

Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists
BOARD MEETING MINUTES: *May 29, 2015*
APPROVED: June 26, 2015

The meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (Board) was noticed and agenda posted on May 27, 2015. Dr. Culross, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m., Friday, May 29, 2015, at 8706 Jefferson Highway, Suite B, Baton Rouge, LA 70809. Present were Board Members, Drs. Darla Burnett, Phil Griffin, Joseph Comaty; and, Executive Director, Kelly Parker. Dr. C. Gary Pettigrew, Complaint's Coordinator was in partial attendance for the legal review. Dr. Kim VanGeffen, representing LPA, was also present during the Public Hour.

Dr. Burnett moved to accept the May 29, 2015 agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed and discussed the draft minutes of March 13, 2015. Dr. Comaty moved to accept the minutes as corrected. The motion passed unanimously. The Board reviewed and discussed the April 24, 2015 minutes. Dr. Burnett moved to accept the minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Pursuant to LSA R.S.42: 6.1(4), Dr. Culross moved to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel matters, review legal issues, conduct oral examinations and discuss legal matters. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows: Culross-yay, Burnett-yay, Comaty-yay and Griffin-yay.

Dr. Culross moved to close Executive Session to enter the following:

Personnel Matter [LSA-R.S. 42.6.1]: The Board discussed the upcoming Executive Director vacancy. Dr. Burnett and Ms. Parker reported the recommendations of the hiring committee. Dr. Burnett noted that there were 3 very qualified candidates. Dr. Burnett moved to offer the position to Dr. Greg Gormanous beginning July 2015. The motion was discussed. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: Culross-yay, Burnett-yay, Comaty-yay and Griffin-yay.

Complaint Review/Legal Matters [LSA-R.S. 42.6.1]:

- a. **EM v. KB:** Dr. Pettigrew presented the relevant facts to the Board, while withholding any and all identifying information of the parties. Dr. Pettigrew recommended that the Board dismiss the matter. The Board considered the information presented. Dr. Comaty moved to dismiss the matter as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. **NP14-15-3B:** The Board reviewed and discussed the draft correspondence prepared by Dr. Comaty. Dr. Griffin moved to finalize the correspondence and send to the appropriate parties.
- c. **NP14-15-4B:** The Board reviewed and discussed recent correspondence relating to NP14-15-4B. Dr. Comaty moved to draft a follow up response. The Board agreed to forward the information to the Louisiana LPC Board and close the file.

Oral Examinations[LSA-R.S. 42.6.1]:

Candi Hill, Ph.D., appeared before the Board for an oral examination in Counseling Psychology. The Board discussed Dr. Hill's oral examination. Dr. Comaty moved that the Board grant Dr. Hill a license to practice psychology with a specialty in Counseling Psychology. The Board discussed the recommendation and the motion passed unanimously.

Michael Lobrano, Ph.D., appeared before the Board for an oral examination in Counseling Psychology. The Board discussed Dr. Lobrano's oral examination. Dr. Griffin moved that the Board grant Dr. Lobrano a license to practice Counseling Psychology. The Board discussed the recommendation and the motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer McCarroll, Ph.D., appeared before the Board for a reciprocity meeting. The Board acknowledged that Dr. McCarroll met the reciprocity requirements and successfully passed the Jurisprudence examination. The Board granted Dr. McCarroll a license to practice Counseling Psychology in Louisiana.

Supervision and Credentials Recommendations:

Dr. Griffin reviewed the applications for licensure files of: Thomandra Sam, Ph.D. and Kimberly Hutchinson, Ph.D. Dr. Griffin moved to invite the candidates to take the examinations for licensure. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Griffin reviewed the application for licensure file of Keith Westerfield, Ph.D. The Board discussed the file and Louisiana licensure requirements. Dr. Griffin moved to deny Dr. Westerfield licensure because his postdoc hours were not completed in the required time frame for Louisiana licensure. The Board discussed the motion. After careful consideration, the motion passed unanimously. Dr. Griffin suggested that Dr. Westerfield obtain a CPQ and reapply via reciprocity. The Board agreed.

Dr. Comaty reviewed the reciprocity application file of Diane Beneventi, Ph.D. The Board discussed the file. Dr. Comaty moved to invite Dr. Beneventi to meet with the Board for licensure. The motion was considered and passed unanimously.

Dr. Burnett reviewed the Supervised Practice Plans of: Christopher Parkinson, Ph.D., Amy Meredith, Psy.D., and Callie Brockman, Ph.D. Dr. Burnett discussed the plans with the Board. Dr. Burnett moved to approve the plans for Drs. Parkinson, Meredith and Brockman. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Comaty reviewed the application for licensure file of Christa Matheny, S.S.P. After careful review and discussion with the Board, Dr. Comaty moved to approve Ms. Matheny for licensure as a LSSP in Louisiana. The Board considered the motion carefully. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed correspondence from LSSP licensee, Mary Esteve. The Board discuss Ms. Esteve's comments regarding required supervision. The Board opined that the minimum supervision for LSSPs remains one hour, face-to-face per week.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: Ms. Parker notified the Board that the contract with Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, would need to be amended for the 2014-2015FY because of the large volume of work for the 3 upcoming disciplinary hearings. The Board discussed the workload and appropriate amendment amount. Dr. Comaty moved to amend the 2014-2015FY to \$35,000 through the end of June 2015. The motion passed by roll call vote: Culross-yay, Comaty-yay and Griffin-yay.

Oral Examination Committee: Dr. Griffin updated the Board regarding his work on new case vignettes.

Jurisprudence Examination Committee: No new report.

Legislative Oversight Committee: The Board discussed the current status of SB113 in the 2015 Legislative Session. The Board also briefly discussed the legislative alert sent out from the Louisiana Psychological Association's Executive Director, Ms. Bishop, regarding a chiropractic bill. Dr. Culross clarified for the record that the Board did not consider this bill because it was not related to psychology and therefore, the Board had no educational information to provide to legislators.

Liaison to Professional Organizations and Boards: Ms. Parker reported that the PLUS application system was ready for the pilot phase to begin on May 11, 2015. She noted that the PLUS system will be in pilot phase for 3 months or the first 50 applications, whichever comes first. Dr. Comaty and Ms. Parker reported to the Board regarding the ASPPB Midyear meeting held in Atlanta, Georgia. Ms. Parker reminded the Board about the upcoming Federal Association of Regulatory Training on May 20, 2015 in Baton Rouge, LA. The Board approved Ms. Parker, Dr. Comaty, Dr. Burnett and Dr. Zimmermann attendance at the FARB meeting.

Continuing Education: No new report.

Complaints Committee: The Board reviewed the updated draft of the policies and procedures regarding the Complaint's Committee duties; handling of requests for investigations and investigations. The Board discussed the proposed updates very carefully. Dr. Culross moved to adopt the policies effective May 29, 2015.

Long Range Planning Meeting: The Board briefly discussed the need for rule writing retreats and new member orientation.

LBAB Liaison Report: Ms. Parker reported on behalf of Dr. Zimmermann, the LBAB Liaison to the LSBEP. She reported that the Behavior Analyst Board hired a full time Administrative Assistant and they were drafting a revision to the MOU for LSBEP approval.

Professionalism Workgroup: Ms. Parker reported on behalf of Dr. Zimmermann, the Chair of the Professionalism Workgroup. She reported that the group convened for its second meeting on May 15, 2015. Ms. Parker noted that the group reviewed the survey responses and had a discussion regarding recommendations. Ms. Parker informed the Board that the workgroup requested the Board to phrase things in a positive manner and move slowly with any decisions regarding additional rules.

LSBEP Education & Outreach: No new report.

Discussion Items:

1. **Executive Director's Report**: Ms. Parker requested that this item be added to the regular agendas for a monthly report regarding applications, issues, etc. Dr. Comaty moved that the Executive Director supply a regular monthly reporting to the board. Ms. Parker introduced Ms. Laura Tieken as the new Administrative Assistant. The Board welcomed Ms. Tieken.
2. **LSSP Advisory Committee Nominations**: The Board discussed the upcoming vacancy on the LSSP Advisory Committee. The Board approved the call for nominations with a deadline of July 1, 2015.
3. **Policies & Procedures** – Board Member/Staff Confidentiality Agreement: The Board reviewed the draft policy/statement. Dr. Comaty moved to have all new board members and board staff execute same. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Parker agreed to update the Policies and Procedures manual with this new information.
4. **Policies & Procedures** – Provisional Licensure: The Board reviewed policies for and procedures for the processing of provisional licensees. The Board discussed the policies carefully. Dr. Culross moved to accept the policies as final. Ms. Parker agreed to update the Policies and Procedures manual with this new information.
5. **Policies & Procedures –Other Updates Needed**: The Board reviewed draft policies and procedures for the LSBEP election process. The Board agreed that it was imperative to have this policy in place prior to the upcoming Fall 2015 election. Dr. Comaty moved to adopt the policies as final. The motion passed by roll call vote: Culross-yay, Comaty-yay and Griffin-yay. Ms. Parker agreed to update the Policies and Procedures manual with this new information.
6. **June Board Meeting**: The Board confirmed the June 26, 2015 meeting date. The Board agreed to do additional oral examinations to eliminate the wait list of candidates for licensure.

Public Comments: Dr. Culross opened the floor to public comments at approximately 2:40 p.m. Dr. Kim VanGeffen, on behalf of LPA, indicated that she wished to address the Board. Dr. VanGeffen addressed the board about continuing education requirements. Dr. Comaty noted that their response was not an official response, unless in writing, however, the Board attempted to guide Dr. VanGeffen appropriately.

Dr. Culross moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:50 p.m.