

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

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 3, 2020 BOARD MEETING

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by T. Cotita, President, on Thursday, December 3, 2020, at the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, 17373 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810.

Roll Call: The following Board members were in attendance:
Tim Cotita, RN, BSN, MSHCE, President
Laura Bonanno, PhD, DNP, CRNA, Vice President
Tavell Kindall, PhD, DNP, APRN, FNP, Alternate Officer
Jennifer Manning, DNS, APRN, CNS, CNE
Jennifer Couvillon, PhD, RN- BC, CNE
Kenneth Alexander, MS, RRT
Ann Carruth, DNS, RN
Jamie Wiggins, DNS-c, MS, RN, CCRN-K, NEA- BE, FACHE
Wendi Palermo, PhD, RN
Frederick Pinkney, Ed.D

Board Members not present
Tracey Moffatt, MHA, BSN, RN

The following staff members were in attendance:
Karen C. Lyon, PhD, MBA, APRN-CNS-BC , NEA-BC, Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer
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
Cynthia Bienemy, PhD, RN, Director, Louisiana Center for Nursing
Monique Calmes, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, Licensure and Practice Director
Patricia Dufrene, PhD, RN, Education and Examination Director
Urhonda Beckwith, MSN, APRN, FNP, RNP Director
Carl Nagin, BSCS, Technology Manager
LaQueda Ricks, Human Resource Manager
Lauren Reed, JD, Prosecuting Attorney
Jasimiel T. Northern, Paralegal
Suzanne C. Armand, CCR, CVR, Court Reporter
Roy Hebert, CPA

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, to adopt the Agenda as presented.

Voice Vote: L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes;

J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; W. Palermo-yes;
F. Pinkney-yes; J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Approval of Minutes:

Motion:

1. Consent Agenda Motions

1. LSBN Staff Program Status Reports

1. NCLEX Report
2. Accreditation Reports

2. Approved Program Reports

1. University of South Alabama
2. University of Louisiana at Monroe
3. Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University
4. Grambling State University

3. Education Announcements

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, to accept the Consent Agenda Motions.

Voice Vote: L. Bonanno-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;
T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-yes; J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

2. Division Reports

Agenda Item 2.1

Division of Nursing Practice

Agenda Item 2.1.1

Chief Nursing Officer

Dr. Jennifer Wright reported that the Division of Nursing has returned to mainly remote work as of November 24th. They continue to successfully achieve their tasks of licensure, credentialing, management of education, and the Center for Nursing, while working remotely. Dr. Wright shared some of the highlights of their activities.

Dr. Wright was available for questions.

Dr. Lyon thanked Dr. Wright for her diligence in going through the draft of legislation being proposed by LANP and catching a few significant language changes that needed to be made as they related to the Nurse Practice Act and Chapter 45.

Agenda Item 2.1.2

Education and Examination

Dr. Patricia Dufrene reported that the Education and Examination Department has been working remotely. Staff continues to approve students, issue pre-grad permits, prepare students for upcoming graduation, assisting with renewals and endorsement. Dr. Dufrene reported on the Education and Examination Department activities.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1

Schools of Nursing Probationary Status Reports

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.1

Louisiana College

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

Motion: by J. Wiggins, seconded, that the Board accept Louisiana College’s report and action plan regarding the probationary status of the Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

Voice Vote: L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2

Major Substantive Changes

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2.1

Herzing University

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

Motion: by J. Wiggins, seconded, that the Board approve the addition of a Master of Science in Nursing and Post Master’s Certificate for the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program of study to the currently approved roles/populations at Herzing University.

Voice Vote: L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2.1.2.3

Out-of-State APRN Clinical Approval

Agenda Item. 2.1.2.3.1

Frontier Nursing University's Request to Offer Graduate Clinical Experiences in Louisiana

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

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, that the Board approve the request of Frontier University to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until December 14, 2023 for the following roles/populations:

MSN, PGC, DNP

Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM)

Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)

Women's Health Nurse Practitioner (WHNP)

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP)

Voice Vote: L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item. 2.1.2.3.2

Georgetown University's Request to Offer Graduate Clinical Experiences in Louisiana

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

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, that the Board approve the request of Georgetown University to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until December 14, 2023 for the following roles/populations:

MSN, BSN to DNP

Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)

Nurse Midwifery/Women's Health Nurse Practitioner (CNM/WHNP)

Women's Health Nurse Practitioner (WHNP)

Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP)

PGC

Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)

Nurse Midwifery (CNM)

Women's Health Nurse Practitioner (WHNP)

Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP)

Voice Vote: L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2.1.2.3.3

Texas Christian University's Request to Offer Graduate Clinical Experiences in Louisiana

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

Discussion ensued as to whether "DNPA" are the correct credentials for this degree.

Ms. Jennifer Oaks, Associate Program Director, School of Nurse Anesthesia and Associate Professor of Professional Practice, Texas Christian University, present virtually via Microsoft TEAMS, stated that this was a DNP with an emphasis in anesthesia.

Dr. Dufrene stated she will make that correction on the documents throughout.

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, that the Board approve the request of Texas Christian University to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until December 14, 2023 for the following roles/populations:

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (DNP)

Voice Vote: L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2.1.2.3.4

Texas Wesleyan University's Request to Offer Graduate Clinical Experiences in Louisiana

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

Dr. Bonanno stated the credentials for this item should be DNAP and requested that the correction should be made throughout.

Dr. Dufrene stated she would make the correction.

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, that the Board approve the request of Texas Wesleyan University to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until December 14, 2023 for the following roles/populations:

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (MSNA, DNAP)

Voice Vote: L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2.1.2.3.5

Vanderbilt University’s Request to Offer Graduate Clinical Experiences in Louisiana

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

Discussion ensued after Dr. Lyon posed a question to the Board that if students from the nursing and healthcare leadership and nursing informatics are doing clinicals in Louisiana, does the Board need to approve the students to do their clinicals here.

Dr. Lyon stated they will do more research regarding this issue.

Motion: by J. Wiggins, seconded, that the Board approve the request of Vanderbilt University to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until December 14, 2023 for the following roles/populations:

MSN, PMC

Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner – AGACNP

Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner - AGPCNP

Family Nurse Practitioner – FNP

Neonatal Nurse Practitioner – NNP

Nurse-Midwifery - CNM (offered in a hybrid format*)

Nurse-Midwifery/Family Nurse Practitioner Dual Specialty - CNM/FNP

Pediatric Nurse Practitioner - Acute Care - PNP-AC

Pediatric Nurse Practitioner - Primary Care - PNP-PC

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner - PMHNP (Lifespan)

DNP

Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner – AGACNP

Voice Vote: L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2.1.2.3.6

University of Alabama at Birmingham’s Request to Offer Graduate Clinical Experiences in Louisiana.

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

Dr. Ashley Hodges, Professor and Associate Dean for Graduate Clinical Education University of Alabama at Birmingham, was present virtually via Microsoft TEAMS, to provide information and to answer questions by Board Members. Dr. Hodges clarified that it is a post graduate certificate.

Dr. Lyon noted that “Menta” should be “Mental” under “Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP)” and asked that it be corrected for the record.

Motion: by A. Carruth, seconded, that the Board approve the request of the University of Alabama at Birmingham to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until December 14, 2023 for the following roles/populations:

- MSN, PGC, DNP
 - Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)
 - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP)
 - Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner (WHNP)
 - Neonatal Nurse Practitioner (NNP)
 - Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (AGPCNP)
 - Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP)
 - Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (PNP)
 - Pediatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (PNP-AC)
- MSN, DNP
 - Dual Pediatric Nurse Practitioner
 - Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (PNP)/Pediatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (PNP-AC)

Voice Vote: L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-yes; J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2.1.2.3.7

Graceland University’s Request to Offer Graduate Clinical Experiences in Louisiana.

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

Dr. Jolene Lynn, Dean of Graceland School of Nursing, was present virtually via Microsoft TEAMS to provide information and to answer questions by Board members.

Motion: by J. Wiggins, seconded, that the Board approve the request of Graceland University to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until December 14, 2023 for the following roles/populations:

- Family Nurse Practitioner (MSN, PGC)

Voice Vote: L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-yes; J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2.1.2.4

Excelsior College's Updated Enrollment Report.

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

Discussion ensued as to when students are eligible for licensure.

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, that the Board accept the updated report of currently enrolled Louisiana students in the Excelsior College LPN-ASN program.

Voice Vote: L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, that the Board amend Board action taken on October 15, 2020 to read that LPNs enrolled in the college prior to June 14, 2018 AND those who are conferred degrees on or before May 11, 2021, are eligible to apply for licensure by examination and be approved to sit for the NCLEX-RN provided all other requirements are met.

Voice Vote: L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2.1.3

Licensure and Practice

An updated report was presented by Dr. Monique Calmes on Licensure and Practice. Licensure renewal is now in full swing. Licensure and Practice are receiving a significant increase in questions regarding the PSOR (Primary State of Residence) Declaration.

The APRN (Advanced Practice Registered Nurse) Department is in the process of complying with Senate Bill 55, Act 76 for this renewal cycle.

Agenda Item 2.1.4

Center for Nursing

Agenda Item 2.1.4.1

Louisiana Center for Nursing Updates

Please refer to Dr. Cynthia Bienemy's updates which were placed in Confluence.

Dr. Bienemy was available for questions from Board members.

Board members commended Dr. Bienemy on her Forecast Model.

Dr. Lyon announced that Dr. Bienemy will be retiring in January of 2020, stating that she has done a phenomenal job at the Louisiana State Board of Nursing.

Dr. Bienemy thanked the Board for their support.

Board members thanked Dr. Bienemy for the excellent work she has accomplished during her 11 years with the LSBN.

(Break)

(Mr. Cotita called the meeting back to order.)

Agenda Item 2.2.
Compliance Division

Agenda Item 2.2.1
Chief Compliance Officer

Ms. Wanda Matthews thanked her staff for their dedication and hard work during a very challenging year.

An update was given by Ms. Matthews regarding changes recommended by the Lean Six Sigma consultant for the Compliance Department. The recommendations were to change the complaint intake process and replace the director's position with team leaders. Based on the implemented changes, the Compliance Department no longer has a backlog of complaints; therefore, the investigations are now open timelier.

Also, it was recommended that a dashboard be installed to track the productivity of the investigators monthly. The board is up and functioning.

As of the end of November, there were 61 open Priority 1 investigations. Fourteen of the investigations were out of compliance, which equates to 23% of the investigations out of compliance at the end of November.

The last report presented by Ms. Matthews had 68 open investigations. Thirty-eight were out of compliance, which is 56% out of compliance. The out of compliance percentage has decreased from 56% to 23%.

Five investigations have been open 10 to 12 months. The investigations will continue to remain open as they were opened at the request of the DEA.

There are no 13 to 15 months out-of-compliance cases.
Four cases are out of compliance 7 to 9 months.
Five cases are out of compliance 1 to 3 months.

Ms. Matthews was available for questions.

Dr. Lyon congratulated Ms. Matthews and her staff in managing to accomplish all their hard work being short of two RN Compliance officers in that division.

Agenda Item 2.2.2
RNP/Monitoring

Ms. Urhonda Beckwith presented a brief updated report on RNP Monitoring. RNP is collaborating a partnership with the Bureau of Community Preparedness and the Louisiana Department of Public Health through their Opioid to Action grant in the amount of \$35,000.

RNP managers are providing presentations to schools of nursing per their request. Due to COVID, virtual presentations were given to Southern University and LSUHSC School of Nursing, nurse anesthesia students in November at the request of Dr. Bonanno.

Staff is working remotely. All RNP Monitoring requirements for the participants have been resumed.

Ms. Beckwith was available for questions.

Agenda Item 2.2.3
Compliance

Ms. Geneva Carter gave a brief report on the Compliance Department.

Monthly RNO recognition programs have been added.

The department has added dedicated time for case presentation for any problematic cases that RNCOs may have.

A WAE was hired to assist with the backlog and is working diligently to close all the backlog of cases.

Ms. Carter was available for questions.

Agenda Item 2.3
Division of Administration

Agenda Item 2.3.1
Chief Administrative Officer

Ms. Isonel Brown gave a brief overview on the Division of Administration.

Agenda Item 2.3.2
Information Technology

A brief update on the IT (Information Technology) Department was presented by Mr. Carl Nagin.

Agenda Item 2.3.3
Human Resources

Ms. LaQueda Ricks presented a brief updated report for Human Resources. They currently have 66 full-time positions and one part-time hourly. They have 14 seasonal hourly employees. They have one job appointment. Currently, they have five vacant positions.

Human Resources just completed open enrollment that ended on November 15 for all 2021 premiums.

Catapult Health annual examinations for staff have been completed.

Ms. Ricks was available for questions.

Dr. Lyon wanted the Board to be aware that they have a very active Governance Committee under the direction of Human Resources. Every year Human Resources serves as the support, along with the Governance Committee, for special things that are done at Thanksgiving and Christmas to adopt families in need.

Agenda Item 2.3.4
Financial/Records Management

Agenda Item 2.3.1.1
FY 2022 Annual Budget

Ms. Isonel Brown along with Mr. Roy Hebert, CPA presented the FY2022 annual budget.

Ms. Brown reported that a conservative proposed budget has been presented. Most revenue line items reflect no change from the FY 2021 budget, the only notable exception is the difference in projected investment income. The current interest rate is such that this source of revenue will probably be much different in fiscal year 2022.

Expense line items for many categories reflect no changes from the FY 2021 budget with the major exception being payroll and related costs. Proposed payroll expenditures include an average 2.5% merit increase for eligible staff.

The portion of health insurance that the agency pays for all its employees has increased by 5%.

Mr. Hebert had no other additional information but was available for questions.

Motion: by J. Wiggins, seconded, that the Board approve the FY2022 annual budget.

Voice Vote: L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2.4

Division of Legal Affairs

Ms. Carrie Jones presented a brief update on the Division of Legal Affairs.

The Hearings and Legal Division have been working remotely and Ms. Jones has at least one or two people on site every day to support those that are working remotely.

Agenda Item 2.4.1

Chief Legal Officer

Since the last Board meeting, Ms. Jones has had two employees successfully complete the NCSBN (National Counsel State Boards of Nursing) Investigator Training: Ms. Jasimiel T. Northern, Paralegal, and Lauren Reed, Prosecuting Attorney.

Ms. Jones and Ms. Matthews will be conducting a project to revise the consent order language and templates. And hopefully, January 1st or before they will start using the new templates.

Ms. Matthews and Ms. Jones are collaborating and working together so that when a case is transferred to the hearings department and extra follow up is needed, there is a process to task it back to the investigating RN Compliance Officer or Compliance Investigator so that they are knowledgeable about updates and have the requisite foundation to testify if the case goes to a hearing.

Ms. Reed, LSBN prosecuting attorney, was also available for questions.

Agenda Item 2.4.2

Hearings

Ms. Jones will give the Report on Litigation during Executive Session.

3 Office of the Executive Director

Agenda Item 3.1

Election of Officers

New Board officers for 2021 are:

Dr. Tavell Kindall, President

Ms. Tracy Moffett, Vice President.

Mr. Jamie Wiggins, Alternating Officer

Agenda Item 3.2

Update on Participation in National Council State Boards of Nursing's Annual Reporting Process

Dr. Lyon stated that there was nothing new to report on this item.

Dr. Carruth highly encouraged the Board to move forward on using this system.

Discussion ensued regarding this reporting process.

Dr. Lyon forwarded to Board members information on ICRS (International Center for Regulatory Scholarship) that was developed by NCSBN. It is taught by leaders across the country and internationally in all various subjects. This is open to everyone.

4. Reports

Agenda Item 4.1

Report of the President

Report Posted.

Agenda Item 4.2

Report of the Vice President

Report Posted

Dr. Bonanno announced that this was her last meeting as a Board member of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing. Being on the Board for the last 8 years, Dr. Bonanno stated has been the highlight of her career. Dr. Bonanno recalled some of the accomplishments the Board has achieved during her terms under Dr. Lyon's leadership.

Agenda Item 4.3

Report of the Executive Director

Report Posted.

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, to accept the report of the President, Vice President, and the CEO/Executive Director.

Voice Vote: L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

A presentation was made to Dr. Bonanno in recognition for her 8 years on the Board. Dr. Lyon thanked Dr. Bonanno for all her hard work, leadership, and friendship while on the Board.

Dr. Lyon thanked Mr. Cotita as the outgoing Board president for the year 2020 and was presented with his own presidential gavel.

(Lunch)

(Mr. Cotita called the meeting back to order.)

5. Professional Development

No presentation.

6. National Council State Boards of Nursing

Nothing presented.

7. Public Comments

There were no public comments

8. Executive Session

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

Voice Vote: L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Manning-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

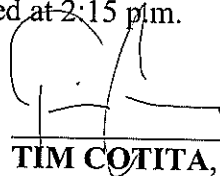
Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.



**TIM COTITA, PRESIDENT
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING**