Health Works Commission Minutes

Friday, April 12 2019

10:00 a.m.

Louisiana State Board of Nursing

17373 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70810

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Cynthia Bienemy called the meeting of the Health Works Commission to order at 10:05 a.m., on Friday, April 12, 2019, in the Board Room at the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, 17373 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Mrs. Carolyn Blanchard, Board of Regents. A quorum was established.

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| **Members Present** | **Members Absent** |
| Cynthia Bienemy, Louisiana State Board of Nursing  Karen Denby, Board of Regents  Rep. Pat Haynes-Smith, Occupational Forecasting Conference  Chaquetta Johnson, Department of Health  Karen Lyon, State Board of Nursing  Cheryl Myers, LCTCS  Paul Salles, LA Hospital Association  Kellie Taylor-White, LA Workforce Commission  Dennis Wissing, LSUHSC Shreveport | Nick Albares, Governor’s Office  Lynn Ansardi, Practical Nurse Examiners  Wes Hataway, LA Nursing Home Association  Rep. Frank Hoffman, House Committee on Health and Welfare  Stanton McNeely, LAICU  Senator Fred Mills, Jr., Senate Committee on Health and Welfare  Ram Paragi, Medical Education Commission  Jeffrey Williams, LA State Medical Society  Vacant, Interagency Task Force on the Future of Family Medicine |
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| **Ad Hoc Member Present** | **Ad Hoc Member Absent** |
| Tabitha Jones-Thomas | Henry Gremillion |

Before the items were discussed, Chair Bienemy requested that several items be added to the agenda. She added (1) 2018 Nursing Supply and Demand Commission Annual Report Acceptance and (2) Public Comments.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 15, 2018 MINUTES

**On motion of Paul Salles, seconded by Representative Patricia Haynes-Smith, the Health Works Commission voted to accept the minutes from the August 15, 2018 meeting with an amendment that Ms. Chaquetta Johnson should be listed as an Executive Committee member for that meeting only to establish a quorum of the Executive Committee to conduct business.**

AGENCY UPDATES

There were no agency updates at this time.

2018 NSDC REPORT ACCEPTANCE

Chair Bienemy briefed the Commission on the concerns, accomplishments and recommendations of the Nursing Supply and Demand Council (NSDC) from its 2018 annual report. She noted that a copy of the annual report and attachments will be submitted to the Senate and House Committees on Health and Welfare.

Conversations centered around the lack of qualified students being admitted to Louisiana’s pre-RN programs, aging workforce in nursing education, lack of funding for nursing education, and faculty pay that is not competitive with clinical practice, all of which were identified in the 2018 NSDC annual report .Representative Haynes-Smith asked if there were programs in place that assisted certified nursing assistants (CNAs) to move to another level in their healthcare career. Dr. Bienemy said she is not aware of any specific initiatives in place to follow and assist these students but the medical magnet programs in high schools that are preparing students as CNAs would be an excellent place to begin such an initiative.

After further discussion,

**On motion of Kellie Taylor-White, seconded by Karen Denby, the Health Works Commission voted to accept the 2018 Annual Report of the Nursing Supply and Demand Commission. The report will be posted on the Division of Administration’s Boards and Commissions website and submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Health and Welfare along with the Workforce Commission.**

PRESENTATION ON THE NURSE FACULTY SHORTAGE

Dr. Bienemy presented a PowerPoint entitled “Is There a Looming Nurse Faculty Shortage in Louisiana?” She gave background information on this topic. Dr. Bienemy said that without an adequate number of qualified nurse faculty teaching in LPN, RN and APRN programs, the supply of nurses available to provide health to Louisiana’s citizens will be severely compromised. She next reviewed some national as well as statewide data regarding employment of nurses, ages of nurse faculty, gender/ethnicity of full-time nurse faculty, and other nursing issues. Recommendations and conclusions were offered during the presentation.

Comments centered around filing legislation to assist in removing barriers for nursing faculty interested in working as adjunct faculty upon retirement. Representative Haynes-Smith said that she felt very positive that this was doable but since this year is a fiscal session, legislators can only submit 5 bills. She suggested filing legislation in a general session to assist in nursing matters.

Chair Bienemy requested that the PowerPoint from today’s Nurse Faculty Shortage presentation be forwarded to all members of the Health Works Commission. It was suggested that the presentation on the nurse faculty shortage should be presented to the Board of Regents and to the LaSTEM Council.

The Newly Licensed RN Survey report will be discussed at another meeting due to a lack of time.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE DATA

Due to a lack of time, the Healthcare Workforce Data topic will be discussed at the next meeting. Representative Haynes-Smith said that data should be pulled from the Occupational Forecasting Conference on all healthcare professions. . Kellie Taylor-White suggested that Chair Bienemy request a representative of the Occupational Forecasting Conference speak at the next meeting.

Representative Haynes-Smith asked if and how a nurse who had committed a crime could regain their license. Karen Lyon answered the question using Rule 33:31.

Chair Bienemy mentioned that Senator Mills filed Senate Bill 54 regarding the membership of the Health Works Commission. She said this bill will remove the Interagency Task Force on the Future of Family Medicine due to its nonexistence. The replacement would be the president of the University of Louisiana System or his designee.

1. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting will be held after June 30, 2019 following release of the Workforce Commission’s newest projections. A doodle poll will be sent to members.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lisa Deaton, Vice Chair, Nursing Supply and Demand Council, spoke on the CNA subject. Kellie Taylor-White said Representative Carter filed House Bill 343 providing technical corrections to various positions of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes. She also mentioned that Ellen Palmintier with Boards and Commissions is leaving the Governor’s office on May 1 2019.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.