre-approval organization.
- b. National Hansen's Disease Program- **Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to approve the application submitted by National Hansen's Disease Program to be a continuing education pre-approval organization.
- c. Pro Renew Academy- **Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to approve the application submitted by Pro Renew Academy to be a continuing education pre-approval organization.
- d. MaryAnne Candley, LMSW- Ms. Candley was advised that LA R.S. 37:23 requires an occupational licensing board to have a social security number for applicants to be issued a license.
- e. Sara Darling, LCSW- Requested information relative to providing services to a client that is located offshore. She was advised this requires additional legal research before a response can be provided.
- f. Mackenzie Smith, BSW Student- Board members reviewed her concerns related to the ASWB examinations.
- g. Nita Baucom, LCSW-BACS- **Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to approve the request to provide the 6.5-hour BACS workshop on March 14, 2025, May 9, 2025, September 12, 2025, and November 7, 2025.
- h. Audrey Barton, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Bora Sunseri, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to approve the position of Intake Coordinator at Beacon Behavioral for supervision towards LCSW.

- i. Dominique Williams, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to approve the position of Program Manager 1A with the Louisiana Department of Health for supervision towards LCSW. **Motion** was made by Bora Sunseri, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to approve remote supervision with Megan Thiel, LCSW-BACS. Public comment made by Dominique Williams.
- j. Angela Abel, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Bora Sunseri, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to approve the request for remote supervision with Joseph Bodenmiller, LCSW-BACS, pending the receipt of mileage to travel of at least 60 miles within two weeks.
- k. Rebecca Davidsson, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to approve the request for remote supervision with Lisa Williams, LCSW-BACS, pending the receipt of mileage to travel of at least 60 miles within two weeks.
- l. Nicole King, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Bora Sunseri, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to approve the request for remote supervision with Sarah Carbo, LCSW-BACS.
- m. Briyonna Lewis, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Bora Sunseri, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to approve the request for remote supervision with Andrew Wilson, LCSW-BACS.
- n. Abigail Meza, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to approve the request for remote supervision with Christy Goodwin, LCSW-BACS.
- o. Alexis Vanderlass, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Melissa Haley, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried to approve the request for remote supervision with William Lieder, LCSW-BACS.
- p. Ashley Drurr, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to deny the request of credit for supervised work experience and offer a compliance hearing.
- q. Haley Kraus, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Bora Sunseri, seconded by Melissa Haley, and unanimously carried, to approve the request to accept the supervised work experience hours completed.
- r. Renee Ridgley, LMSW- **Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to deny the request of credit for supervised work experience and offer a compliance hearing.
- s. Savannah Bumgardner, RSW- The board referred Savannah Bumgardner to Rule 111G(2) and 111G(3) in response to her question about creating a home study report. She was also advised to consult with a social work supervisor if available.

**Motion** made by Trinity George to adjourn the meeting at 3:21 p.m.

  
Hyacinth McKee, LCSW-BACS  
Chairperson

  
Bora Sunseri, LCSW-BACS  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Workflow Report Presented on December 6, 2024**

**Since October 25, 2024 Meeting**

Requests for early testing – Masters	8
Requests for early testing – Clinical	7
Early testers issued LMSW	1
Early testers issued LCSW	7
LMSWs issued (not early testers)	37
LCSWs issued (not early testers)	22
BACS issued	10
Retake applications approved	68
Supervision Contracts approved	50
Other supervision approvals	30
Background checks mailed to LSP	45
License verifications	51
In-person CE waiver requests – out of state	3
In-person CE waiver requests – medical	4
Open Book Exam Invites 10/25 – 12/03	9
Open Book Exam Passed 10/25 – 12/03	12
Open Book Exam Failed 10/25 – 12/03	1

Received 15 complaints between 10/21/24 and 11/22/24

Written response	7
Investigation	1
Under consideration	1
Not accepted – not a social worker	4
Not accepted – no violation	2

Other activities:

2 licensing presentations provided to SLU 11/18/24  
 IdentoGO – effective 11/25/24