

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

MINUTES OF THE HEARING PANEL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2020

Call to Order: The Hearing Panel of the Board of Nursing was called to order at 9:13 a.m. by T. Cotita, President, on Wednesday, September 9, 2020, via Microsoft Teams consisting of the members appointed by the Executive Director as authorized by La. R.S. 37:922. The State of Louisiana continues to operate under a state of public health emergency declared by the governor, as most recently renewed in Proclamations 110 JBE 2020 and 111 JBE 2020 (August 26, 2020). As a result, a traditional public meeting of the Board disciplinary panel would be detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Board members will participate via Microsoft Teams due to COVID-19 Public Health Emergency during the public and executive sessions. Notice of same was posted on the LSBN website and in the LSBN building lobby. Public participation and viewing are available via Microsoft Teams. Public participation and viewing will not be available during any portion of the meeting held in executive session pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17.

Roll Call: The following Board members were in attendance:
Tim Cotita, MSHCE, RN, President
Laura Bonanno, PhD, DNP, CRNA, Vice President
Kenneth Alexander, MS, RRT
Ann Carruth, DNS, RN
Jennifer Couvillon, PhD, RN- BC, CNE
Wendi Palermo, PhD, RN

The following staff members were in attendance:
Karen C. Lyon, PhD, APRN, ACNS_{BC}, NEA_{BC}, Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer
Wanda Matthews, MPA, Chief Compliance Officer
Carrie LeBlanc Jones, JD, MBA, Chief Legal Officer/General Counsel
Lauren Reed, JD, Prosecuting Attorney
Geneva Carter, MSN, APRN, FNP, RN Compliance Officer Team Leader
Nichole Battle, MPA, Compliance Investigator Team Leader
Urhonda Beckwith, MSN, APRN, FNP, Director of RNP/Monitoring Department
Suzanne C. Armand, CCR, CVR, Court Reporter

Agenda Approval:

Ms. Jones reported there were no changes to the Agenda.

Motion: by T. Cotita, seconded, to approve the Agenda as presented.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; W. Palermo-yes

Motion Carried

Motion: by K. Alexander, seconded, to authorize one panel member to approve the minutes of today's Hearing Panel. K. Alexander will review and approve.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; W. Palermo-yes

Motion Carried

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, to go into Executive Session pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17 (1) to adjudicate scheduled cases and for reviewing consent orders, automatic suspensions and other disciplinary actions in the cases listed on the Agenda.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; W. Palermo-yes

Motion Carried

CONSENT ORDERS:

The following Consent Orders went on record as presented:

Nurse Practice Act Violations

Michael Gene Melder
Julia Tillie Perrin
Martin Carter Schulthess
Fawn Louel Slaughter

REPORT OF MULTIPLE ACTION

The following Report of Multiple Actions was presented to the Board for ratification:

Dorothy Pearl Smith

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, to go into Open Session.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; W. Palermo-yes

^Motion Carried

ACTIONS ON DISCIPLINARY MATTERS HELD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2020

CONSENT ORDERS:

There were four (4) matters considered by the Board as Consent Orders.

Motion: L. Bonanno, seconded, that the Board accept the Consent Orders for the following individuals:

Nurse Practice Act Violations

**Michael Gene Melder
Julia Tillie Perrin
Martin Carter Schulthess
Fawn Louel Slaughter**

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; W. Palermo-yes

Motion Carried

RATIFICATION OF REPORT OF MULTIPLE ACTIONS:

There was one (1) matter considered by the Board as a Report of Multiple Actions.

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, that the Board accept the Report of Multiple Actions on the following individual:

Dorothy Pearl Smith

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; A. Carruth-yes;
T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; W. Palermo-yes

Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The Hearing Panel adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

**T. COTITA, PRESIDENT
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING**