

**Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES: February 21, 2014**  
***APPROVED: March 21, 2014***

The meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (Board) was called to order at 8:30 a.m., **Friday, February 21, 2014**, at 8706 Jefferson Highway, Suite B, Baton Rouge, LA 70809. Present were Board Members, Drs. Rita Culross, Marc Zimmermann, Darla Burnett, Jessica Brown, Phil Griffin; and, Executive Director, Kelly Parker. Drs. Jesse Lambert, Kim VanGeffen and Julie Nelson were present for the public hour.

Dr. Zimmermann moved to accept the February 21, 2014 agenda. Dr. Burnett moved that the minutes of January 24, 2014 be accepted with minor corrections.

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. **P12-13-06C**: Dr. Pettigrew presented the summary of the case to the Board along with the Board Investigator's recommendations. The Board discussed the case and carefully considered all of the information. Dr. Pettigrew recommended the Board dismiss the case based on the Investigator's findings. The Board discussed the recommendation. Dr. Culross moved to dismiss the case and close the matter. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Burnett-yay, Griffin-yay and Brown-yay. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Burnett-yay and Griffin-yay.

**Oral Examinations:**

**Adam Blancher, Ph.D.** appeared before Drs. Zimmermann, Burnett, Griffin for an oral examination in Counseling Psychology. The full board reconvened to discuss the oral examination. Dr. Burnett moved that the Board grant **Dr. Blancher** a license to practice psychology with a specialty in Counseling Psychology. The Board discussed the recommendation and the motion passed unanimously by vote of the full board.

**Sara Kathryn Lawing, Ph.D.** appeared before Drs. Culross and Brown for an oral examination in Developmental Psychology. The full Board reconvened to discuss the oral examination. Dr. Brown moved that the Board grant **Dr. Lawing** a license to practice psychology with a specialty in Developmental Psychology. The Board discussed the recommendation and the motion passed unanimously by vote of the full board.

**Daniene Neal, Ph.D.** appeared before the Board for an oral examination in Clinical Psychology. Dr. Zimmermann moved that the Board grant **Dr. Neal** 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.

**Gilbert Martinez, Ph.D.**, appeared for a meeting with the Board as a reciprocity candidate for licensure. Dr. Zimmermann moved that the Board grant **Dr. Martinez** a license to practice psychology with a specialty in Clinical Neuropsychology. The Board discussed the recommendation and the motion passed unanimously by vote of the full board.

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

Dr. Griffin reviewed the application for licensure files of **Allison Asher, Ph.D., Brooke Barbera Cole, Ph.D., and Megan Brown-Schafferman, Ph.D.** Dr. Griffin moved to officially approve their candidacy status and invite them to take oral examinations. The Board discussed the files and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Burnett reviewed the non-APA doctoral program of **Shawanda Woods, Psy.D.** After careful review of the materials submitted, Dr. Burnett moved to accept the non-APA program. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Burnett reviewed the non-APA internship program of **Matthew Holcomb, Ph.D.** After careful review of the materials submitted, Dr. Burnett moved to accept the non-APA internship and noted it was CPA approved. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Burnett reviewed and recommended acceptance of the Supervised Practice Plan of **Matthew Holcomb, Ph.D.** The motion passed unanimously.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Finance Committee:** The Board reviewed the 2014-2015FY budget prepared by Valerie Dominique, CPA. Dr. Griffin moved to accept the budget. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Griffin-yay, Burnett-yay and Brown-yay. The Board reviewed information from the accountant concerning the sharing of costs percentage with LBAB. Dr. Zimmermann moved to formally correspond with LBAB regarding the percentage and request that LBAB pay the new percentage through July 31, 2014 unless something changes significantly. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Griffin-yay, Brown-yay and Burnett-yay. Ms. Parker presented the Board with the updated annual auditor fees. Dr. Zimmermann moved to accept the annual fee. The motion passed unanimously.

**Oral Examination Committee:** The Board discussed the vignettes submitted from former board members. Dr. Culross suggested that the Board seek vignettes in the developmental area. Dr. Burnett suggested the addition of forensic vignettes as well. The Board discussed asking for vignette submissions in the next newsletter and/or via the LPA list serve. Dr. VanGeffen, LPA representative,

agreed to list the notice for vignettes on the LPA list serve. The Board discussed the DSM/ICD for the vignettes. Dr. Zimmermann noted that APA has taken no position and recommended both. Dr. Burnett noted that the vignettes should be based on the DSMV because the EPPP will be based on DSMV as of August 2014.

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

**Legislative Oversight Committee:** The Board reviewed both psychology bills, provisional licensure and school specialist, sponsored by Senator Martiny. The Board also reviewed the legislative bill tracker prepared by Ms. Parker. Ms. Parker noted that the deadline to file was not until the end of the month. She indicated that she would update the Legislative Committee along with the full board on any other bills filed. Dr. Culross addressed the Emeritus issue. The Board reviewed the emeritus requirements and current CE exemption. Dr. Culross moved to keep the qualifications for emeritus alone as is but require CE via rule promulgation. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Burnett-yay, Brown-yay, Griffin-yay. No opposition.

**Liaison to Professional Organizations and Boards:** The Board reviewed communication received from LPA President, Dr. Fanning, regarding a number of issues. Dr. Culross noted that the Board had already communicated with LPA regarding the first part of the communication and the election. The Board discussed the issue briefly and agreed it was handled. Dr. Culross pointed out that the last part of the request was regarding an open records request The Psychology Times filed with LPA for all records regarding the state board election. LPA inquired whether LSBEP's attorney would be available to LPA in this situation. Dr. Culross moved to deny LPAs request to use the services of the Board's legal counsel because of the potential conflict of interest between the two groups. The Board discussed the motion carefully. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: Culross-yay, Griffin-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Burnett-yay and Brown-yay. No opposition. Dr. Culross further noted that the Board is not taking a position on the public records issue, but simply only responding to the inquiry. Dr. VanGeffen, LPA representative, addressed the Board for clarification regarding the public records request. Dr. Zimmermann clarified that LPA should obtain independent legal advice for their organization and that the Board did not receive a request.

Dr. Culross reported on the meeting with LPC Board and LCA representatives. Dr. Culross reported that she and Ms. Parker met with the group to discuss the proposed psychology board legislation. She explained that it was a positive and productive meeting for everyone involved.

**Continuing Education:** The Board reviewed a request for CE guidance from Dr. Hill. Dr. Culross moved to approve Dr. Hill's CE request. The motion passed unanimously. The Board also reviewed a request for CE approval from Dr. Burkhart. Dr. Culross moved to approve Dr. Burkhart's CE. The motion passed unanimously.

**Complaints Committee:** No new report.

**Long Range Planning Meeting:** Dr. Burnett reported that the committee was open for ideas for the next LRP meeting.

**Telepsychology Workgroup:** Dr. Griffin reported that he would work to organize a meeting in the near future. Dr. Julie Nelson made a request for public comment. Dr. Nelson suggested the Board set 2 types of conditions with people practicing because not all are in clinical practice.

**LBAB Liaison Report:** Dr. Zimmermann reported as the LBAB ex-officio member. He noted that LBAB was successfully processing applications, licensing individuals, and the group was working hard.

**Discussion Items:**

1. **Request for Guidance – Michelle Carroll, Ph.D.:** The Board Reviewed correspondence received from Dr. Carroll and a group of psychologists regarding concerns over policies at the VA requiring psychologists to perform pat downs. The Board discussed the communication. The Board agreed more information is needed. Dr. Culross noted that the psychologists may refer to APA ethical standards 1.02 and 1.03. Dr. Zimmermann moved to get further information before providing more guidance on the issue. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Zimmermann agreed to write the letter.

2. **Request for Guidance – Jesse Lambert, Ph.D.** – Dr. Lambert was present for the discussion and addressed the Board regarding this request. Dr. Lambert inquired about the boundary line between clinical and clinical neuropsych practice. The Board opined that as long as Dr. Lambert was not representing himself as a clinical neuropsychologist and had the education/training to do neuropsych screens, then there would be no issue. Dr. Burnett commented that he needed to make sure he could provide proof of competence in the area of practice. Dr. Culross noted that the individuals Dr. Lambert works with should know and be made aware that he is not representing himself as a clinical neuropsychologist. Dr. Lambert thanked the Board for their guidance.

3. **Practicum form:** The Board reviewed the LSBEP practicum form. Dr. Zimmermann addressed the group and inquired whether the board should confirm that the practicum was done under the supervision of a psychologist. The Board discussed the idea. The Board agreed that a check off box could be added to the form for confirmation.

4. **Texas Reciprocity Agreement:** The Board revisited and reviewed the reasons to cancel the Texas Reciprocity Agreement. Dr. Culross moved to continue the Texas Reciprocity Agreement based on the response received from the Texas Board, but that the LSBEP should screen the TX candidates differently. The motion passed successfully. Dr. Culross directed Ms. Parker to prepare a draft amendment to the agreement.

4. **June Board Meeting Date:** The Board changed the June meeting date. The meeting is rescheduled for June 27, 2014, and the deadline to submit materials will be June 20, 2014.

**Public Comment:** Dr. Julie Nelson requested time to address the Board at the end of the meeting.

Dr. Nelson inquired whether the Board made a decision on the LAMP CE. Dr. Culross explained that the issue was on a previous agenda and the Board reviewed the issue. Dr. Zimmermann reported that

the Board opined the issue was handled and it is currently not an issue. He noted that the Board did not think it was effective use of Board time to go back and retroactively decline CE.

Dr. Nelson commented about the timeliness of the Board's minutes. Ms. Parker pointed out that minutes are approved monthly at the Board meetings. She explained that the Board does not meet more than once a month, so a formal motion on the minutes must wait until the next meeting.

Dr. Nelson addressed Dr. Culross regarding her recent letter in the LSBEP newsletter. Dr. Nelson asserted that the Board was using a closed-door approach to the community. Dr. Culross responded for the Board's decision and stated that official correspondence should go through the Board office for a variety of reasons, not because of a closed-door policy. Dr. Culross further noted that when communication goes through the Board office, this guarantees confidentiality for all parties. She reminded Dr. Nelson that the Board meetings are open to the public and agendas are posted in sufficient time in accordance with Open Meeting Laws. Ms. Parker mentioned that psychologists may write to the full Board and have their questions reviewed and answered at the monthly meeting. Dr. Culross stated that she encourages communication and discussion with the LSBEP, and the LSBEP intends to keep the community updated. Dr. Culross noted that she wanted to avoid impressions that individual board members are communicating on behalf of the entire Board. Dr. Nelson inquired whether she could speak to individual Board members off the record. Dr. Zimmermann explained that if its Board business then it needs to come through the Board office.

Dr. Nelson also commented that the LPCs are not happy with the LSSP legislation. Dr. Culross reminded Dr. Nelson that this was discussed during the Liaison report. The LPC Board/LCA had questions. The LSBEP invited the groups to the meeting. Dr. Culross reiterated that it was very productive meeting and all the questions were answered.

Dr. Nelson informed the Board that she was going to start sending public records requests again. Dr. Nelson addressed the group about the "infamous Act 251 memo" from 2009. Ms. Parker inquired whether this was the same request that had been previously filed with the LSBEP, two separate times. Dr. Nelson confirmed that this would be the same request because she does not agree with the response given by the LSBEP and our attorney.

2:55 p.m. Dr. Griffin moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.