

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING
3510 N. CAUSEWAY BLVD. – SUITE 601
METAIRIE, LOUISIANA 70002

LSBN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 15, 2004

CALL TO ORDER

Pasty Bourgeois, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. Ms Bourgeois welcomed all members present. Attendees were asked to introduce themselves and inform the group of the organization they represented.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Pasty Bourgeois, MSN, CNS, RN, Chairperson
Charlene V. Brouillette, CRNA, MSNA, LSUHSC Nurse Anesthesia Program
Doris Brown, RN, OPH/DHH
Nancy L. Davis, Organization of Nurse Executives (arrived at 9:30 A.M.)
Theresa Nash, RN, MN, NOPS/Medical & Health Services Dept.
Joni Nickens, APRN, FNP-C, Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners
Michaëlle Wolfe-Scelfo, Louisiana Pharmacists Association
Julia G. Bourns, CRNA, Louisiana Association of Nurse Anesthesia (arrived at 10:40 A.M)

STAFF PRESENT

Cynthia Morris, MSN, RN Assistant Executive Director
Cherie Brown, Credentialing Supervisor
Lydia Favorite, Licensure Analyst

MINUTES

The minutes of September 8, 2003 meetings were reviewed; a typographical error was corrected on page 3. Motion by Ms. Wolfe-Scelfo and seconded by Ms. Brown, to accept the minutes of September 8, 2003 Advisory Council meeting as corrected. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

Ms. Bourgeois stated that the web site was being updated and the Board continues to encourage individuals to use it. There have been some changes in the telephone services resulting in fewer complaints about being able to reach staff.

Ms. Morris reported that the renewal process was completed on February 1, 2004; there were 45,523 registered nurses renewed, 2,456 APRNs renewed, and 631 APRNs with prescriptive authority. There were about 2,500 renewal applications returned to the Board office this year because of incorrect addresses. This year because of the Nursing Supply and Demand data needed, it was mandatory that employer and employer address be completed on the application. This resulted in 18,406 employer changes.

Ms. Morris provided an update on the Council on the Commitment to Ongoing Regulatory Excellence, the project the Board is participating in through the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. The Council is now into the second round of data collections and data is being submitted from all functional areas of the participating state boards, (practice, education, licensure, disciplinary, and compliance).

This year the Council surveyed the Board President, Board Members, and the Board Executive Directors. The collection of data from the Boards will take place in even years and data from other stakeholders in odd years. The compilation of the 2002-2003 data was recently completed. At the National Council mid-year meeting, there was a lot of enthusiasm and excitement about the project and more Boards are joining this ongoing improvement project.

Ms. Bourgeois stated that future plans for the Board in 2004/2005 include having the online renewal in place. Ms. Morris stated the Board is targeting the RNs initially, and procedures on how to handle those who answer yes to a compliance issue is still in development.

Ms. Bourgeois stated that Chapter 45 is being revised. Ms. Morris stated that the first draft would go to the Board on Wednesday March 17, 2004. Chapter 45 also has changes concerning removing the Joint Administration Committee, as well as changes in prescriptive authority rules. A lengthy discussion followed and Ms. Brown (OPH) questioned if the changes to Chapter 45 will be emergency rules or if they would go through proper protocol. Ms. Bourgeois stated that it would not be an emergency implementation. Ms. Brouillette (LSUHSC Nurse Anesthesia Program) asked questions concerning out-of-state programs not having to follow the same rules and their use of Louisiana facilities when programs in Louisiana cannot acquire the clinical sites they need. Ms. Bourgeois stated that out-of-state programs have to be approved by the Board of Regents, and then they must contact the Board of Nursing. Ms. Bourgeois stated that they should put their specific concerns in writing.

Ms. Bourgeois stated that further implementation of the Regional Manager (Disciplinary/RNP) role is in process to include more outreach for employers and staff.

Ms. Bourgeois stated that the Board continues to participate in the Nursing Supply and Demand Commission and Health Works Commission. The Board will be monitoring legislation that impacts nursing.

LSUHSC NURSE ANESTHESIA PROGRAM – CHARLENE BROUILLETTE

Ms. Brouillette stated they are getting ready to graduate their first class of 24 and the graduation is May 16, 2004. The process of accepting applications for the next class, which will be the fourth class admission, has begun. Interviews will start in the next week or two. There are about 100 applicants, of which 40 will be accepted.

LOUISIANA PHARMACIST ASSOCIATION – MICHAELLE WOLFE-SCELFO

Ms. Wolfe-Scelfo stated the LPA opposed prescription drug re-importation due to safety concerns. The President Peggy Van will attend the APHA meeting and discuss Medicare Drug Card issues with other state presidents. March is Poison Prevention month.

NOPS/MEDICAL & HEALTH SERVICES DEPT. – THERESA NASH

Ms. Nash stated that Louisiana Medicaid has been converted to Managed Care, and this has had an impact on school nurses and school systems statewide. Built into the Medicaid program is a program that reimburses the school for services that school nurses provided, including periodic health assessments on students. That piece has been taken out and each Medicaid recipient has been assigned to a primary care physician. Each primary care physician in Louisiana has been assigned 1500 clients and

the state is paying the physician \$3.00 a month for each client to maintain that list. School nurses can contract under the program guidelines with the primary physician to do the periodic health screening on the children, but so far this has been unsuccessful. The program has been redesigned, and they may still bill for three of the services, which are nurse consultation, vision and hearing screening. There is another program in Medicaid where school districts may now recoup what is called administrative overhead costs. This program reimburses schools on a percentage basis. The first 'Time and Motion Study' will be conducted next month. There is a severe need for school nurses in Louisiana.

They are in the process of drafting a procedure based on the Board's opinion on Diastat. There are a group of Neurologists in the city who are prescribing rectal Diastat to be given at school and because of the potential complications being a central nervous system depressant; the school system now has to have in place, procedures, equipment and staff. This is extremely costly in New Orleans and they had to hire a LPN full time to be with those students because they do not have full time RNs in a lot of their schools. Orleans Parish School District has a physician staff in the school health program and it includes the pediatrician who is trying to work with the Neurologist to see if there is some other option. Ms. Nash would like to set up a meeting with someone in practice at the Board to review these procedures. School nurses are very concerned about where school health is going. Parents are expecting more and more health care to be given to children at school. The school district has partnered with Dr. Kevin Stevens, as the City of New Orleans Health Department just received some monies to look at some chronic diseases. School nurses are now giving all their time to children with chronic illnesses that have to be managed during the school day, while in the past their job was primarily prevention.

LOUISIANA ORGANIZATION OF NURSE EXECUTIVES – NANCY L. DAVIS

Ms. Davis stated that she is now the past president of the Louisiana Organization of Nurse Executives. Last week they had their Educational Meeting and enjoyed having Mrs. Morvant and Ms. Morris present. They are involved in recruitment and will have representation on the Health Works Commission. Their main emphasis is on enhancing the practice environment for nurses in hospitals, and networking so that nurses we can attract and retain our own nurses. They are concerned about patient/nurse ratios.

OPH/DHH – DORIS BROWN

Ms. Brown stated that they have a new secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, Dr. Fredrick Cerise. He came from LSUHSC, Earl K. Long. The assistant secretary has not been named and Sharon Howard is still serving in that capacity. Dr. Jimmy Guidry will remain as the Medical Director and as the State Health Officer. They participated in the statewide summit where a lot of enthusiasm was generated. They have been put to task to have a report for the governor soon.

OPH/DDH thanked the Board for its support and help concerning emergency preparedness. As of last week, they have 647 nurses who volunteered. They have a database that breaks the volunteers out by regions and their Regional Nurse Consultant works with the volunteers to provide training. There is a Strategic National Stock Pile so that in the event of a major disaster they would be able to dispense drugs. There will be a test this week to go through the whole procedure. They are excited because we are the first state in the country to conduct the TED (Training Education and Demonstration Exercises) this year. Louisiana has done a tremendous job on emergency preparedness in planning and partnering activities. Also, by partnering with the pharmacists in the state, they have 850 pharmacists who have

volunteered to support them in their activities. They also contract with University of Louisiana Lafayette to provide support. They have regional pharmacists' stations throughout the state to provide assistance in addition to the pharmacists of the headquarter staff.

The Louisiana Health Public Association's Annual Educational Conference and Business Meeting will be held in Baton Rouge on April 28-30, 2004, and the theme is "Going for The Gold". Students may attend free of charge.

LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS – JONI NICKENS

Ms. Nickens stated that she is the new president of the Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners. They no longer have an Executive Director hence Catherine Wright is no longer with the organization. They have a new office located in Baton Rouge.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 A.M.

Patsy Bourgeois
Chairperson

Date