

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
March 28, 2014**

Judith Haspel, LCSW, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, March 28, 2014, in the conference room at the Board office located at 18550 Highland Road, Suite B, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Emily Efferson, Administrator and Regina DeWitt, Administrative Assistant, were present for the entire meeting. Carmen Weisner, Ayla Expose, Jessica Holden, Damon Lowrey, Michelle Minor, Natalie Morris, Melissa Shows and Heidi Shapiro were present for a part of the public portion of the meeting.

Carla Moore, LMSW, conducted roll call. Board members present at the time of roll call included Robert Showers, RSW, Lisa Lipsey, LCSW, Judith Haspel, LCSW, Carla Moore, LMSW, and Parker Sternbergh, LCSW.

John McBride, LCSW, was not present for the meeting.

AGENDA

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Lisa Lipsey and unanimously carried, to accept the agenda with the addition of 7(a) SB 539.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carmen Weisner, Executive Director of NASW-LA, reported that they will be mailing out the evaluations from the workshop that the board presented at their conference soon. She also advised the board that they will be interviewing a public member candidate and that several letters of interest have been received for Lisa Lipsey's position. Ms. Weisner also reported to the board that representatives of behavioral health associations met on Friday, March 21 to discuss proposed legislation which affect the mental health professions. The bills included in the discussion were:

HB 15 Adds licensed professional counselors to the list of persons who may serve on a clinical team appointed in lieu of a sanity commission

HB 215 Legal Defense Fund Article that provides legislative reference to other state statutes on criminalization of sexual contact

HB 256 Creates the crime of battery of emergency room personnel. We want to add social workers to the list of professionals identified.

HB 517 - reporting of info relative to certain orders involving mental illness

HB 634 Art Therapist licensure

HB 727 - psychological health information prior to abortion

HB 758 - bullying

HB 911 - provides relative to provisional occupational licenses for ex-offenders

SB 71 - Behavioral Analyst Practice Act

SB 121 Clarifies certain definitions within the La. Mental Health Counselor Licensing Act

SB 128 School Psychologist licensure

SB 194 which is LCA and LAMFTs bill re title change - Counselor Intern to Provision LPC

SB 157 Provisional Licenses for Psychologist

SB 427 - relative to the La State Board of Medical Examiners

SB 539 History of Legislative Action in State of Washington on Suicide Training

PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

Emalie Boyce, Assistant Attorney General, presented the board with a Consent Agreement and Order for **Keri Watson, MSW**, which had been previously negotiated and agreed to by Ms. Watson in resolution of Complaint # 2014-96. **Motion** was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Lisa Lipsey and unanimously carried, to accept the Consent Agreement and Order as presented.

MINUTES of the meeting held February 21, 2014

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to accept the minutes of the meeting held February 21, 2014 as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE

Heather Stewart, LCSW

Ms. Stewart requested the board's opinion on a "search and seizure" policy that has been enacted by her employer. Members of the board expressed their concern and agreed that it is plausible that such a policy could impact a potential therapeutic relationship. Ms. Stewart was advised that the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act and Rules, Standards and Procedures do not specifically prohibit this practice.

Cindy Luke, LMSW

Motion was made by Parker Sternberg, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to deny the request submitted by Cindy Luke, LMSW, to remove her disciplinary action for unlicensed practice from the LABSWE website.

Susan Anderson

Ms. Anderson submitted a letter to the Board regarding the disposition of client files following the death of the client's social worker. Members of the board referred Ms. Anderson to 111G of the Rules, Standards and Procedures.

Susan Hutchinson, LCSW-BACS

Ms. Hutchinson submitted a letter to the Board regarding the disposition of client files following the death of the client's social worker. Members of the board informed Ms. Hutchinson that there currently is not a rule that specifically speaks to notifying clients after the death of their social worker. Ms. Hutchinson was referred to 111G of the Rules, Standards and Procedures. Members of the Board agreed to consider Ms. Hutchinson's offer of an article regarding this issue to publish in their newsletter..

Audra Kyrk, LMSW

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to deny the request to allow Ms. Kyrk to complete all of her continuing education hours via distance learning. Ms. Kyrk was referred to rule 317(M)(2) and (3) of the Rules, Standards and Procedures for approved learning situations for continuing education.

Karen Travis, LCSW

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Carla Moore and carried by majority vote, to approve Ms. Travis' request to allow all of the supervision completed with Heather Anders, LMSW, to count toward the supervision requirement to apply for the LCSW. Lisa Lipsey abstained from the vote.

Financial

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to raise the maximum contract amount by \$21,000.00 on Kathie Pohlman's contract.

BOARD/STAFF ISSUES

Proposed Legislation

Members of the board reviewed and discussed the following proposed legislation that have potential impact social workers and the board: HB #215, HB #322, HB #406, HB #911, and SB #539.

House Bill 215 creates the crime of prohibited sexual contact by a psychotherapist and provides for criminal penalties.

House Bill 322 will require boards to post proposed changes to rules and standards to their website. LABSWE already posts proposed changes to its website, so this will not be a change.

House Bill 406 has no effect on the board or social workers.

House Bill 911 requires boards to issue provisional licenses to applicants with convictions, unless the convictions falls under one of the exclusions listed in the bill. Carmen Weisner requested that the board have George Papale review the bill and suggest language that can be used so that if the bill becomes law, a change in our Practice Act will not be required.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Parker Sternbergh and unanimously carried, to forward the bill to George Papale for his review and recommendation on revised language.

Senate Bill 539 will require social workers to obtain six hours of training in the area of suicide prevention every five years. There are 26 states with this type of legislation.

ASWB Examination Pass Rates

Motion was made by Lisa Lipsey, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to forward the 2013 examination pass rates to the Universities that have social work programs in Louisiana and to also post the statistics on the LABSWE website.

CLEAR- Agenda for Annual Educational Conference

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to approve three (3) board members to attend the 2014 CLEAR Annual Educational Conference.

SSA Consultants- Upcoming Training Classes

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to approve Emily Efferson to register for both upcoming trainings in the amount of \$275.00 each.

Continuing Education- Review of Movies and Books

Motion was made by Lisa Lipsey, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to form a continuing education committee to include representatives from the LABSWE, NASW, and LSU School of Social Work.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 10:49 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

to discuss prospective litigation.

Votes for going into Executive Session: Robert Showers, yes; Carla Moore, yes; Judith Haspel, yes and Parker Sternbergh, yes.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 3:36 p.m.

DISCIPLINARY MONITORING REPORT

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to approve the disciplinary report.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to release **Jennifer Ballenger, LMSW**, from her Consent Agreement and Order. Ms. Ballenger has submitted evidence that she has completed all of the terms in her agreement.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to release **Brittany Joseph, CSW**, from her Consent Agreement and Order. Ms. Joseph has submitted evidence that she has completed all of the terms in her agreement.

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Parker Sternbergh and unanimously carried, to release **Denise Juluke, RSW**, from her Consent Agreement and Order. Ms. Juluke has submitted evidence that she has completed all of the terms in her agreement.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to release **Amy Riep, LMSW**, from her Consent Agreement and Order. Ms. Riep has submitted evidence that she has completed all of the terms in her agreement.

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Parker Sternbergh and unanimously carried, to release **Kimberly Rogers, CSW**, from her Consent Agreement and Order. Ms. Rogers has submitted evidence that she has completed all of the terms in her agreement.

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to release **Lucretia Griffin, RSW**, from her Consent Agreement and Order. Ms. Griffin has submitted evidence that she has completed all of the terms in her agreement.

NEW COMPLAINTS

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2014-107** and to send to investigation for possible violation of Rule 107B, 109B, 111G(5,6), 111H(1,2,3), 113A and LA R.S. 2717A (4,5,7,11).

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2014-108** and to request a written response from the respondent.

Motion was made by Lisa Lipsey, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2014-109** and to request a written response from the respondent.

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to not accept **Complaint #2014-110** for failure to rise to a level of a violation of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act or the Rules, Standards and Procedures. This situation appears to be an agency matter.

Motion was made by Lisa Lipsey, seconded by Parker Sternbergh and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2014-111** and to request a written response from the respondent.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2014-112** and send to investigation for possible violation of Rule 107B, 111G (2,3), 111H(1), 113A , 121B and 2717A(4,5,7,10,11).

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2014-113** and send to investigation for possible violation of Rule 107B, 111G (2,3), 111H(1), 113A , 121B and 2717A(4,5,7,10,11).

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to accept **Complaint #2014-114** and send to investigation for possible violation of Rule 107B, 111G (2,3), 111H(1), 113A , 121B and 2717A(4,5,7,10,11).

Pending Complaints

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to refer **Complaint #2013-63** to the Assistant Attorney General for reconsideration.

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to not accept the recommendation for dismissal for **Complaint #2014-40**. This complaint will be assigned to a recused board member.

Impaired Professional Program Monitoring Report

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to approve the IPP monitoring report.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Lisa Lipsey and unanimously carried, to offer **FM-13** the opportunity to complete a new comprehensive evaluation and new Participation Agreement based on the results of the evaluation.

Motion was made by Lisa Lipsey, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to release **MG-10** from the therapy requirement of his Participation Agreement.

Motion was made by Lisa Lipsey, seconded by Parker Sternbergh and unanimously carried, to approve **DL-09** request to allow Dr. Harris to provide medication management services only.

Applications

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to request that **Kalenthia Hunter, LMSW**, to submit additional information relative to criminal charges, prior to considering her application.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to offer **Christina Hurd**, a level four Consent Agreement and Order for unlicensed practice.

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to request that **Shanda Cook-Grimes**, submit additional information relative to her current job description and position requirements prior to considering her application.

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded Parker Sternbergh and unanimously carried, to deny **Aimee Blanche-Coster's** application for the Registered Social Worker. She does not have a degree majoring in social work. Ms. Blanche-Coster has been offered a Compliance Hearing.

Motion was made by Parker Sternbergh, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to deny **Natalie Stanbro's** application for the LMSW. Ms. Stanbro has been offered a Compliance Hearing.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Parker Sternbergh and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for registration as a Registered Social Worker:

Abrusley, Amanda	Ard, Ashley
Dalmas, Dianne	Fox, Kimberlyn
Hunter, Kirby	Jules Ramos-Garcia, Ashanti
Lewis, Christen	Livingston, Le'Keidra
Lyons, Brittany	McDowell, Kimberly
Robinson, Kenya	Scott, Shervonda
Winn, Tina	

Motion was made by Carla Moore, seconded by Robert Showers and unanimously carried, to approve the following applicants for the 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:

Bernath, Amy	Brown, Kevin
Dillard, Jacquelyn	Dyer, Jodi
Fontenot, Joselyn	Merrit, Valencia
Taylor-Small, Kemco	Vidrine, Donna

Motion was made by Carla Moore, 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:

Andrus, Melissa	Aucoin, Amy
Barker, Rebecca	Black, Kimberly
Bondurant, Elizabeth	Coates, Alana
Estis, Jenna	Harris, Melissa
Rote, Ryan	Russell, Rebecca
Schultz, Bonnie	Vincent, Emily
Willheit, Teresa	

RENEWAL APPLICATION

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Lisa Lipsey and unanimously carried, to not consider the RSW renewal application submitted by **Keyandra Griffin** until she has submitted a detailed notarized statement of the charges acknowledged on her renewal application.

Motion was made by Robert Showers, seconded by Carla Moore and unanimously carried, to allow **Cynthia Brown, RSW**, to complete all of her continuing education hours via distance learning for the 2013-2014 collection period.

Motion was made by Lisa Lipsey, seconded by Parker Sternbergh and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

Judith Haspel, LCSW
Chairperson

Carla Moore, LMSW
Secretary-Treasurer