

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

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 22, 2024 BOARD MEETING

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing was called to order at 9:06 a.m. by T. Kindall, President, and Presiding Officer, on Thursday, February 22, 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
Michelle Collins, Ph.D., CNM, RNC-EFM, FACNM, FAAN, FNAP
Wendi Palermo, PhD, RN
Frederick Pinkney, EdD
Mimi Primeaux, MS, BSN, CRNA
Jennifer Couvillon, PhD, RN-BC, CNE
Denise Bottcher
Teresita McNabb, RN, MHA

The following Board member was not in attendance:
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, FNPC, Chief Credentialing Officer
Isonel Brown, MS, MBA, Chief Administrative Officer
Lauren Papillion, JD, Chief Regulatory Officer
Donald Bowman, JD, Director of Hearings/Prosecuting Attorney
Geneva Carter, MSN, APRN, RNCO-Team Leader
Jeff Cody, Legal Counsel
Suzanne C. Armand, CCR, CVR, Court Reporter, Virtually

Adoption of the Agenda

Dr. Lyon stated there was a change to the agenda. The Board was notified that Ms. Jennifer Thomas is not going to be present for Agenda Item No. 2.1.4.1, "Request for Petition for Declaratory Statement or Advisory Opinion." Dr. Calmes will address this when the Agenda Item comes up for discussion.

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

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2023 Board meeting.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

1. Consent Agenda Motions

1. LSBN Staff Program Status Reports

- 1 NCLEX Reports
- 2 Accreditation Reports

2. Education Announcements

- 1 Change in Director of Associate Nursing at Delta Community College.
- 2 Change in Chief Nurse Administrator at William Carey University at Baton Rouge.

Motion: by W. Palermo, 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

Agenda Item 2.1.2

Education and Examination

Agenda Item 2.1.4

Licensure and Practice

Dr. Calmes reported that the renewals are completed. There were 45,789 RNs renewed for 2023, which was significantly more than 2022. Dr. Calmes gave a shout out to the staff.

The preliminary statistics are in alignment with the previous years. The number of RNs choosing to go inactive has increased but Ms. Calmes feels this is in alignment with the Nurse Licensure Compact implementation.

Over the last year, they have implemented a few internal processes to process licensure as timely as possible.

Some issues were experienced with their electronic system concerning licensure which was not unexpected.

Dr. Calmes announced that Mr. Chance Fontenot has accepted the new position of RN Program Consultant.

Dr. Calmes was available for questions.

Dr. Lyon stated that for Dr. Calmes and Mr. Fontenot, she will be their mentor for all things education.

Agenda Item 2.1.2
Education and Examination

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1
Disciplinary Report

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.1
Louisiana Christian University – BSN

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

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, that the Board accept the disciplinary report for Louisiana Christian University - BSN.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2
Removal of Probationary Status

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2.1
Baton Rouge General Medical Center

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

Motion: by J. Couvillon, seconded, that the Board accept Baton Rouge General Medical Center Diploma NCLEX 2023 scores and remove the probationary status and return the school to Full Approval Status.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2.2
Chamberlain University - BSN

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

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, that the Board accept Chamberlin University BSN NCLEX 2023 scores and remove the probationary status and return the school to Full Approval Status.

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

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2.3

Louisiana Delta Community College – ASN

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

Motion: by D. Botcher, seconded, that the Board accept Louisiana Delta Community College ASN NCLEX 2023 scores and remove the probationary status and return the school to Full Approval Status.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2.4

Louisiana University at Alexandria - ASN

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

Motion: by M. Collins, seconded, that the Board accept LSU Alexandria ASN NCLEX 2023 scores and remove the probationary status and return the school to Full Approval Status.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2.5

Southern University Baton Rouge – BSN

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

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, that the Board accept Southern University Baton Rouge BSN NCLEX 2023 scores and remove the probationary status and return the school to Full Approval Status.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2.6

Southern University at Shreveport - ASN

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

Motion: by J. Couvillon, seconded, that the Board accept Southern University Shreveport NCLEX 2023 scores and remove the probationary status and return the school to Full Approval Status.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.7

William Carey University at Baton Rouge General – BSN

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

Motion: by J. Couvillon, seconded, that the Board accept William Carey University NCLEX 2023 scores and remove the probationary status and return the school to Full Approval Status.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Dr. Lyon reported that Fletcher Technical Community College had asked for an increase in their enrollment, which would normally be brought before the Board. Dr. Lyon reviewed the request and missed a follow up. Dr. Lyon asked the Board for their indulgence, stating that it was not a substantive change under ACEN (Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing) or CCNE (Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education) requirements and did not have to come before the Board as a substantive change. Dr. Lyon wanted the Board to know that she had reviewed the request, and Fletcher has all the requisite resources that they need to increase their enrollment in their programs. Dr. Lyon wanted the Board to know that her intention was to approve Fletcher having that increase for enrollment as they meet all the requirements which are in the rules. The increase in enrollment can be achieved by staff approval.

Dr. Danielle Vauclin, Dean of Nursing and Allied Health, and Ms. Allison Adams, Nursing Department Head, Fletcher Technical Community College, were present to provide information and to answer questions from the Board.

Dr. Alicia Newell, Dean of Nursing, William Carey University, was present (virtually) to provide information and to answer questions from the Board.

Agenda Item 2.1.3

Out-of-State Clinical Approval

Agenda Item 2.1.3.1

Frontier University Request for Graduate Clinical Experience in Louisiana

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended Re-Approval.

Dr. Kindal noted that Frontier University should read Frontier Nursing University on the motion sheet.

Dr. Lyon stated that she will make the change on the motion sheet to read Frontier Nursing University.

Motion: by J. Manning, seconded, that the Board re-approve the request of Frontier Nursing University to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until December 14, 2026, for the following roles/populations:

Doctor of Nursing Practice- DNP
Master of Science in Nursing- MSN
Post Graduate Certificate

Certified Nurse Midwife
Family Nurse Practitioner
Psychiatric Mental Health Care Nurse Practitioner
Women’s Health Care Nurse Practitioner

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.4
Licensure and Practice

Agenda Item 2.1.4.1
Request for Petition for Declaratory Statement or Advisory Opinion

Dr. Calmes reported that the original petition was submitted by Ms. Jennifer Thomas and was originally heard in August. Ms. Thomas had a conflict at the last minute for today and requested that the Board allow this to be moved to the April agenda to allow her to be present when it is heard.

Motion: by F. Pinkney, seconded, to move this agenda item, Request for Petition for Declaratory Statement or Advisory Opinion from Jennifer Jones Thomas seeking scope of practice because of the statements made in the January 20, 2023 edition of the Examiner article “Intravenous Hydration” to the April 25, 2024 Board meeting.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.2
Compliance Division

Agenda Item 2.2.1
Chief Compliance Officer

No Report.

Ms. Papillion was available for questions.

Dr. Lyon commented that normally Compliance presents to the Board all the open cases, particularly the Priority I cases.

Ms. Papillion stated that they report all open cases twice a year, at the December and the June meeting Board meetings but will have the information for the April Board meeting.

Agenda Item 2.2.2
RNP/ Monitoring

No Report

Agenda Item 2.2.3
Compliance Department

No Report

Agenda Item 2.3
Division of Administration

Agenda Item 2.3.1
Chief Administrative Officer

Agenda Item 2.3.1.1
Contract Amendment for Professional Legal Services

Summary/Background presented by Ms. Brown.

Motion: by T. McNabb, seconded, acceptance and approval of LSBN Board Resolution to amend its contract for legal services with Shows, Cali & Walsh, LLP.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Ms. Brown was available for questions.

Ms. Brown reported that LSBN was notified in late December 2023 by the Louisiana Office of State Police that the FBI would be conducting an audit of their utilization/authority to obtain Criminal Background Checks on licensees. The audit was completed January 31, 2024. Ms. Brown was pleased to report there were no findings.

Ms. Brown thanked the staff, stating that it was because of them that LSBN passed their portion of the State Police audit.

Agenda Item 2.3.2
Information Technology

No Report.

Agenda Item 2.3.3
Human Resources

No Report.

Agenda Item 2.3.4
Administration Services

No Report.

Agenda Item 2.4
Division of Legal Affairs

Agenda Item 2.4.1
Chief Legal Officer

No Report.

3. Office of the Executive Director/CEO

Agenda Item 3.1
Center for Nursing

Agenda Item 3.1.1
2023 Louisiana Center for Nursing Newly Licensed Registered Nurse Survey Report

Summary/Background was presented by Ms. Sarah Luneau

Ms. Luneau presented the 2023 Louisiana Center for Nursing Newly Licensed Registered Nurse Survey Report to the Board. Report attached.

Infographics were made available for Board members.

Ms. Luneau was available for questions.

Discussion ensued regarding nursing shortages, education, and training.

(Break)

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

Motion: by J. Couvillon, seconded, to accept the 2023 Louisiana Center for Nursing Newly Licensed Registered Nurse Survey Report to the Board.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.4.2
Hearings

Mr. Bowman reported that there are 150 open cases, 30 of which are Priority 1 cases. The 150 cases do not include the work which was completed at the February 21 Hearing Panel. There were 9 matters on the docket set for hearing of which 4 went forward to hearing. There were Consent Orders and other matters which were ratified by the Board.

Mr. Bowman stated he is satisfied with the work that they are completing. The backlog cases that are in the Hearings Department have not all been docketed. They are docketing matters set for April and May.

To further their efforts in preventing a new backlog of open cases from occurring, Mr. Bowman proposed that the Board Hearing Panel meet twice a month instead of once.

Mr. Bowman was available for questions.

Agenda Item 3.2

Scripps Health Investigation Report on Shadow market for Diet Drugs

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon.

Scripps Health Investigation Report on Shadow market for Diet Drugs was recently received by the Board. Dr. Lyon stated that this is overly concerning, and Board members should read the report if they have not already done so. Report attached.

Discussion ensued.

Agenda Item 3.3

Nursing Maternal Mortality and Preterm Birth Task Force Report and Survey

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon.

The Nursing Maternal Mortality and Preterm Birth Task Force Report and Survey was sent to Dr. Lyon from Dr. Ahnyel Burkes, who was the chairman of this Task Force. Attached is the Executive Summary. This report was prepared in response to Senate Concurrent Resolution 20, which created the Task Force of which Dr. Collins and Dr. Lyon were participants. There have been several articles published over the last 6 months concerning maternal and newborn mortality. Attached is the Executive Summary and Survey Data,

Dr. Collins reported on the recommendations of the Task Force. Also, there is a federal initiative that will award up to 15 Medicaid agencies 17 million dollars over 10 years. Only the state Medicaid Association can apply as it will be administered through the state Medicaid agency. Dr. Collins put a plea out for the Board or anyone listening to send out an email to the Interim Medicaid Executive Director of Louisiana, Department of Health, Kimberly Sullivan at Kimberly.Sullivan@la.gov and encourage that our state Medicaid apply for this Transforming Maternal Health Initiative money.

Agenda Item 3.4

Board Evaluation – Dr. Stephanie Ferguson Bio and Tentative Timeline

Chief Brown and Dr. Lyon worked with Dr. Stephanie Ferguson starting in Fall 2023 when the Board wanted to do a full Board evaluation.

Dr. Ferguson will be developing a custom-designed self-assessment tool for the Board based on the role of the Board for the State of Louisiana and modeled on LSBN's (National Council State Boards of Nursing) Self-Assessment tool. She will provide a two-hour segment from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the April 25, 2024 Board meeting day giving the Board an overview. The Board meeting will be moved forward to 10:00 a.m. Dr. Ferguson will be onsite for most of the day. Both qualitative and quantitative data will be collected. She will also be onsite for the June 13, 2024 Board meeting. There will be another two-hour session from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at that meeting. Dr. Ferguson will discuss before the Board her overall assessment and key findings.

Dr. Lyon presented Dr. Ferguson's biographical profile which is attached.

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.

Discussion ensued concerning the strategic plan.

Dr. Lyon stated that she will get with the Chiefs and look at SSA's final report and try to produce some strategies and tactics as to what the Board would want to be looking at over the next three years. This can be plotted out on the dashboard and be presented for approval at the April Board meeting.

Motion: by D. Botcher, seconded, to accept the reports 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

Strategic Leadership Appointments at NCSBN

Dr. Phil Dickeson announced that Ms. Laura Doerr has been named the Chief Human Resources Officer, which is a newly created position.

Dr. Dickeson also announced the promotion of Ms. Jenn Gallagher to Chief Operations Officer, and she will be the supervising Chief of the NCLEX Examination Committee.

Agenda Item 6.2

South Dakota Enacts APRN Compact

Dr. Lyon reported that Gov. Kristi Noem signed the APRN Compact into law in the state of South Dakota on Feb. 5, 2024. When implemented, the compact will allow an APRN to hold one multistate license with the privilege to practice in other compact states. South Dakota is the fourth state to enact the APRN compact. There are now 41 states that are part of the Nurse Licensure Compact.

Agenda Item 6.3

Update from NCSBN President Jay Douglas

Dr. Lyon reported on NCSBN President Jay Douglas' Update and Letter.

T. Moffatt, along with Dr. Calmes and Dr. Lyon will be attending the 2024 Nurse Licensure Compact Midyear Business Meeting in Atlanta.

7. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Dr. Lyon reported they were notified by the University of Alabama, an out-of-state school that has been approved by the Board for an extended period, that they were not notified in December of 2023 that their approval for doing out-of-state clinical nursing needed to be resubmitted. They sent the proposal in with all the attachments and have everything they need. Dr. Lyon was not able to prepare the final report and would like to ask the indulgence of the Board to allow her to review and make this recommendation as they meet all the requirements of the Board and then submit it to the executive committee and get a preapproval to allow them to continue their accreditation.

8. Executive Session

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

Voice Vote: M. Collins-yes; J. Manning-yes, T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-yes; M. Primeaux-yes; T. Kindall-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; D. Bottcher-yes; T. McNabb-yes

Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT:

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m.



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