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

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 12, 2022 BOARD MEETING

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing was called to order

at 9:03 a.m. by T. Kindall, President, and Presiding Officer, on Monday, December 12, 2022, 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

Denise Bottcher

Ann Carruth, DNS, RN

Jennifer Couvillon, PhD, RN-BC, CNE

Teresita McNabb, RN, MHA Wendi Palermo, PhD, RN Frederick Pinkney, EdD

Mimi Primeaux, MS, BSN, CRNA

Deborah Spann, MSN, RN-BC, CEN, FAEN

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, BBA, Retiring Chief Compliance Officer Carrie LeBlanc Jones, JD, MBA, Chief Legal Officer/General Counsel

Lauren Papillion, JD, Incoming Chief Compliance Officer

Monique Calmes, DNP, APRN, FNPc, Chief Credentialing Officer

Urhonda Beckwith, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC, RNP Director

Geneva Carter, MSN, APRN, RNCO-Team Leader

Donald Bowman, Attorney Supervisor (Prosecuting Attorney)

Tarneisha Scott, BA, CAA, Executive Assistant to CEO

Suzanne C. Armand, CCR, CVR, Court Reporter

Adoption of the Agenda

Motion: by T. McNabb, seconded, to adopt the Agenda as presented.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: by J. Couvillon, seconded, to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2022 Board

Meeting.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

1. Consent Agenda Motions

- 1. LSBN Staff Program Status Reports
 - 1. NCLEX Report
 - 2. Accreditation Reports
- 2. Approved Program Reports
 - 1. Grambling State University ACEN
 - 2. Herzing University CCNE
 - 3. Southeastern Louisiana University CCNE
 - 4. William Carey University at Baton Rouge General CCNE
- 3. Continuing Education Provider Approval
 - 1. Hospital Services of Louisiana, Inc.
- 4. Education Announcements

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, to accept the Consent Agenda Motions.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

2. Division Reports

Agenda Item 2.1

Division of Nursing Practice

Agenda Item 2.1.1

Chief Credentialing Officer

Dr. Calmes presented a report on the Division of Nursing Practice, stating that they continue to support their workforce by timely and efficient licensing. They are currently in their renewal this season. They are experiencing an increased call volume in which staff have been busy assisting their licensees. The Department is right on track with the numbers from 2021. They have 16,215 licensees left to renew for this year.

Dr. Pierce and Dr. Calmes conducted a site visit at Louisiana Christian University concurrently with their CCNE accreditation visit.

Licensure staff during 2021 have provided presentations for six schools.

Dr. Calmes attended NCSBN (National Council of State Boards of Nursing) midyear and annual meetings virtually. Also, the APRN (Advanced Practice Registered Nurse) round table, which was also virtual. Dr. Calmes also participated in the Nurse Leadership Institute, which is sponsored by the Action Coalition, and will continue to participate as well.

Dr. Calmes expressed her appreciation for the support and is excited to complete renewal this season and is looking forward to serving the licensees of this state as well as the public for the Louisiana State Board of Nursing.

Dr. Calmes was available for questions.

Dr. Lyon announced that Dr. Calmes is the new Chief of the Credentialling Division, which encompasses Credentialling as well as Education.

Agenda Item 2.1.1.2

Education and Examination

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1

Probationary Status Report

Dr. Lyon updated the Board on the schools that are currently on probation as of December 12, 2022.

Bossier Parish Community College's program has an 88.61% pass rate and are now within the requirements for the 80% pass rate and should be coming off of probation.

Louisiana College is at 62.5% pass rate and has asked to restructure their program.

Southern University at Baton Rouge is at 64.91% pass rate.

South Louisiana Community College is at 80.77% pass rate and should soon be coming off of probation.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.1

Bossier Parish Community College

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

Ms. Cathy Maddry, Associate Dean of Nursing, Bossier Parish Community College, was present to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

Motion:

by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board accept Bossier Parish Community College's report and action plan regarding the probationary status of the Associate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.2

Louisiana Christian University

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

Dr. Tomekia Luckett, Dean of Nursing, and Dr. Shaina T. Goudeau, Associate Vice President School of Nursing, Louisiana Christian College were available to answer questions.

Motion:

by W. Palermo, seconded, that the Board accept Louisiana Christian 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 2.1.2.1.3

Southern University Baton Rouge

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

Dr. Sandra Brown, Associate Dean of Nursing & Chief Nursing Officer, and Dr. Stacey Taylor, Chair of the Undergraduate Program, Southern University Baton Rouge, were present to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

Motion:

by T. Moffatt, seconded, that the Board accept Southern University at Baton Rouge'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 2.1.2.1.4

South Louisiana Community College

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

Dr. Carry Deatley, Dean of Nursing and Allied Health and Ms. Courtney Metz, Assistant Dean of Nursing Programs, South Louisiana Community College, were present to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

Motion:

by T. Moffatt, seconded, that the Board accept South Louisiana Community College's report and action plan regarding the probationary status of the Associate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2

Request for New Undergraduate Program in Louisiana

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2.1

Northshore Technical Community College - Step II

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

Dr. Will Wainwright, Chancelor, Ms. Christi Marceaux, Associate Provost, and Michelle Reed, ASN Program Director for Northshore Technical College, were present to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

Motion:

by T. Moffatt, seconded, that the Board approve Step II from Northshore Technical Community College to establish an associate of science in nursing education degree program and grant initial approval.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Dr. Lyon commented that in her education career, Northshore Technical College was one of the most pleasant site or accreditation visits she had attended with overwhelming community support.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2.2

Louisiana Christian University

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

Dr. Tomekia Luckett, Program Director, Louisiana Christian University, was present to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

Motion:

by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board accept and approve the request to restructure the baccalaureate of science in nursing education degree program at Louisiana Christian University.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.3

Request for Out of State Graduate Clinical Experiences in Louisiana

Agenda Item 2.1.2.3.1

South College

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

Ms. Lois Stewart, Program Director for the Nursing Anesthesia Program School of Nursing, South College, was present to provide information and answer questions by Board members.

Motion:

by W. Palermo, seconded, that the Board approve the request of South College to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until December 12, 2025 for the following roles/populations:

Doctor of Nursing Practice Nurse Anesthesia

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

(Break)

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

Agenda Item 2.2 Compliance Division

Agenda Item 2.2.1

Chief Compliance Officer

Ms. Matthews reported that Ms. Papillion has been in training as the Board's new Chief Compliance Officer effective January 9, 2022 upon Ms. Matthews retirement. Ms. Papillion will be giving the Compliance Department report this morning.

Ms. Papillion reported that for Priority 1 Investigations, as of December 1st, the Compliance Division has 33 open Priority 1 investigations. Four of those are out of compliance with a 12% out of compliance rate. Two cases have been recently closed. Two are still awaiting closure which are 1 to 3 months of out of compliance.

The RNP and Compliance staff continue to make presentations to schools of nursing, hospitals and associations to promote RNP and to discuss the investigation process. The Directors will report on those activities.

Lakeview Health came to the Board in October to give an update on its treatment center and Ms. Papillion attended the meeting. Ms. Papillion will continue to participate in these events and presentations going forward.

Staff development was a priority under Chief Matthews and Ms. Papillion will continue to make this a priority for the Compliance Division.

Earlier this year, Ms. Papillion completed the NCSBN (National Council of State Boards of Nursing) International Center for Regulatory Scholarship Program. In her new position, Ms. Papillion has begun the Passport training with Dr. Jackson.

The Directors will be reporting on the progress that has been made in their leadership development.

Ms. Papillion stated that her transition to the new Chief Compliance Officer role has been progressing and she is proud to be leading the Compliance Division.

Ms. Matthews stated that it is a privilege to have Ms. Papillion replace her as the Chief Compliance Officer.

Ms. Matthews was available for questions.

Dr. Kindall expressed the Board's gratitude for Ms. Matthews and all that she has accomplished for the Board and stated that she will be missed.

Dr. Lyon recognized Ms. Papillion in that as she was transitioning into the Chief Compliance Division, she also was closing out cases under Ms. Jones in the Hearings Department as the Prosecuting Attorney for the Board.

Dr. Lyon expressed that Ms. Matthews will be missed tremendously.

Agenda Item 2.2.2

RNP/Monitoring

Ms. Beckwith reported that from September 12th through the 16th of 2022, she completed a five day nurse leadership training with the Louisiana Action Coalition, Nurse Leadership Institute in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

On September 29th, Ms. Carter and Ms. Beckwith gave an RNP presentation in Lake Charles, Louisiana in a meet and greet at Lake Charles Memorial Hospital to the nurse leaders, nurse practice council and educators. They also traveled to McNeese State University on the same day and did an RNP presentation as they were the guest speakers for their monthly SNA meeting, which included Sowela Community College School of Nursing.

On October 20th, Robert Reese with Lakeview Health, an LSBN Board recognized treatment center, came to the Board and provided updates on their services and treatment processes with all RNP staff.

In October, Ms. Beckwith began a 9 month mentorship program with the Nurse Leadership Institute. They are working on implementing processes to further increase awareness of the RNP in nursing schools.

On November 7th, Ms. Beckwith did a virtual RNP presentation for Northwestern State University in Shreveport, Louisiana to their nursing students.

On November 14th, Affinity Spectrum Compliance, a LSBN drug testing company, provided a virtual meeting with all RNP staff to review 2022.

On November 24th, Ms. Beckwith was contacted by Shelly Upshaw, who is the new statewide RN program consultant for LDH, OPH Bureau of Community Preparedness. They discussed resuming the collaboration with their Opioid to Action Grant to increase the awareness of the RNP. Their next scheduled meeting is December the 19th.

As of November 30th, RNP monitoring had 411 participants, 289 were RNP, and 122 monitoring. Currently, they have 149 Confidential participants and 140 Disciplinary participants.

Treatment centers continue to reach out to RNP seeking information on how to become a Board recognized treatment center.

Dr. Beckwith stated that Kathie Pohlman, Program Manager for RNP, had shared a positive and uplifting email from a participant who completed the RNP program.

Dr. Beckwith was available for questions.

Dr. Lyon suggested that Dr. Beckwith deliver an RNP presentation to the entire Board at the next Board meeting as a Professional Development Agenda item.

Agenda Item 2.2.3

Compliance

Ms. Carter presented an update on the Investigations Department. There were 109 open 2020 cases. Currently, there are now 43 2020 open cases. There are 132 2021 cases, and 246 2022 cases.

Dr. Beckwith and Ms. Carter gave a presentation to McNeese University and to Lake Charles Memorial Hospital. Ms. Carter's presentation covered the investigation process and also the Compliance Department.

Ms. Carter also completed a five day leadership training through the Louisiana Action Coalition, Nurse Leadership Institute. Ms. Carter is also enrolled in the 9-month mentorship program through the LAC Nurse Leadership Institute in addition to being a part of the Emerge Leadership through LSBN.

Ms. Carter was available for questions.

Agenda Item 2.3

Division of Administration

Agenda Item 2.3.1

Chief Administrative Officer

Agenda Item 2.3.1.1

FY2022 Financial and Compliance Audit Report

Ms. Brown introduced Mr. Roy Hebert, the Board's contract CPA, to the new Board members.

Summary/Background was presented by Ms. Brown. Ms. Brown reported that the auditor's report reflects an "unmodified" opinion with no findings, no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies identified, and no instances of noncompliance were noted that were material to the financial statements.

Ms. Brown requested acceptance of the FY2022 Financial and Compliance Audit.

Motion: by J. Couvillon, seconded, that the Board accept the FY2022 Financial and Compliance

Audit Report.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.3.1.2

FY 2024 Proposed Budget

Chief Brown presented the 2024 Proposed Annual Budget. Ms. Brown reviewed the Budget with Board members, stating that the Budget is comparable to the Audited Financial Statement of the actual revenues and expenses from Fiscal Year 2022. The Budget was attached for the Board's review.

Chief Brown was available for questions.

Ms. Brown requested the Board's approval of the proposed FY2024 annual budget which is required to be approved by the end of this calendar year.

Motion: by T. McNabb, seconded, to approve the proposed FY2024 annual budget.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Ms. Brown presented a report on the LSBN Division of Administration. They continue to work with all divisions in moving their sections or departments to a more paperless environment.

Agenda Item 2.3.2

Information Technology

Ms. Brown reported that Carl continues to work with IT security in protecting the Board's information and their online presence from any issues.

Carl is working with Ms. Brown in helping her complete the website which was recently deployed.

Currently, they are introducing a new time-keeping system to staff.

Ms. Brown thanked Dr. Lyon for her leadership for the work that she allows Dr. Jackson to do with the department chiefs.

Ms. Brown reported that she is working on her Lean Six Sigma green belt and looking forward to presenting their tollgate in June of 2024.

Agenda Item 2.3.3

Human Resources

Ms. Ricks presented a report for Human Resources. They had a successful Office of Risk Management Audit making 100% on that.

Human Resources hosted the Catapult Clinic again this year where employees received a free health assessment for all OGB plan policy holders. Open enrollment was October 1 through November 15.

A Civil Service Audit was just completed.

They had a successful PS planning session. The training was due November 4th for Ethics, Sexual Harassment, Cyber Security Awareness and Sexual Harassment for supervisors. They planned a Public Service Appreciation Week and Nurses Week in May 2022 and are working on Christmas throughout the month of December.

They are in the process of retyping and updating all position descriptions filled and unfilled for all staff.

Currently, they have 52 full-time employees, 1 hourly regular employee, 12 parttime seasonal employees and 1 job appointment.

Ms. Ricks was available for questions.

Dr. Carruth requested an update on the Education position.

Dr. Lyon stated that Education and Examination went back under Credentialling. Dr. Calmes and Dr. Lyon will be overseeing. At this point, Dr. Lyon stated that she will not be hiring another director. Dr. Lyon has hired Dr. Patricia Pearce, retired Dean of Loyola University New Orleans College of Nursing and Health, to assist with site visits and practice opinions. Dr. Pearce is employed as an hourly, part-time employee.

Agenda Item 2.3.4

Administrative Services

Ms. Duncan presented a brief report on Administrative Services.

The Accounting Department is currently going through their travel audit.

They did a successful financial audit and they are entering into the end-of-year closing.

Agenda Item 2.4.

Division of Legal Affairs

Agenda Item 2.4.1

Chief Legal Officer

Ms. Jones reported that Ms. Papillion was promoted to Chief Compliance Officer. They are going through the process of replacing Ms. Papillion as the Prosecuting Attorney.

Agenda Item 2.4.1.1

LSBN Rule Revision in response to Act 444

Ms. Jones reported that the LSBN's current rules, specifically Louisiana Administrative Code 46:XLVII.4513 (Authorized Practice), prohibits advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) from treating chronic or intractable pain and obesity with controlled substances. As such, \they are prohibited from treating many of the conditions enumerated in La. R.S. 40:1046. This conflict was discussed during the October 13, 2022, board meeting, and the board instructed staff to submit a proposed rule change at the December board meeting to remove the barriers prohibiting NPs from recommending marijuana to the fullest extent permitted by the law.

Ms. Jones stated the proposed rule change is not making any additions but instead removes prohibitory that language from the rules. The strike-through format is available on Confluence.

Nothing of significance has happened at the Medical Marijuana Commission with respect to the Nursing Board. Board staff provided an update to Committee Chair, Representative Marino, that LSBN staff has worked and collaborated with the Pharmacy Board. Nurse Practitioners have the information they need. There have been articles in The Examiner to educate those that want to recommend therapeutic marijuana on how to obtain authorization from the Pharmacy Board. The LSBN cannot authorize NPs to recommend therapeutic marijuana. That is solely under the jurisdiction of the Pharmacy Board.

Ms. Jones stated that if the Board approves the recommended rule change, Board staff will have to submit a Notice of intent to the OLRC and the Louisiana Register. There will be an opportunity for the public to make objections.

Dr. Lyon requested that Ms. Jones forward Board members the link to the Senate Health and Welfare Committee meeting that was held last week. The second part of the meeting is related to the position that the Board of Medical Examiners took on telehealth requiring an face to face visit before a physician can recommend therapeutic marijuana to a patient. Dr. Lyon recommended that Board members view it.

Ms. Jones was available for questions.

Motion: by T. Moffatt, second, that the Board review and approve the proposed rule change.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Motion: by F. Pinkney, seconded, that the Board approves staff to initiate revision through

rulemaking in accordance with the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.4.2

Hearings

Ms. Jones introduced Mr. Donald Bowman as the new prosecuting attorney and anticipates Mr. Bowman will be prosecuting cases by March of 2023.

Mr. Bowman stated that he was very excited to continue his career as a civil servant. His entire legal profession as a civil servant has been in state or local government.

Ms. Jones reported that he will also be joining the Emerge group for leadership training.

After looking back at the last couple of years, Ms. Jones stated that the number of Consent Orders coming before the Board each year and each month is indicative of how hard board staff is working. For the year 2022, they have brought 224 Consent Orders to the Board. That is the most they have had in

the last 5 years. In 2021, they brought 138 cases to the Board. In 2020, 175 cases were brought. In 2019, they brought 177 cases. In 2018, they brought 211.

This is the first year that they have done the hearings every other month. Ms. Jones had promised the Board that they would continue to have as many hearings with less dates. They have had as many and even more hearings. In 2022, they had 22 hearings scheduled compared to 2021, where there were 17 hearings. In 2020, they had 6 hearings. In 2019, they had 20 hearings. The Hearing Department staff is staying very productive with the off month where they have more time to get cases settled. Ms. Jones thanked the Board for taking on this change and thanked her team for working so hard.

As far as training and development, Ms. Jones continues to participate in LSBN Passport Leadership Development with the other Chiefs, and Dr. Jackson. Ms. Jones has attended the NCSBN Discipline Case Management Conference, which has been virtual since COVID, as well as the NLC Legal Conference, Ms. Papillion also participated in those sessions that were virtual.

Ms. Jones' first in-person conference post-COVID was the NCSBN Leadership and Public Policy Conference. The conference happens every other year. Ms. Jones brought back a lot of great information and came back with a renewed enthusiasm.

Ms. Jones also participated in various NCSBN Knowledge Network calls.

All staff in the Hearings Department participates in National Practitioners Data Bank training sessions. There will be upcoming changes to the NPDB reporting regarding new codes and retired codes; staff is be prepared to implement those changes.

Ms. Jones was available for questions.

Dr. Kindall thanked Ms. Jones for all she does.

3. Office of the Executive Director/CEO

Agenda Item 3.1

Program Expansions

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

Discussion ensued.

Motion:

by W. Palermo, seconded, that the Board allow for approved schools of nursing to submit requests for alternative program sites to LSBN staff through a notification process rather than formal motion to the Board.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 3.2

Collaborative Models of Care for Primary Care/Psych Mental Health Care

Dr. Lyon requested that the Board discuss role confusion between primary practitioners and acute care practitioners and expansion of psych mental health care for non-PMH APRNs.

Dr. Calmes was available for questions.

Discussion ensued.

Dr. Lyon stated that she could request a couple of site mental health experts from the academic setting to come to the February Board meeting and help the Board to develop a plan of action.

Agenda Item 3.3

Fiscal and Economic Impact Statement – BSN Faculty Exception (Rule Revision)

Dr. Lyon reviewed with Board members the Fiscal and Economic Statement which will be published on December 20, 2022 in the Louisiana Register. Dr. Lyon has the letter that they received from LACANE (Louisiana Council of Administrators of Nursing Education) asking for a public hearing. Since they do represent more than 25 Louisiana citizens asking for a public hearing, they will be required to hold a public hearing. They have until January 20 for comments to be submitted. This is the first comment that has been received and it is anticipated that LSBN will receive more. The next step in the rulemaking process is that a date will be set for a Public Hearing in 2023 before the full Board at some point after January 20th when the Board has received all the comments or requests.

Agenda Item 3.4

Louisiana Action Coalition - 2022 Dues

Dr. Lyon requested that the Board would approve the payment of the Louisiana Action Coalition 2022 dues.

Motion:

by J. Couvillon, seconded, that the Board approve the payment of the Louisiana Action Coalition 2022 dues.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda It4em 3.5

Election of LSBN Board Officers

Dr. Lyon sent out letters asking for nominations for officers for the 2023/2024 year and received back nominations to maintain the current three officers. Dr. Kindall was nominated for Board President, Ms. Moffatt to continue as Vice President, and Dr. Manning to continue as Alternate Officer. Dr. Lyon opened nominations from the floor for those positions.

There being no other nominations, Dr. Kindall, Ms. Moffatt, and Dr. Manning will continue as the executive committee of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing for 2023/2024 year.

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 J. Manning, seconded, to accept the report of the President, Vice President, and the

CEO/Executive Director as submitted.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

5. Professional Development

Nothing presented.

6. National Council State Boards of Nursing

Agenda Item 6.1

NCSBN Board maintains the NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN Passing Standard

Dr. Lyon stated that she is on the Board representing Area 3 for the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. Every three years they must look at upholding the NCLEX passing standards. At their last Board meeting on December 6, 2022, the NCSBN Board voted to accept the NCLEX Education Committee's recommendation to uphold the current passing standards for the NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN Examinations when the Next Generation NCLEX (NGN) is launched April 1, 2023. NGN is an enhancement of the current examinations which will place more emphasis on the measurement of a candidate's nursing clinical judgment.

Discussion ensued.

7. Public Comments

Ms. Cathy Maddry had sent Dr. Lyon an apprenticeship proposal for Bossier Parish Community College. The matter was inadvertently not put on the agenda for action for the December Board meeting but asked Ms. Maddry to come and share her proposal to the Board and bring the matter back for action at the February Board meeting.

Ms. Cathy Maddry, Associate Dean of Nursing, Bossier Parish Community College, shared with the Board her proposal regarding an apprenticeship program for an LPN to RN candidate.

Discussion ensued.

Dr. Ahnyel Burkes, Interim Executive Director Louisiana State Nurses Association, came to speak to the Board regarding opening the NPA (Nurse Practice Act) to provide title protection for the term "Nurse" or "Registered Nurse," and why this is important.

Discussion ensued.

8. Executive Session

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, to go into Executive Session for the purposes of hearing the

Report on Litigation and Personnel Issues.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

7. KINDALL, PRESIDENT and PRESIDING OFFICER

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING