

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
September 9, 2016**

Judith Haspel, LCSW, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, September 9, 2016, in the conference room at the Board office located at 18550 Highland Road, Suite B, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Emily DeAngelo, Administrator, was present for the entire meeting.

Carla Moore, LMSW, conducted roll call. Board members present at the time of roll call included Judith Haspel, LCSW, Robert Showers, RSW, Yolanda Burnom, LCSW, Carla Moore, LMSW, Paulette Walker, M.Ed., Public Member, Marguerite "Peggy" Salley, LCSW, and John Shalett, LCSW.

Persons present for the public sections of the meeting included Joseph Keegan, Carmen Weisner, Shelly Weaver, Christine Butler, and Jodi Cain-Mallett.

AGENDA

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to amend the agenda to add a letter from Carmen Weisner, Executive Director of NASW-LA Chapter, dated September 9, 2016, to correspondence.

Motion was made by John Shalett, seconded by Yolanda Burnom and unanimously carried, to amend the agenda to add the following pending complaints, 2016-42, 2016-07, 2016-124, 2016-118, 2016-119, 2016-120, 2016-08, 2016-47, 2016-99, 2016-122, and 2016-140.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joseph Keegan advised the board that they are violating the Practice Act with regard to renewals and continuing education. He offered a letter to the board members outlining his concerns.

Carmen Weisner, Executive Director of NASW-LA Chapter, advised that their newsletter was distributed electronically and posted on the website. The newsletter included legislation from the last session. She also told the board that they extended the deadline for the call for proposals for the 2017 annual conference.

MINUTES

Motion was made by Yolanda Burnom, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to accept the minutes of the August 5, 2016 meeting as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE

Motion was made by Yolanda Burnom, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to get an opinion from George Papale for responding to the letter from John Gianforte with the LA Association of Behavioral Health Providers.

Board members advised **Marissa Wilson, LMSW**, that the situation she described is not a conflict as it relates to Angela Wiggins-Harris providing BACS supervision.

Motion was made by Peggy Salley, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to request that ASWB waive the 90-day wait between exams for **Amena Pouncy Bogan, CSWB**.

Motion was made by John Shalett, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to table the request made by **Karaline Zeigler, LMSW**.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Yolanda Burnom and unanimously carried, to grant supervision credit for **Janie Ortego, LMSW**, from November 30, 2015.

Board members received a letter from **Colette Melancon, LCSW-BACS**, that they not penalize Pamela Reitan, LMSW, for her Plan of Supervision revisions being submitted late. **Motion** was made by Yolanda Burnom, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to file a complaint against Colette Melancon, LCSW-BACS

Board members received an email from **Julie Shreve, LCSW**, asking if the board has an avenue to recognize a longstanding social worker who is retiring. The board referred Ms. Shreve to NASW-LA Chapter because it does not have such.

Motion was made by John Shalett, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to approve the application submitted by **Tulane School of Social Work** to renew their pre-approval status of social work continuing education.

Motion was made by John Shalett, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to table the letter submitted by Carmen Weisner, Executive Director of NASW-LA Chapter, until the October meeting. **Motion** was made by John Shalett, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to forward the letter to George Papale for his legal review and response to the concerns that reference the Practice Act. **Motion** was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Peggy Salley and unanimously carried, to ask Covalent Logic to create an online tutorial for entering continuing education and renewing a license. **Motion** was made by Peggy Salley, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to not spend more than \$5,000.00 for creating a tutorial.

BOARD/STAFF ISSUES

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by John Shalett and unanimously carried, to send Emily DeAngelo to ASWB's Fall Delegate Assembly in San Diego, CA, in November, 2016.

Board members were advised that Judy Haspel will be responding on behalf of the board to **NASW's Call for Proposals** for the 2017 annual conference.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 9:22 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: John Shalett, yes; Peggy Salley, yes; Yolanda Burnom, yes; Robert Showers, yes; Carla Moore, yes; and Paulette Walker, yes.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by John Shalett and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 10:45 a.m.

New Complaints

Motion was made by Peggy Salley, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2017-17** and to request a written response that addresses client abandonment. Possible violations include LA R.S. 37:2717(A)(7), Rule 107B, and 111H.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Yolanda Burnom and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2017-19** and to send for investigation. Possible violations include LA R.S. 37:2717(A)(10), 2720(A)(2), (3), Rules 111(G)(2),(3) and 303A.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to not accept **Complaint #2017-20** because it falls outside of the board's purview.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Peggy Salley and unanimously carried, to not accept **Complaint #2017-21** because it falls outside of the board's purview and should be addressed with the agency.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2017-22** and to request a written response. Possible violations include LA R.S. 2718(B)(1) and Rule 115A.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2017-23** and to request a written response. Possible violations include Rule 107D.

Pending Complaints

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2016-174**.

Motion was made by Peggy Salley, seconded by Yolanda Burnom and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2016-118**.

Motion was made by Peggy Salley, seconded by Yolanda Burnom and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2016-119**.

Motion was made by Peggy Salley, seconded by Yolanda Burnom and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2016-120**.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Yolanda Burnom and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2016-42**.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2016-07**.

Motion was made by Peggy Salley, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2016-124**.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2016-08**.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Yolanda Burnom and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2016-47**.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Peggy Salley and unanimously carried, to table **Complaint #2016-99** until October meeting.

Motion was made by Yolanda Burnom, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2016-122**.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Yolanda Burnom and unanimously carried, to dismiss **Complaint #2016-140**.

Renewal Applications

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Yolanda Burnom and unanimously carried, to approve the renewal application submitted by Tyra Mercadel.

Motion was made by Paulette Walker, seconded by Yolanda Burnom and unanimously carried, to approve the renewal application submitted by Ada Craige-Roberson, open a complaint file, require her to complete a criminal background check and submit all court documentation.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Yolanda Burnom and unanimously carried, to grant AL an extension to collect continuing education and to refer her to the IPP.

COMPLIANCE HEARING – Shantae Johnson, MSW

Shantae Johnson requested a compliance hearing to appeal the board's decision to deny her LMSW application. Ms. Johnson testified that her DUI arrest will come off her record in five years and that she has completed a pre-trial diversion program. She further testified to board members that she does not consider herself a substance abuser or substance dependent. She attests that her problems were due to domestic abuse perpetrated by her daughter's father who is now incarcerated. She reports having no contact with her child's father.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by John Shalett, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 11:09 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: John Shalett, yes; Peggy Salley, yes; Yolanda Burnom, yes; Robert Showers, yes; Carla Moore, yes; and Paulette Walker, yes.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by John Shalett and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 11:12 a.m.

Compliance Hearing

Motion was made by Yolanda Burnom, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to approve the LMSW application submitted by Shantae Johnson, MSW.

Disciplinary Monitoring Report

Motion was made by Peggy Salley, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to accept the disciplinary monitoring report provided by Regina DeWitt, Administrative Assistant.

Motion was made by Peggy Salley, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to release the following individuals from their Consent Agreement and Order for successfully completing all terms:

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Kristine Berger | Salley Robinson |
| Debbie Murphy | Alonzo Powell |
| Earnest DeJean, Jr. | Martha Simon |

Applications

Motion was made by Yolanda Burnom, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to approve the application for RSW submitted by **Carol Austin** conditional of a Consent Agreement and Order for unlicensed practice.

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Paulette Walker and unanimously carried, to approve the application for RSW submitted by **Dana Hunter** conditional of a Consent Agreement and Order for unlicensed practice.

Motion was made by John Shalett, seconded by Yolanda Burnom and unanimously carried, to deny the application for LCSW via endorsement submitted by **Kujachacia Knapper** due to information provided by the Texas board and to offer her a compliance hearing.

Motion was made by Yolanda Burnom, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for registration as a Registered Social Worker:

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Barre, Courtney | Jones, Shantrelle A. |
| Ben, Julia M. | Lynn, Rachele |
| Brewster, Sophie B. | Mitchell, Joy M. |
| Carter, Sherry A. | Rogers, Carmella |
| Celestin, Latoya D. | Smith, Ernesha A. |
| Delavallade, Shannon R. | Smith, Rahvi J. |
| Franklin, Kim H. | Taylor, Letriane A. |
| Garner, Deyonna M. | Waddis, Eugene Jr. |
| Harris, Melissa | Werner, Megan |

Motion was made by Yolanda Burnom, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for Certified Social Worker certification and to grant approval for the applicants to sit for the ASWB Masters examination for licensing as a Licensed Master Social Worker:

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|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Bradley, Rosalyn N. | Kim, Youn K. |
| Brewer, Jeremy D. | Luis, Alissa S. |
| Celestine, Thea R. | Rushing, Kandi S. |
| Church, Selena B. | Schimke, Cortney B. |
| Franklin, Kim D. | Scott, Jennifer |
| Frank-Ridgeway, Joyce | Willis, Kimberlin M. |
| Gage-Harden, Kayla | Wilson, Katrina |
| Harris, Meisha C. | |

Motion was made by Yolanda Burnom, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to issue LMSW through endorsement to the following applicants:
Wedlock, Thy (END-MS)

Motion was made by John Shalett, seconded by Yolanda Burnom and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for Certified Social Worker certification and to grant approval for the applicants to sit for the ASWB Masters examination for licensing as a Licensed Master Social Worker pending receipt of their transcript:
Porta, Megan

Motion was made by Yolanda Burnom, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants to sit for the ASWB Clinical exam for licensing as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker:

Abshire, Laryn B.

Anthony, Ashley K.

Benoit, Alexandra M.

Brightman, Felice

Brown, Marilyn K.

Cadet, Ruth M.

Edwards, Shadaria N.

Hebert, Racheal E.

Leiva, Teri T.

Lowman, Erika S.

McLean, Megan

Morrise, Treniece J.

Razza, Marybeth

Salmeron, Maria J.

Seals, Letisha L.

Williams, Dawn D.

Williams, Patricia

Motion was made by Yolanda Burnom, seconded by Peggy Salley and unanimously carried, to issue LCSW through endorsement to the following applicants:

Bright, Sidonna (END-TN)

Saravia, Kristina (END-NC)

Tate, Lori (END-MS)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Peggy Salley, seconded by Yolanda Burnom and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 11:59 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: John Shalett, yes; Peggy Salley, yes; Yolanda Burnom, yes; Robert Showers, yes; Carla Moore, yes; and Paulette Walker, yes.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by John Shalett and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 12:13 p.m.

Impaired Professional Program

Motion was made by Peggy Salley, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to accept the report provided by Kathie Pohlman, LCSW-BACS, IPP Manager.

Adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Judith Haspel, LCSW
Chairperson

Carla Moore, LMSW
Secretary-Treasurer