

**Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES: *September 13, 2013***  
***APPROVED: November 7, 2013***

The meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (Board) was called to order at 8:45 a.m., **Friday, September 13, 2013**, at 8280 YMCA Plaza Drive, Building 8-B, Baton Rouge, LA 70810. Present were Board Members, Drs. Rita Culross, Marc Zimmermann, Darla Burnett, Jessica Brown, Phil Griffin; and, Executive Director, Kelly Parker. Kim VanGeffen, LPA Representative, was present during the Public Hour.

Dr. Burnett moved to accept the September 13, 2013 agenda. Dr. Zimmermann moved that the minutes of September 13, 2013 be accepted.

Pursuant to **LSA R.S.42: 6.1(4)**, Dr. Culross moved to enter Executive Session to review legal matters, conduct oral exams and file reviews. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Burnett-yay, Brown-yay and Griffin-yay.

Dr. Culross moved to close Executive Session to enter the following:

**Complaint Review/Legal Matters: Closed Session (LSA-R.S. 42:6.1):**

a. **NP12-12-13B**: The Board reviewed the response to the cease and desist letter issued. After careful review and discussion, Dr. Culross moved to write a letter to the Social Work board regarding noncompliance with the cease and desist order. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Culross noted that the letter will be copied to the subject individual as well.

b. **P12-13-13C**: Dr. Pettigrew presented a summary of the investigation to the Board. The Board discussed the recommendation. Dr. Zimmermann moved to dismiss the complaint and that Dr. Pettigrew provide collegial advice to the respondent. The motion passed unanimously.

c. **LSBEP v.BA-NP**: Ms. Parker presented the Board with information concerning an individual practicing psychology without a license. The Board reviewed the information carefully. Dr. Culross moved to issue a cease and desist letter. The motion passed successfully, no opposition.

**Oral Examinations:**

*The following oral exams were canceled at the request of the candidates: Robert Clanton, Ph.D. and Valerie Bellas, Ph.D. The oral exam of Emily Sandoz, Ph.D. was canceled at the direction of the Board Chair.*

**Robert Gervey, Ph.D.** appeared before the Board for an oral examination in Clinical Psychology. Dr. Zimmermann moved that the Board grant **Dr. Gervey** a license to practice psychology with a specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the recommendation and the motion passed unanimously by vote of the full board.

**John Nanney, Ph.D.** appeared before the Board for an oral examination in Clinical Psychology. Dr. Zimmermann moved that the Board grant **Dr. Nanney** a license to practice psychology with a specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the recommendation and the motion passed unanimously by vote of the full board.

### **Supervision and Credentials Recommendations:**

Dr. Brown reviewed the application for licensure files of **Jennifer Craft-Favazza, Ph.D. and William A. McBride, Ph.D.** Dr. Brown moved to invite **Drs. Craft-Favazza and McBride** to take the jurisprudence and oral examinations. The Board discussed the recommendation. The motion passed unanimously by full vote of the Board.

Dr. Griffin reviewed the application for licensure files of **Rebecca Becker, Psy.D., Gustave F. Sison, Jr., Ph.D., and Melissa Middleton, Ph.D.** Dr. Griffin moved to invite **Drs. Becker, Sison and Middleton** to take the jurisprudence and oral examinations. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously by full vote of the Board.

Dr. Culross reviewed the application for reinstatement file of **Michelle Martel, Ph.D.** Dr. Martel lapsed as of August 1, 2013. Dr. Culross moved to reinstate the licensure of Dr. Martel effective September 13, 2013. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously by full vote of the Board.

Dr. Zimmermann reviewed the application for reinstatement file of **Mark S. Warner, Ph.D.** Dr. Warner's licensure lapsed as of August 1, 2012. Dr. Zimmermann moved to reinstate the license of Dr. Warner effective September 13, 2013. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously by full vote of the Board.

Dr. Culross reviewed the application for reinstatement file of **Tommy Max Overman, Ed.D.** Dr. Overman lapsed August 1, 2002. Dr. Culross moved to allow Dr. Overman to reinstate his license via reciprocity since he originally applied via reciprocity. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously by full vote of the Board.

Dr. Burnett reviewed **Frank Bennett, Ph.D.**'s letter requesting Emeritus status. Dr. Burnett moved to grant Dr. Bennett emeritus status. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed successfully, no opposition.

Dr. Burnett reviewed **Gene Todd, Ph.D.**'s letter requesting emeritus status. Dr. Burnett moved to grant Dr. Todd emeritus status. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously by full vote of the Board.

Dr. Burnett also reviewed **Dorothy Thrasher, Ph.D.**'s letter requesting emeritus status. Dr. Burnett moved to grant Dr. Thrasher emeritus status. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed successfully, no opposition.

Dr. Zimmermann reviewed the application for temporary registration files of **Harvey Jacobs, Ph.D. and Joel Dvoskin, Ph.D.** After careful review, Dr. Zimmermann moved to grant temporary registration to Dr. Jacobs and Dr. Dvoskin. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed successfully, no opposition.

Dr. Zimmermann reviewed an Impaired Psychologist file which was originally initiated under NP11-12-07B. After careful review of the materials submitted, Dr. Zimmermann opined that the psychologist had satisfied the requirements of the Impaired Psychologist Agreement. Dr. Zimmermann moved to release the psychologist from the impaired program. The Board carefully discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Burnett-yay, Griffin-yay, and Brown-yay.

Dr. Culross reviewed the application for licensure file of **Rebecca S. Hage Thomley, Psy.D.**, Dr. Culross noted that it had been more than 5 years since the initial application was made and the file had been inactive for sometime. Dr. Culross moved to close the application file of Dr. Thomley since it did not meet licensure requirements. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed successfully, no opposition.

#### **Committee Reports:**

***Finance Committee:*** Ms. Parker presented the Board with Financial Statements prepared by Valerie Dominique, CPA for May-August 2013. The Board reviewed and discussed the statements. Dr. Griffin moved to approve the financial statements. The motion passed unanimously. The Board reviewed and discussed the financial Memorandum of Understanding with the Behavior Analyst Board. Dr. Griffin moved to enter into the financial Memorandum of Understanding. The motion passed by roll call vote: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Burnett-yay, Brown-yay and Griffin-yay. The Board also reviewed estimates for movers. Dr. Burnett moved to use Haggard Moving Company for the move to Jefferson Highway. The motion passed successfully.

***Oral Examination Committee:*** Dr. Culross addressed the Board about issues with candidates repeatedly rescheduling oral examinations. She noted that due to repeated rescheduling of exams there was now a waiting list for the examination spots. The Board carefully discussed the issue. Dr. Culross also expressed a concern about candidates faxing paperwork to the Board office to make the deadline to submit materials. She noted that the deadline is provided to the candidates in the invite letter and on the website. Dr. Brown moved that if a candidate reschedules an oral examination more than two consecutive times, the candidate will be placed at the bottom of the list and rescheduled at the discretion of the Board. The Board discussed the motion. The motion was adopted as board policy and passed by roll call vote: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Burnett-yay, Griffin-yay and Brown-yay. Dr. Culross moved to require that all licensure documents only be accepted via U.S. mail. The motion passed, no opposition.

Case Vignette Workgroup: No new report.

***Jurisprudence Examination Committee:*** No new report.

***Legislative Oversight Committee:*** Ms. Parker reported that the changes to Chapter 8, Chapter 9 and Chapter 10 will be final on October 20, 2013. She noted that the office would notify all licensed

psychologists.

**Liaison to Professional Organizations and Boards:** The Board discussed the annual ASPPB annual meeting, scheduled for October 16-20<sup>th</sup> in Las Vegas, Nevada. Dr. Kim VanGeffen commented that Dr. Kirsch would be at the LPA conference.

**Continuing Education:** Dr. Culross addressed the group about the retention of CE records. The Board discussed the issue carefully. Dr. Culross moved to issue a Board opinion that all psychologists should retain continuing education records or certificates for 6 years. The motion passed by roll call vote: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Burnett-yay, Brown-yay and Griffin-yay.

**Complaints Committee:** Dr. Culross addressed the Board about protocol regarding consumer complaints about Board members or Board staff. She noted that consumers should not be contacting individual Board members at home or at the work place. Dr. Culross moved to put a statement on the website about consumer complaints regarding Board activities, members or staff. The motion passed unanimously.

**Long Range Planning Meeting:** The Board reviewed the topics for the Long Range Planning meeting. Ms. Parker noted the meeting will be held at DHH because LMA was not available.

**Provisional License Task Force:** Dr. Burnett presented the Board with the draft law for provisional licensure. The Board reviewed and discussed the draft. Dr. Burnett noted that she and Ms. Parker planned to work on the draft regulations as well. Dr. Culross suggested that the task force submit an official report with their recommendation to the Board. Dr. Burnett agreed to do so.

**School Specialist Task Force:** Dr. Culross noted that the task force would be preparing a report for the Board's review. She anticipated that the report included details comparing the specialist degree training and the doctoral programs. Dr. Culross noted that the report would be ready for review at the November board meeting. Dr. Culross asked Dr. VanGeffen, LPA representative, if LPA had a position on the school specialist issue. Dr. VanGeffen reported that the EC is discussing the issue. She did not have an official position to report.

**Digital Maintenance Workgroup:** No new report.

#### **Discussion Items:**

1. **Policy & Procedures Manual:** Ms. Parker suggested the Board update the Policies & Procedures manual. Dr. Culross suggested Ms. Parker prepare the first draft of updates for the Board's review. Ms. Parker agreed to do so.
2. **Newsletter:** The Board reviewed and approved the newsletter for distribution.
3. **Probationary Review** – Administrative Assistant (LSA-R.S. 42:6.1): The Board performed the probation review of Ms. Benton, Administrative Assistant, in executive session. Dr. Zimmermann moved to release Ms. Benton from probationary status and offer a partial raise.

The motion passed by roll call vote: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Burnett-yay, Griffin-yay and Brown-yay.

3:40 p.m. Dr. Zimmermann moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed.