

**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners  
October 21, 2022**

Hyacinth McKee, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, October 21, 2022. The meeting was conducted at the Board office and streamed via video conference, and all interested parties were provided the information to join the meeting. Sheri Morris, Legal Counsel, and Emily DeAngelo, Administrator, were present for the meeting.

Bora Sunseri conducted roll call. Board members present at the time of roll call included Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW, Hyacinth McKee, LCSW, Carla Moore, LMSW, Bora Sunseri, LCSW, Trinity George, RSW, Evan Bergeron, Esq., and Jamie Barney, LCSW.

**AGENDA**

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to approve the agenda as presented.

**PRESENTATION OF VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

James Raines presented a Voluntary Surrender of License for Michelle Graffeo in resolution of Complaint #2022-82.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Trinity George and unanimously carried, to accept the Voluntary Surrender of License for Michelle Graffeo.

**PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER**

James Raines presented a Consent Agreement and Order for Rhia Biagas in resolution of Complaint #2019-239.

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order for Rhia Biagas.

**MINUTES**

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Carla Moore, and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2022 board meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Jessica Shelton, LMSW – requesting extension until 10/26/22 to complete continuing education and pay renewal fee  
**Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Evan Bergeron, and unanimously carried, to approve Jessica Shelton’s request for an extension due to extenuating circumstances.
  
- b. Sandy Baker, LMSW & Marlene Lucas, LCSW-BACS – requesting supervision credit from January 2022  
**Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to deny the supervision and to offer her and Ms. Lucas a compliance hearing.

R. Fletcher commented that the supervision credit should be approved.  
Gina Rossi asked about other options the Board has to offer.  
LaJuan Brown commented that a compliance hearing sounds like Ms. Baker did something wrong and she didn't because she has been under the supervision of a BACS.  
Shakiyla Lindsey commented that her supervisor did not realize there are additional steps to obtain approval of supervision.

- c. Robert Chilton, LMSW – requesting to use employment as a Special Education Teacher as social work experience  
**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to deny using employment as a Special Education Teacher as social work experience.

Michelle Norwood commented that one does not have to have a social work title to be providing social work services.

R. Fletcher asked why the board makes decisions and then asks for public comments.

- d. Eliza Selman, CSW – requesting a waiver of the retake application fee  
**Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to deny Eliza Selman's request for a waiver of the retake application fee.

Eliza Selman and Carmen Weisner both commented.

- e. Justin Jolet, MSW – question relative to mandatory reporting  
Board members advised that there is no requirement in the Social Work Practice Act or the Rules, Standards and Procedures to mandatory report a client's admission to abusing an animal. It was recommended that Justin Jolet consult with the agency's legal counsel.
- f. Absolute Services Solutions, LLC – application for continuing education approval organization  
**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to approve the application for continuing education approval contingent on receipt of clarification that the writers of the letters of recommendation are all social service providers.
- g. Erich Duchmann, PhD, MP – concerns regarding Act 487 of the 2022 Regular Session  
**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to authorize counsel to prepare an opinion request from the Attorney General and to copy other similar licensing boards.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle, and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 10:03 a.m. for the following reasons:

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, LCSW, yes; Evan Bergeron, yes; Bora Sunseri, LCSW, yes; Ruth Weinzettle, yes; Carla Moore, yes; Trinity George, yes; and Hyacinth McKee, yes.

**Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle, and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 1:00 p.m.

Votes for coming out of Executive Session: Jamie Barney, LCSW, yes; Evan Bergeron, yes; Bora Sunseri, LCSW, yes; Ruth Weinzettle, yes; Carla Moore, yes; Trinity George, yes; and Hyacinth McKee, yes.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

- h. Latoya Spencer, LMSW- request to remove disciplinary flag  
**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to remove the disciplinary flag from the Board's website.
- i. Myra Hidalgo, LCSW-BACS – reporting abuse that occurred in another state Board members advised that they are not aware of a law that requires mandatory reporting abuse of your adult client when he was a minor. It was recommended that Ms. Hidalgo seek legal counsel.
- j. Elois Parquet, LCSW-BACS – requesting a refund of the late renewal fee  
**Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to deny refunding the late renewal fee.

## **BOARD/STAFF MATTERS**

### **Report on office workflow and staffing**

The workflow report is attached.

### **Schedule 2023 Board Meetings**

The board set the following meeting dates:

January 13 Board Meeting  
January 14 Strategic Planning  
February 24 Board Meeting  
March 24 Board Meeting  
April 28 Board Meeting  
April 29 Strategic Planning  
June 2 Board Meeting  
July 7 Board Meeting

July 8 Strategic Planning  
August 11 Board Meeting  
September 15 Board Meeting  
October 20 Board Meeting  
October 21 Strategic Planning  
December 1 Board Meeting

**NASW-LA Chapter Annual Conference**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle, and unanimously carried, to submit a proposal to present on ethics.

**ASWB Election Slate**

**Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to vote as follows.

President-Elect – Brian Philson

Treasurer – Geraldine Poirrier Baiani

Secretary – Dayirai Kapfunde

Director at Large – Ann Marie Buchanan, Carla Moore

Director at Large Public Member – Brenda Dennis

Director at Large Administrator – Elizabeth Pope

Nominating Committee – Joline Comeaux, Shelley Hale, Lynnet Keely

**Palliative Care Interdisciplinary Advisory Council Appointment**

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Carla Moore, and unanimously carried, to appoint Edgar Guedry and Shelly Weaver as his proxy.

**FINANCIAL**

**Report from Rob Furman, CPA**

Mr. Furman was unable to attend the meeting.

**Amendment to CPA contract**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Bora Sunseri, and unanimously carried, to increase the maximum contract amount to \$5,750.00.

**Compliance Hearings**

The panel for the hearings included Jamie Barney, Evan Bergeron, and Bora Sunseri.

**Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Evan Bergeron, and unanimously carried, to approve the LMSW application submitted by Tyesha Andrews.

**Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Evan Bergeron, and unanimously carried, to approve the LMSW application submitted by Albert Bauman.

**Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Evan Bergeron, and unanimously carried, to approve the LMSW application submitted by Blair Menard.

### **Impaired Professional Program**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron and seconded by Jamie Barney to accept the IPP report provided by IPP Manager, Kathie Pohlman. The motion was unanimously carried.

### **Disciplinary Monitoring Report**

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to release three licensees from their Consent Agreement and Order for successfully completing the terms.

**Motion** was made by Ruth Weinzettle, seconded by Evan Bergeron, and unanimously carried, to grant Tanya Smith an extension through January 31, 2023 to complete the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order.

**Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to grant Kendra Braxton an extension through February 7, 2023 to complete the terms of her Consent Agreement and Order.

### **Complaints**

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee and seconded by Jamie Barney, to dismiss Complaint #2021-196. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Carla Moore and seconded by Jamie Barney to dismiss Complaint #2022-08. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Carla Moore and seconded by Jamie Barney to dismiss Complaint #2022-50. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Trinity George and seconded by Jamie Barney to dismiss Complaint #2022-89. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee and seconded by Jamie Barney to dismiss Complaint #2023-05. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Trinity George and seconded by Jamie Barney to dismiss Complaint #2023-06. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Hyacinth McKee and seconded by Jamie Barney to dismiss Complaint #2023-11. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Motion** was made by Carla Moore and seconded by Jamie Barney to dismiss Complaint #2023-17 with a letter of education. The motion was unanimously carried.

## **Applications**

**Motion** was made by Jamie Barney, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to deny the RSW application submitted by Arlyndria Williams and to offer her a compliance hearing. Ms. Williams's bachelor's program is not accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

**Motion** was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle, and unanimously carried, to approve the LCSW reinstatement application submitted by Lynne Jordan with an extension through March 31, 2023 to complete the required continuing education.

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

Quinecia Norman  
Melissa Baxter  
Zariah Magee  
Petrina Dawkins  
Linda Wilson  
Ameerah Muhammad  
Tracy Bolgiano  
Shervonda Smith  
Alayah Walker  
Stephanie Bundle  
Jimmie Gibson  
Cindy Kendall  
Shania Lewis

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Ruth Weinzettle, 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.

Alexandra Bernstein  
Angeletta Petit  
Thebia Hudson  
Kenyatta Williams  
Special Crawford  
Sarah Evans  
Jennifer Gregorio  
Erica Wade  
Sarah Schlueter  
Summer Carreon  
Kelsey Carter  
Sharnice Byrd  
Roberta Lambert  
Karime Capetillo  
Danialle Delosh  
Lyric Johnson  
Abigail Scripture

Katherine Gallagher  
Matthew Comeaux  
Carolyn Le

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

Ashley Seaton

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

Katie Glover  
Kelly Hendricks  
Cydni Fisher  
Hannah Nale  
Sean Brune  
Kathy Lee Cornell

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

Nathaniel Wallo  
Paige Hood  
Katie Simon  
Telihia Dobson  
Shelby Wilson  
Zayd Sifri  
Megan Mcgee  
Matquita Johnson  
Ashley Haley  
Ashley Jones  
Sara Helferich  
Rachel Vanglider  
Shane Boyington  
Michael Rozales

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to approve the following endorsement applicants for Licensed Clinical Social Work.

Amanda Bernheim  
Jacqueline Garza  
Heather Burroughs  
Stephanie Roberts  
Kathryn Lucey  
Danielle Tyler  
Rosemarie Diaz

**Motion** was made by Trinity George, seconded by Jamie Barney, and unanimously carried, to approve the following reinstatement application for Licensed Clinical Social Work.

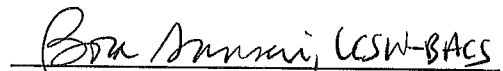
Tanya Edwards  
Jada Ali

**AMEND AGENDA**

**Motion** was made by Evan Bergeron, seconded by Trinity George, and unanimously carried, to add Michael Rozales's LCSW application to the agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

  
Hyacinth McKee, LCSW-BACS  
Chairperson

  
Bora Sunseri, LCSW-BACS  
Secretary-Treasurer



## 10/21/22 Chat

13:01:29 From Flora Cooper To Everyone:

. to see that Chat is enabled now

13:02:00 From Carmen Weisner To All Panelists:



13:02:45 From Jamie Barney To All Panelists:

Good evening

13:04:21 From Y Fletcher To All Panelists:

Thank you all for getting it straight

13:05:03 From Y Fletcher To All Panelists:

So may y'all should approved the LMSW's supervision

13:05:09 From Beryl deMontluzin , LCSW To Everyone:

Welcome

13:05:59 From Y Fletcher To All Panelists:

If she can prove she'd been working with a lcsw BACS long enough

13:10:38 From michael rosalez To All Panelists:

Good afternoon, regarding the LCSW application portion of the meeting, I do not see my name. I submitted all appropriated paperwork. Thank you.

13:17:07 From Flora Cooper To Everyone:

My understanding is, there is no limitation if it is sexual abuse and the perpetrator currently has access to other children.???????

13:19:12 From Clara Farley To All Panelists:

Is the adult being abused presently?

If so then it need to be reported to Adult protection.

13:45:34 From Y Fletcher To All Panelists:

Do parents of children any age how the right to know all and any information shared with their child's therapist I ask this question via email a few weeks ago

14:59:47 From michael rosalez To All Panelists:

I do apologize, was my application approved?

15:00:05 From michael rosalez To All Panelists:

Thank you.