

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

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 8, 2024 BOARD MEETING

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing was called to order at 9:09 a.m. by T. Kindall, President, and Presiding Officer, on Thursday, August 8, 2024, 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
Jennifer Couvillon, PhD, RN-BC, CNE
Michelle Collins, Ph.D., CNM, RNC-EFM, FACNM, FAAN, FNAP
Teresita McNabb, RN, MHA
Denise Bottcher
Mimi Primeaux, MS, BSN, CRNA
Wendi Palermo, PhD, RN

The following Board members were not in attendance
Frederick Pinkney, EdD
Deborah Spann, MSN, RN-BC, CEN, FAEN

The following staff members were in attendance:
Karen C. Lyon, PhD, MBA, APRN-CNS_{BC}, NEA_{BC}, Executive Director/CEO
Monique Calmes, DNP, APRN, FNP_C, Chief Credentialing Officer
Isonel Brown, MS, MBA, Chief Administrative Officer
Lauren Papillion, JD, Chief Regulatory Officer
Alicia Edmond Wheeler, JD, Executive Counsel
Whitney Sullivan, APRN, Compliance Officer
Urhonda Beckwith, MSN, APRN, FNP_{BC}, RNP Director
Donald Bowman, JD, Director of Hearings/Prosecuting Attorney
Geneva Carter, MSN, APRN, FNP_{BC}, Team Leader
Carl Nagin, BSCS, Technology Manager
Katrina Duncan, Accounting Manager
Chancelor Fontenot, MSN, RN, RN Program Consultant
Ashanta Camper, Executive Assistant
Scott Bonnette, IT
Venise L. Johnson
Suzanne C. Armand, CCR, CVR, Court Reporter (virtually)

Adoption of the Agenda

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, to accept the agenda as presented.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes:

Motion: by J. Couvillon, seconded, to approve the minutes from the June 13, 2024 Board meeting.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

1. Consent Agenda Motions

- a. LSBN Staff Program Status Reports
 - i. NCLEX Reports
- b. Education Announcements
 - i. Chamberlain University Administrative Change
 - ii. Dillard University Administrative Change
 - iii. Glenwood Regional Medical Center Administrative Change
 - iv. Other Announcements

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, to accept the Consent Agenda Motions.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

2. Division Reports

Agenda Item 2.a

Division of Nursing Practice

Agenda Item 2.a.i

Chief Credentialing Officer – Monique Calmes

Ms. Calmes reported that within the nursing division, they have been busy implementing and managing their annual CE Audit. The initial emails went out on July 17th to select licenses that previously have been renewed this past renewal season. A second email was sent on July 31st. At that point, the non-responders got the second email and a mailed letter. The Division has been collecting those documents, and they will begin renewal prep once this is complete.

Dr. Calmes was available for questions.

Agenda Item 2.a.ii

Education and Examination – Chance Fontenot

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.1

Probationary Status Report

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.1.a

Herzing University School of Nursing Probationary Status Report

Summary/Background presented by Mr. Fontenot – recommended acceptance

Dr. Sonia Fanguy-Clark, Program Chair, Herzing University School of Nursing New Orleans, was present to provide information and answer questions from the Board.

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board accepts Herzing University’s report and action plan regarding the probationary status of the Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.1.b

Louisiana Christian University School of Nursing Probationary Status Report.

Summary/Background presented by Mr. Fontenot – recommended acceptance

Dr. Tomekia Lockett, Dean of Nursing, Louisiana Christian University School of Nursing, was present to provide information and answer questions from the Board.

Motion: by J. Couvillon, seconded, that the Board accepts Louisiana Christian University’s report and action plan regarding the probationary status of the discontinued Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.2

Major Substantive Change

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.2.a

Substantive Change Notification for South Louisiana Community College

Summary/Background presented by Mr. Fontenot – recommended approval

Ms. Courtney Metz, Assistant Dean of Nursing Programs, South Louisiana Community College, was present virtually to provide information and to answer questions by the Board.

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board approve the substantive change proposal from South Louisiana Community College requesting to expand the ASN Program’s LPN to RN tract to the SLCC Iberia Campus in New Iberia, Louisiana.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.2.b

Substantive Change Notification For Northwestern State University

Summary/Background presented by Mr. Fontenot – recommended approval

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, that the Board approve the substantive change proposal from Northwestern State University for naming Dr. Aimee Badeaux as Interim Dean of the College of Nursing and School of Allied Health.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.2.c

Substantive Change Notification for William Carey University

Summary/Background presented by Mr. Fontenot – recommended approval

Dr. Wendy Lingle, Associate Dean School of Nursing, William Carey University, was present virtually to provide information and to answer questions by the Board.

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, that the Board approve the substantive change proposal from William Carey University requesting the addition of the Healthcare Transitions Hybrid RN track.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.2.d

Substantive Change Notification for LSU of Alexandria

Summary/Background presented by Mr. Fontenot – recommended approval

Dr. Sarita James, Professor/Director LSU School of Nursing, and Dr. Catherine Doyle, Associate Professor RSN-BSN Program Coordinator, LSU Alexandria, were present virtually to provide information and to answer questions by the Board.

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, that the Board approve the substantive change request from LSU of Alexandria for greater than 25% increase in enrollment in the RN-BSN post-licensure program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.3

Out of State Clinical Approval for APRN Programs

Agenda Item 2.a.ii.3.a

Chamberlain University

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon - recommended approval.

Dr. Couvillon thanked Dr. Lyon on behalf of Chamberlain University for her reviewing and being diligent about the process. While there was a delay, they appreciate the efforts to ensure that everything is always covered.

Motion: by J. Couvillon, seconded, that the Board approve the request of Chamberlain University to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until August 7, 2027, for the following roles/populations:

MSN-FNP

MSN-AGPCNP

MSN-AGACNP

MSN-PMHNP

GC-FNP

GC-AGPCNP

GC-AGACNP

GC-PMHNP

There being no nays, one abstention, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.a.iii

Licensure and Practice – Ms. Stacey Jones

Ms. Jones reported they have experienced some recent staff changes. Two supervisors have left the agency, and they are working to fill two analyst positions as well.

They recently filled a vacant administrative coordinator position.

They have interviewed and selected a candidate for one of the licensing analyst positions and are working with HR (Human Resources) to fill the other vacancies.

(Break)

(Dr. Kindall called the meeting back to order)

Agenda Item 2.b

Compliance Division

Agenda Item 2.b.i

Chief Regulatory Officer – Ms. Lauren Papillion

Agenda Item 2.b.i.1

Investigations Report

Ms. Papillion reported on Investigations and provided the Board with some infographics.

There are currently 354 Open cases. It was reported at the December 14, 2023 meeting that there were 456 open cases. Staff closed 100 cases in May.

There remains one 2021 Priority1 case which is out of compliance.

For the 2022 cases, there was an effort to get all those cases closed but were not able accomplish this. The last two cases should be closed this month. The 2021 cases should both be closed as well.

In December of 2023, they had 100 2022 cases open.

In 2024, they have currently 19 Priority 1 cases that are open and in compliance. Their goal is that for the first quarter of 2025 all those Priority 1 cases should be closed.

Ms. Papillion reviewed the infographics with Board members showing cases by year, by priority level and trends.

Ms. Papillion was available for questions.

Ms. McNabb commented that Ms. Papillion's process is working very well.

Ms. Moffatt stated she appreciated the graphics and all the work that Ms. Papillion and her team have been doing.

Agenda Item 2.b.ii

RNP/Monitoring – Ms. Urhonda Beckwith

Ms. Beckwith reported that on April 29th, the RNP/Monitoring Department held its annual Group Facilitator meeting via TEAM with all the Board recognized facilitators.

On May 9th, they held a TEAM'S meeting with Bradford Health Services, which is one of the Board's recognized in-patient treatment centers in Warrior, Alabama. They provided updates on their treatment services to the staff.

From May 13th through the 17th, Ms. Beckwith attended the National Organization of Alternative Programs Conference (NOAP) in Ft. Meyers, Florida, along with Annette Butler, one of the program managers.

On May 29th, Ms. Beckwith spoke with the New Cardiovascular Horizon's Annual (NCVH) Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana to increase awareness of the RNP/Monitoring.

As of July 31st, RNP/Monitoring had a total of 473 participants, 261 RNP, 212 Monitoring. The RNP Confidential was 120 and Disciplinary was 141.

During the June Board Hearing, Board members inquired about a de-escalation program for nurses. Ms. Beckwith did contact Dr. Thomas Fain who is the Board's medical consultant and recognized clinical

psychologist, and he stated that an in-patient treatment facility would probably be the best in these cases. They have two Board recognized in-patient treatment facilities that can provide these services: Pinegrove, in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and Sante Center for Healing, in Argyle, Texas.

Ms. Moffatt requested that RNP/Monitoring provide graphics for the Board to review regarding their numbers for the various categories.

Ms. Moffatt requested that Ms. Beckwith provide to the Board what resources are available for treatment regarding the various disciplinary cases.

Ms. Beckwith was available for questions from the Board.

Agenda Item 2.b.iii

Compliance – Ms. Geneva Carter

On May 30, 2024, Ms. Battle and Ms. Carter attended the Discipline Case Management Conference in Maryland. Based on the information they received and discussions with other Boards, Ms. Carter stated they are doing a great job in Louisiana.

On June 21, 2024, Ms. Battle and Ms. Carter visited Southeast Community Health Systems and Capital Area Human Services District providing information on the investigation process and LSBN.

Ms. Papillion has reviewed all their case numbers for the divisions.

Ms. Carter was available for questions.

Agenda Item 2.c

Division of Administration

Agenda Item 2.c.i

Chief Administrative Officer - Ms. Isonel Brown

Agenda Item 2.c.i.1

LA Compliance Questionnaire

Ms. Brown stated the LA Compliance Questionnaire is a required document for their annual audit.

Ms. Brown requested that Board members check their names, titles and phone numbers for any changes or corrections.

Motion: by Ms. McNabb, seconded, Acceptance and Approval of the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire

There being no nays, no abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.c.i.2

Contract for Professional Legal Services

Ms. Brown stated that Staff proposes to contract with the State of Louisiana Department of Justice to serve as Hearing Officer for LSBN monthly board disciplinary meetings. The contract will be effective July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025. It shall be billed at an hourly rate, with a maximum contract amount of \$20,000.

Ms. Brown was available for questions from the Board.

Motion: by Dr. Palermo, seconded, for the acceptance and approval of LSBN Board Resolution to contract with the Louisiana Department of Justice for professional legal services.

There being no nays, no abstentions, the motion carried.

Ms. Brown reported that they are in the middle of completing and planning all their audits for the year.

Ms. Brown had an opportunity in June to attend the Office of Risk Management Loss Prevention Training. Ms. Brown completed a five-year recertification that she is required to do as the safety officer for the building.

Also, Ms. Brown had an opportunity in July to attend and participate in the NCSBN Finance Committee where they met with the auditor for their audit and also review and approve the recommended budget that is going to go before their Board.

Ms. Brown reported that they have been getting all their contracts approved. Most of their contracts are multiyear contracts, but there were a few that had to be updated.

Ms. Brown gave an update on some items from the Strategic Plan for which she has been assisting Dr. Lyon.

Ms. Brown was available for questions from the Board.

Agenda Item 2.c.ii

Information Technology – Mr. Carl Nagin

Mr. Nagin reported that they have purchased the storage devices which the Board had approved at a previous meeting. They have been delivered and installed and they are in the process of fully implementing those.

Mr. Nagin reported they have a new IT employee, Scott Bonnette.

They are getting close to renewal season, which starts on October 1, 2024, and have started their renewal season procedures on August 1st.

Mr. Nagin was available for questions.

Agenda Item 2.c.iii

Human Resources – Ms. LaQueda Ricks

Ms. Ricks reported that the number of positions that they have for full time regular employees is 56. They have one hourly regular position. There are 13 hourly seasonal (WAE) positions and one job appointment.

For the vacancy positions, they have two licensing analyst supervisor positions in the Nursing Division, which have been posted. They have a licensing analyst 1, 2, or 3 in the Nursing Division. The staff have interviewed and selected, and the HR process has started.

For the licensing analyst 1 job appointment in the Nursing Division, the position has been reposted due to not finding a good candidate in the first rounds of interviews. An administrative coordinator 4 position in Human Resources has been posted.

Since April, they have had 8 hires, promotions 2 and separations or transfers, 4.

The Risk Management audit was conducted on May 16, 2024 and they scored a 93.8.

They are in the process of updating a Policy and IT will be replacing the ___Daisy Chain extension cord_____ and will be plugged directly into the walls.

The Office of Human Resources is now preparing for the Department of Civil Service Audit. It will be conducted in September 2024.

They are having a Catapult Clinic, which will be held next Wednesday, August 14th for all OGB (Office of Group Benefits) participants. Open enrollment will begin in October.

They also had employee appreciation in Nurses Week that was celebrated in May.

Ms. Ricks was available for questions

Agenda Item 2.c.iv

Administrative Services – Ms. Katrina Duncan

The Accounting Department is currently focused on their 2024 Fiscal Year Audit. They successfully completed the submission of all requested audit samples. The audit should be completed by mid-September if not before. The results from the audit will be presented at the October Board meeting.

Ms. Duncan reported that Accounting will have a graph in October of their financials.

Ms. Duncan was available for questions from the Board.

Agenda Item 2.d

Division of Legal Affairs

Agenda Item 2.d.i

Chief Legal Officer

Agenda Item 2.d.ii

Hearings

Mr. Bowman introduced their new prosecuting attorney Ms. Venise Johnson. Ms. Johnson gave an overview of her employment with the Attorney General's Office.

Mr. Bowman reported that there are 13 backlogged cases remaining from the 28 at the beginning of the year.

They are getting ready for the influx of cases from the multiple investigators in Compliance and the two they have in Hearings.

Mr. Bowman stated they are focusing on efficiency, accountability and time management.

Mr. Bowman stated he is looking forward to presenting more work, better work and a better product to the Board in the months to come.

Mr. Bowman was available for questions from the Board.

Agenda Item 2.d

Office of Executive Counsel – Ms. Alicia Wheeler

Ms. Wheeler reported that she gave a presentation on the role of the board attorney at the last Board meeting. It was suggested that it would be beneficial to do some type of education to the public to distinguish and explain the difference between a board member and board staff. Ms. Wheeler then wrote an article for the July Examiner entitled Understanding Roles of LSBN Board members versus LSBN Board staff, which clarified the roles of board members and board staff.

In early July, Ms. Wheeler had a conversation with the Boards and Commissions Division of the Office of the Governor regarding Dr. Kindall's position on the Board. Ms. Wheeler was told they were at the top of the list for being assigned a new board member and that the Board would have someone by the end of July, which now has come and gone. Ms. Wheeler will continue to follow up.

Ms. Wheeler was tasked to establish and adopt performance benchmarks for legal and disciplinary functions. Under the Board's Strategic Plan, the project is to reduce the case cycle time from complaint to case adjudication. The work to be done is to identify and streamline the process to help keep the momentum going of removing backlogs and then to prevent it from reoccurring.

One of Ms. Wheeler's tasks was to create a web survey which was distributed to the NCSBN (National Council of State Boards of Nursing) directors. The survey went out to 64 boards to get information on their process of complaints, investigations and hearings so they are able to establish a comparative analysis and benchmark of where they are in regard to other boards. Once Ms. Wheeler completes the analysis, she will compare that information to what is received from the other boards as well as information obtained from the NCSBN Annual Discipline Report.

When this is completed, they will have qualitative and quantitative data to assemble to be used in a recommendation on how to proceed on deadlines for processing complaints, investigations and hearings to establish what their case closure rate is and make it more efficient.

Ms. Wheeler was available for question.

Ms. Wheeler reported on the Board training opportunities. One of the objectives was to create a training plan for individual and group training. The Attorney General's office has a Good Government Training Program, which covers open meetings, public records, public bid law, dual office holding and attorney general opinions. These courses are offered to Board members and Board staff as well as the Board attorney. There is an option of the Board going to the Attorney General's Office to take the course, or be taken by Zoom or have the presenters from the AG's office come to the Board office and present the course. Ms. Wheeler requested the Board's preference on taking all or some of the classes and where the course is to be held.

Discussion ensued regarding the Good Government Training.

After discussion, it was decided that the Board would have one of the courses presented at the end of each Board meeting.

(Lunch Break)

(Dr. Kindall called the meeting back to order.)

3. Office of the Executive Director/CEO – Dr. Karen Lyon

Agenda Item 3.a

FAFSA UPDATE – Dr. Michelle Collins

Dr. Collins updated the Board regarding FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

Discussion followed.

Agenda Item 3.b.

Request for Support for 2024 Culture of Health Summit

Dr. Lyon reported that on July 11, 2024, LSBN staff received a letter of request from The Louisiana Action Coalition (LAC) to underwrite the cost of speakers for the 2024 Culture of Health Summit.

Motion: by T. McNabb, seconded, that the Board approve the request of the Louisiana Action Coalition to underwrite the cost of speakers for the 2024 Culture of Health Summit.

After discussion with Executive Counsel Wheeler concerning the possible violation of the Louisiana Constitution regarding a state agency using state funds for non-LSBN activities, the motion was amended:

Motion: by Ms. McNabb, seconded, to approve the request of the Louisiana Action Coalition to underwrite the cost of speakers for the 2024 Culture of Health Summit only after review by the Board's Executive Counsel as to the constitutionality of using state funds for such purposes.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 3.c

Out of State APRN Clinical Approval

Agenda Item 3.c.i

University of Mobile Request for Graduate Clinical Experiences in Louisiana

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon – Recommended re-approval

Motion: by M. Collins, seconded, that the Board re-approve the request of University of Mobile (Alabama) to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until August 7, 2027 for the following roles/populations:

Doctor of Nursing Practice- DNP: Family Nurse Practitioner

Master of Science in Nursing- MSN: Family Nurse Practitioner

Post Graduate Certificate: Family Nurse Practitioner

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 3.d

Behavior of Nurse in Behavioral Health Facilities – Board Discussion

Discussion was had by the Board.

Agenda Item 3.e

BSN Exceptions – Board Discussion

Discussion was had by the Board.

Dr. Lyon stated she will have the statistics regarding BSN Exceptions for the next Board meeting.

Per a request by Ms. Moffatt, Dr. Lyon gave the Board an update regarding the rule change for Nurse Techs.

Dr. Palermo stated that it would be helpful to have these items that the Board votes on be placed under Unfinished Business and kept there until the rule change has been completed.

Further discussions were had regarding BSN Exceptions

Dr. Palermo gave a report on the progress and success of the Nurses Supply and Demand Council and the Health Works Commission. They received a 25 million dollar investment from the Legislature.

Dr. Lyon introduced Ms. Ashanta Camper, her new executive assistant, to the Board. Ms. Camper has been with the Board since July 16th.

Ms. Collins reported that Dr. Kindall is an Inaugural Fellow in the newly established Academy of Diversity Leaders in Nursing and will be inducted as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing in October.

The Board congratulated Dr. Kindall on his induction.

4. Reports

Agenda Item 4.a

Report of the President

Dr. Kindall reported on the recent comments on the Bloomberg podcast regarding Advanced Practice Nursing Education and Training.

Discussion ensued.

Agenda Item 4.b

Report of the Vice President

Agenda Item 4.c

Report of the Executive Director/CEO

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, to approve the Reports of the President, Vice President, and the Executive Director/CEO.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

5. Professional Development

Nothing presented.

6. Strategic Plan

Agenda Item 6.a

Strategic Plan Update

Update was covered under Agenda Item 2.c.i by Ms. Brown.

7. National Council State Boards of Nursing

Agenda Item 7.a

NCSBN Position Paper on Marijuana

The NCSBN Position Paper on Marijuana is attached for the Board's information

8. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

9. Executive Session

There was no Litigation or Personnel Issues.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Board Meeting was adjourned.

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, to adjourn.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.



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