



# Mississippi Board of Examiners for Social Workers and Marriage & Family Therapists

## Minutes for June 17, 2025, Board Meeting

In accordance with the Miss. Code Ann. § 73-53-8 and the Open Meetings Act § 25-41-1 and 25-41-17, the Board of Examiners for Social Workers and Marriage & Family Therapists (Board) held a Board meeting on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at 5 Old River Place, Suite 205, Jackson, MS 39202 and via Zoom.

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Veronica Knowles, LCSW, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. A quorum of Board members was present.

### **II. Opening Remarks**

#### **Roll Call**

#### **Members present:**

Veronica Knowles, LCSW, Board Vice-Chair  
Rosalind Yarber, LSW, Chair of SWDSC  
Catherine Jones, LMFT, Chair of MFTDSC  
Bobby Scott, LMFT

Courtney Denton, LMFT  
Carrie Coggins, LMSW  
Kenya Gatlin, LCSW

#### **Members absent:**

None

#### **Board representatives present:**

Patrick Johnson, Executive Director  
Chelye Amis, Special Assistant Attorney General  
Denise DeRossette, Cornerstone Consulting Group

#### **Member of the public present for public comment:**

None

### **III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Carrie Coggins moved with a second by Rosalind Yarber to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Bobby Scott moved with a second by Kenya Gatlin to approve the May 9, 2025 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **V. REPORTS**

A. Executive Director

Denise DeRosette presented the financial report

B. Vice-Chair

No Report Given

C. Chair of Social Work

Rosalind Yarber moved with a second by Carrie Coggins to appoint Veronica Knowles as the representative for Mississippi in the Social Work Compact. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Chair of Marriage and Family Therapy

Catherine Jones moved with a second by Carrie Coggins to nominate Bobby Scott as Board Chair. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Board Members

No Report Given

F. Legal Counsel

No Report Given

G. Committees

I. Social Work CE

II. Marriage and Family Therapy CE

#### **VI. LICENSURE VOTES**

##### **Social Work**

##### **LSW Level**

Rosalind Yarber moved with a second by Carrie Coggins to approve the following candidate for licensure at the LSW level. The motion carried unanimously.

Lundyn Causey  
Shaikenya Pope  
Tamia Rodriguez  
Tammy Samuel

##### **LMSW Level**

Rosalind Yarber moved with a second by Carrie Coggins to approve the following candidates for licensure at the LMSW level. The motion carried unanimously.

Jesse Abell	ShCayla Coulter	Chadwick Hodges
Brian Adams	Jennifer Davis	Natalie Jordan
Aysa Anderson	Lauren Davis	Tessa Lichtenhan
Tashera Beamon	Tara Dunleavy	Bailey McIlwain
Tatum Brown	Tiffany Fay	Letesha McKinney
DeKimberly Butler	Hayden Fortinberry	Laura McNeil
Erin Castaldi	Amanda Gonzalez	Sarah Miller
Carly Castleberry	Monica Harris	Eriyunnah Montgomery
Mai Coats	NaTosha Harris	Dara Morris

Kamryn Nelson  
Brittany Nguyen  
Mashayla Reed  
Angelique Ribieras

Shealyn Salters  
Luke Sanders  
Arika Semper  
Naria Stephens

Nina Veselinovic  
Ja'Miya Watts

### **LMSW by Reciprocity**

Rosalind Yarber moved with a second by Kenya Gatlin to approve the following candidate for licensure at the LMSW level by Reciprocity. The motion carried unanimously.

Emma Ellard  
Shayla Handley  
Elyse Jones

### **LCSW Level**

Rosalind Yarber moved with a second by Carrie Coggins to approve the following candidates for licensure at the LCSW level. The motion carries unanimously.

Miranda Allen  
Jameria Bailey  
Shamicka Cannon  
Aysia Collier

Sarah Emery  
Judy Guerin  
Bernadette Jackson  
Zachary Johnson

Chelsea Porter  
Thy Truong  
Chelsea Williams  
Beverly Young

### **LCSW by Reciprocity**

Rosalind Yarber moved with a second by Kenya Gatlin to approve the following candidates for licensure at the LCSW level by Reciprocity. The motion carries unanimously.

Stephanie BraveEagle  
Taneasha Clark  
Kaneicia Doss  
Marisa Holguin-Grado

Tina Laird  
Grace Lancaster  
Sharon Matranga  
Mary Molpus

Laurie Pettis  
Crystal Smith  
Karen Trunnell  
Jody Workman

## **VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Bobby Scott moved with a second by Kenya Gatlin to go into closed session to determine whether an Executive Session is needed. The motion carried unanimously.

In open session, Rosalind Yarber announced that the Board has reason under Miss. Code Ann. §25-41-7 (4)(b), (d), and (k), as amended, to go into Executive Session namely to have a strategy session or negotiation with respect to prospective litigation, when an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body. Investigative proceedings by any public body regarding allegations of misconduct or violation of law. Transaction of business and discussions regarding employment or job performance of a person in a specific position or termination of an employee holding a specific position. The exemption provided by this paragraph includes transaction of business and discussion in executive session by the board of trustees of a public hospital regarding any employee or medical staff member or applicant for medical staff privileges and any such individual's credentialing, health, performance, salary, raises or disciplinary action.

## RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Vice-Chair Veronica Knowles announced the following actions taken during Executive Session:

Bobby Scott moved with a second by Catherine Jones to raise the salary for the Executive Director position to \$70,000. Effective July 1, 2025. The motion carried unanimously.

SW25-256

Veronica Knowles moved, with a second by Kenya Gatlin to dismiss as there had been no violation or regulation or law. The vote was unanimous. Closed.

SW24-248

Veronica Knowles moved, with a second by Rosalind Yarber to dismiss as there had been no violation or regulation or law. The vote was unanimous. Closed.

Chairman Bobby Scott moved with a second by Rosalind Yarber to give Executive Director the authority at his discretion to expend expenditures as outlined in the budget. The vote was unanimous.

## VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

## VIII. CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

Rosalind Yarber moved with a second by Kenya Gatlin to adjourn meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The next Board meeting will be held July 15, 2025, in Suite 205 at 5 Old River Place, Jackson, MS 39202 at 6:00 p.m. and available via Zoom.

X *Bobby Scott*  
Bobby Scott (Aug 12, 2025 12:49:16 CDT)

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Bobby Scott,  
Board Chair

X *Patrick Johnson*  
Patrick Johnson (Aug 12, 2025 12:50:45 CDT)

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Patrick Johnson  
Executive Director