

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING
17373 PERKINS ROAD
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70810**

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 14, 2021 BOARD MEETING

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing was called to order at 9:07 a.m. by T. Kindall, President and Presiding Officer, on Thursday, October 14, 2021, at the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, 17373 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810.

Roll Call: The following Board members were in attendance:
Tavell Kindall, PhD, DNP, APRN, FNP, President and Presiding Officer
Tracey Moffatt, MHA, BSN, RN, Vice President
Jennifer Manning, DNS, APRN, CNS, CNE, Alternate Officer
Tim Cotita, RN, BSN, MSHCE
Jennifer Couvillon, PhD, RN-BC, CNE
Kenneth Alexander, MS, RRT
Ann Carruth, DNS, RN
Wendi Palermo, PhD, RN
Frederick Pinkney, EdD
Mimi Primeaux, MS, BSN, CRNA
Teresita McNabb, RN, MHA

The following staff members were in attendance:
Karen C. Lyon, PhD, MBA, APRN-CNS, NEA, Executive Director/CEO
Isonel Brown, MS, MBA, Chief Administrative Officer
Wanda Matthews, MPA, Chief Compliance Officer
Jennifer Wright, DNP, APRN, FNP BC, Chief Nursing Officer
Carrie LeBlanc Jones, JD, MBA, Chief Legal Officer/General Counsel
Monique Calmes, DNP, APRN, FNP C, Licensure and Practice Director
Patricia Dufrene, PhD, RN, Education and Examination Director
Marcia Carter, Administrative Assistant to CEO
Suzanne C. Armand, CCR-CVR, Court Reporter

Dr. Kindall welcomed back Ms. Teresita McNabb as the new Board member.

Adoption of the Agenda

Motion: by T. Cotita, seconded, to adopt the Agenda as presented with the ability to rearrange the Agenda items for efficiency.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;
T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes;
M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2021 Board Meeting.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;
T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes;
M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

1. Consent Agenda Motions

1. LSBN Staff Program Status Reports
 1. NCLEX Report
 2. Accreditation Reports
2. Continuing Education Provider Approval-Pacific Medical Training
3. Education Announcements

Dr. Kindall thanked Dr. Dufrene for her detailed information regarding the NCLEX Reports.

Dr. Kindall inquired about a few programs that were below the 80% pass rate in the 3rd quarter.

Dr. Dufrene stated that as a courtesy, they continue to send out the LSBN Staff Program Status Reports to the schools in the state. The schools have given her feedback. One school sent Dr. Dufrene a very detailed plan of the changes and what they feel the effects were. Also, they need to consider that COVID and the hurricanes in the past few years have also been factors on the schools that are struggling. Also, there have been a few administrative changes. The schools are being given until December 3, 2021 to fill out the Annual Report.

Discussion ensued regarding how the Board can help those schools that are struggling get back on track.

Motion: by F. Pinkney, seconded, to accept the Consent Agenda Motions.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;
T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes;
M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Final Emergency Order and Protocols from LDH for RNs Administering Monoclonal Antibody Therapy

Dr. Lyon was requested by Dr. Joseph Kanter, State Health Officer, to help facilitate the writing of the Emergency Order and Protocol to authorize Registered Nurses (RNs), while working at Community Treatment Sites for the administration of monoclonal antibodies operating under contract with the Louisiana Department of Health, to administer certain Monoclonal Antibodies for Treatment of COVID-19 by protocol in lieu of a patient-specific order from a physician or prescribing practitioner.

This Emergency Order and Protocol will continue if the Emergency Proclamation from Governor Edwards is in place, which at the present is through October 27, 2021.

This Emergency Order and Protocol can be viewed on the LSBN's website.

Ms. Moffatt requested that the Board send a formal thank you note to Dr. Kanter for his leadership. Dr. Lyon noted she would have a place for all members of the Board to sign.

2. Division Reports

Agenda Item 2.1

Division of Nursing Practice

Agenda Item 2.1.1

Chief Nursing Officer

Dr. Wright had no major highlights to report. Renewals were kicked off October 1st and has been their focus and requires a lot of work for the Division. More people have renewed in the first couple of weeks than they did in the previous renewal season. They have about 40,000 individuals who are eligible to renew and this number was less in previous years. Dr. Wright stated she is appreciative of Dr. Lyon's support as well as other chiefs, directors, and managers helping man the phones.

Dr. Wright was available for questions.

Dr. Dufrene gave the Board an update regarding the NCSBN Learning Extensions changes, which had been reviewed by Dr. Maryann Alexander and her team with the NCSBN over the past year. The Learning Extensions offer a variety of courses on discipline and professional conduct. About a year ago, National Council merged a Learning Extension program with their ICRS (International Center for Regulatory Scholarship) program and have made decisions over the past year that will accomplish that goal and will affect Boards of Nursing.

Agenda Item 2.1.2

Education and Examination

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1

Major Substantive Changes

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.1

Vanderbilt University

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Dufrene. Recommended approval.

Discussion ensued regarding providing support for preceptorship.

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, that the Board approve the addition of a Master of Science in Nursing and Post Master’s Certificate for the Woman’s Health Nurse Practitioner program of study to the currently approved roles/populations at Vanderbilt University.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;
T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes;
M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.2

South Louisiana Community College

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Dufrene. Recommended approval.

Dr. Jeanine S. Thomas, Associate Dean/Chief Nursing Officer at South Louisiana Community College, was present to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

Motion: by T. Cotita, seconded, that the Board approve the major substantive change notification from South Louisiana Community College of the change in Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges’ (SACSCOC) accreditation status to probation.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;
T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes;
M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

(Break)

(Dr. Kindall called the meeting back to order)

Agenda Item 2.1.3

Licensure and Practice

No Report

Agenda Item 2.2

Compliance Division

Agenda Item 2.2.1

Chief Compliance Officer

Ms. Matthews gave a brief report on the Priority 1 Investigations. A full report will be given at the December 2, 2021 Board Meeting.

Presently, the Compliance Department has 12 open Priority 1 investigations, and 3 investigations are out of compliance. Two investigations are out of compliance 1 to 3 months and 1 is out of compliance 3 to 6 months

I previously reported three investigations out of compliance from 9 – 12 months due to additional evidence needed from the DEA. Two cases were closed, and we are still awaiting additional evidence to close the remaining case.

Ms. Matthews was available for questions.

Dr. Kindall remarked that he was impressed to see the progress.

Agenda Item 2.2.2
RNP/Monitoring

No Report

Agenda Item 2.2.3
Compliance

No Report

Agenda Item 2.3
Division of Administration

Agenda Item 2.3.1
Chief Administrative Officer

Agenda Item 2.3.1.1
FY2021 Financial and Compliance Audit Report

Ms. Brown presented the 2021 Financial and Compliance Audit Report to the Board. Ms. Brown was pleased to inform the Board that the Auditor's report reflects an unmodified opinion with no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies identified. A summary of the Auditor's Report is attached for the Board's review. Ms. Brown requested approval of the 2021 Financial and Compliance Audit Report.

Ms. Brown was available for questions.

Motion: by K. Alexander, seconded, for the Board's acceptance and approval of the FY2021 Financial and Compliance Audit Report

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;

T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes;
M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2.3.2
Information Technology

No Report

Agenda Item 2.3.3
Human Resources

No Report

Agenda Item 2.3.4
Administration Services

No Report

Agenda Item 2.4
Division of Legal Affairs

Agenda Item 2.4.1
Chief Legal Officer

Agenda Item 2.4.2
Hearings

No Report

3. Office of the Executive Director/CEO

Agenda Item 3.1
Center for Nursing

Agenda Item 3.1.1
Delay of Culture of Health Summit

Dr. Lyon noted that even though the LSBN is no longer a co-lead of the Louisiana Action Coalition, she is still a member of the leadership team and for the planning of the Health Summit. Because of the change of the co-leads taking on the new nursing representation along with AARP Louisiana, they wanted to do a strategic planning retreat and look at the Louisiana Action Coalition and the direction it needed to go and what challenges it needed to take on at this time in the profession. They were not able to come up with any dates which would allow them to have the strategic planning retreat prior to the Culture of Health Summit and so it has been postponed. Dr. Susan Hassmiller was scheduled to be the

keynote speaker and to give the update on the new future of nursing report. The date is tentatively scheduled for March of 2022. They are in the process of trying to finalize with Dr. Hassmiller's schedule so she can attend. The plan is to get the strategic planning accomplished to help to inform the agenda.

Agenda Item 3.1.2

National Forum of Nursing Workforce Centers Update

Dr. Lyon had wanted to present to the Board the new Dashboard, but the entire website is still under construction. The National Forum of Nursing Workforce was posted back in January of 2021. This will be done every two years. It comes out as a supplement in the Journal of Nursing Regulation. It has graphics and presents an overall national look at education at the highest level, the agenda, the age ranges. As soon as the website is completed, Dr. Lyon will be able to share with the Board the incredible Dashboard that National Forum is creating.

They are planning the annual meeting for July of 2022. At this time, the plan is for the meeting to be hybrid.

Agenda Item 3.2

Nurse Licensure Compact Commission Update

Agenda Item 3.2.1

Compliance Audit

Dr. Lyon is on the Compliance Committee of the NLC Commission. They were charged with developing an audit that could be done for all jurisdictional boards of nursing that are members of the Compact to audit their performance on the Compact Rules and Regulations. They have finished their work and it will now go forward and be voted on.

Agenda Item 3.3

COVID Article

Dr. Lyon reported that a survey went out to medical professionals regarding their input concerning COVID and vaccine hesitancy. The number one group of individuals who gave feedback on this survey were RNs and APRNs with 6,547 responses. Dr. Paulette Riveria is still compiling the data and having it analyzed and the results have not been posted yet. Dr. Riveria shared these findings with Mr. Wesley Muller, a journalist with the *Louisiana Illuminator* who wrote an article which talked about these findings

An APRN forwarded the article which was printed in the *Louisiana Illuminator* to Dr. Lyon. Within the article were some comments made by an epidemiology professor of infectious diseases and researcher at Tulane which this APRN felt were disparaging to nurses and the nursing profession and wanted the Board to respond.

After a discussion ensued regarding this issue, the Board decided it would not respond.

Agenda Item 3.4

2022 New Board Hearing Calendar

Dr. Lyon presented the 2022 New Board Calendar. Board members will meet bi-monthly for full Disciplinary Hearings in non-Board Meeting months and after bi-monthly board meetings to ratify board orders only .

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, to approve the new Board Hearing calendar.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;
T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes;
M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

4. Reports

Agenda Item 4.1

Report of the President

Report Posted.

Agenda Item 4.2

Report of the Vice President

Report Posted

Agenda Item 4.3

Report of the Executive Director

Report Posted.

Motion: by K. Alexander, seconded, to accept the report of the President, Vice President, and the CEO/Executive Director as submitted.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;
T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes;
M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

5. Professional Development

Nothing presented

6. National Council State Boards of Nursing

Agenda Item 6.1

Board Member Report from Dr. Lyon, Area 3 Board Member

Dr. Lyon was elected to the NCSBN Board representing Area 3 at the Annual Meeting. They had a hybrid Board meeting at the end of September following the Annual Meeting in preparation for the Strategic Planning Retreat. Dr. Lyon is leaving for the Retreat on Sunday, and it will go through next Wednesday. This Board meeting reviews the Annual Meeting and makes appointments to committees. Dr. Lyon had been asked to serve on the NCLEX Item Review Subcommittee but had to be eliminated as Board members are not allowed to sit on an NCLEX Item Review Subcommittee. Dr. Lyon was then asked to serve as the Board liaison for the NCLEX Examination Committee which has been monitoring the Next Generation NCLEX. She is there to monitor and not to be a part of the discussion. Dr. Lyon will then bring back the information discussed at the Committee to the NCSBN Board. Dr. Lyon attended her first NCLEX Examination Committee Meeting virtually last week. The discussion was about Next Generation, concerns about the implementation in April 2023 when it is scheduled. Dr. Lyon noted this is an important committee and they take their job very seriously.

7. Public Comments

Ms. Angelee Moody Rhyne, who was present virtually, requested to obtain a copy of the detailed NCLEX Report that Dr. Dufrene had presented. Dr. Dufrene stated that the report that is provided to the Deans and Directors is very detailed and cannot be posted online as it has applicant information. Dr. Palermo stated that this information is also on the Annual Report which is posted on the website.

Ms. Rhyne then asked about the status of the Nursing program at Grambling in 2022. Dr. Dufrene stated that the Annual Reports of the schools are provided to her by December 3 and an analysis is done and will be presented to the Board at the February 2022 meeting.

Ms. Rhyne also had additional questions regarding the status of the post master's certification program at Grambling. Dr. Palermo stated that the accreditation status should be posted publicly on the website for the graduate ACEN status.

Dr. Lyon remarked that questions need to be related to what is on the Agenda. Also, Dr. Lyon mentioned that the Board makes no decisions regarding any school until the Annual Reports are completed.

8. Executive Session

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, to go into Executive Session for the purposes of hearing the Report on Litigation and Personnel Issues.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; T. Cotita-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;
T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes;
M. Primeaux-yes; F. Pinkney-yes

Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT:

After returning from Executive Session, the Board Meeting was adjourned.

Motion: by Alexander, seconded, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.



**T. KINDALL, PRESIDENT and PRESIDING OFFICER
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING**