



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

Minutes for June 14, 2024, 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 Friday, June 14, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. at 5 Old River Place, Suite 205, Jackson, MS 39202 and via Zoom.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Gerard Tarrant, LMFT, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m. A quorum of Board members was present.

Opening Remarks

Roll Call

Members Present: Gerard Tarrant, LMFT, Board Chair
Dr. Valerie Joiner, LCSW, Board Vice-Chair
Catherine Jones, LMFT, Chair of MFTDSC
Rosalind Yarber, LSW, Chair of SWDSC
Bobby Scott, LMFT
Veronica Knowles, LCSW
Carrie Coggins, LMSW
Dr. Jeff Hinton, LMFT
Valerie Burnett, LSW

Members Absent: Kenya Gatlin, LCSW

Staff and Guests: Erica Allen, Executive Director, MBOE
Sarah Mann, Special Assistant Attorney General
Chelye Amis, Special Assistant Attorney General
Britney Mangum, Executive Director, MAMFT
Gwen Bouie-Haynes, Executive Director NASW-MS
Alexandria Moore
Trevor Tennison
Tangela Sheppard

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Carrie Coggins moved and 2nd by Bobby Scott to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Carrie Coggins moved and 2nd by Rosalind Yarber to approve the May 2024 Board minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

II. LICENSURE VOTES

Social Work

The following candidate(s) were presented for licensure:

LSW Level

Rosalind Yarber moved and 2nd by Carrie Coggins to approve the following candidates for licensure at the LSW level. The motion carried unanimously.

Emma Dyer
Rebekah Murphy

LSW Level by Universal Recognition Reciprocity

Rosalind Yarber moved and 2nd by Valerie Burnett to approve the following candidates for licensure at the LSW level by Universal Recognition. The motion carried with the following members voting aye: Gerard Tarrant, Jeff Hinton, Valerie Burnett, Valerie Joiner, Rosalind Yarber, Bobby Scott, Carrie Coggins, and Catherine Jones; Voting Against: None; Abstention: Veronica Knowles; Recusal: None; Absence: Kenya Gatlin.

Diane Tidwell
Cecelia Price
Josephine Nash
LeQuesha Jefferson
Dondalyn Haynes
Albertina Bell

LMSW Level

Rosalind Yarber moved and 2nd by Carrie Coggins to approve the following candidates for licensure at the LMSW level. The motion carried unanimously.

Alexandria Moore
Breanna McQuirter
Alexandra Kennedy
Angela Lindsey
Ashley Holland
Toshia Hogan
Shawn Guyot
Alicja Sandusky
D'Corey Sullivan
Regina Rhodes
Tatayana Hughes
Bria Gates

Monica Ferguson
Joseph Boyou
Cambri Brewer
Julia Folse
Jamie Davis
Mikayla Cumberland
Elizabeth Hoffer
Diana Couch
Hailey Morgan
Pamela Plott
Baxter Williams
Trevor Tennison

*Sarah Rein
Kevin Searle*

Jessica Townsend

LMSW Level by Reciprocity

Rosalind Yarber moved and 2nd by Veronica Knowles to approve the following candidate for licensure at the LMSW level by Reciprocity. The motion carried unanimously.

Laura Woitalla

LMSW Level by Universal Recognition Reciprocity

Rosalind Yarber moved and 2nd by Valerie Burnett to approve the following candidates for licensure at the LMSW level by Universal Recognition. The motion carried with the following members voting aye: Gerard Tarrant, Jeff Hinton, Valerie Burnett, Valerie Joiner, Rosalind Yarber, Bobby Scott, Carrie Coggins, and Catherine Jones; Voting Against: None; Abstention: Veronica Knowles; Recusal: None; Absence: Kenya Gatlin.

*Dr. Tracy Mims
Lashonda Ray-Perryman
Jasmine Daniels
Ruby Williams
Aviance Cogg
Deidra Moore
Catina Stewart-Brown
Nakesha Weaver*

LCSW Level

Rosalind Yarber moved and 2nd by Veronica Knowless to approve the following candidates for licensure at the LCSW level. The motion carried unanimously.

Latesha Burks

LCSW Level by Reciprocity

Rosalind Yarber moved and 2nd by Veronica Knowles to approve the following candidates for licensure at the LCSW level by Reciprocity. The motion carried unanimously.

*Beatriz Zavala
Laura Tanner
Patricia Seghers
Jamie Salsberg*

Marriage and Family Therapy

The following candidate(s) were presented for licensure:

LMFT by Endorsement

Catherine Jones moved and 2nd by Carrie Coggins to approve the following candidate for licensure at the LMFT level by endorsement pending an acceptable background check. The motion carried unanimously.

Alexander Kaeppler

LMFTA by Endorsement

Catherine Jones moved and 2nd by Bobby Scott to approve the following candidate for licensure at the LMFTA level pending an acceptable background check. The motion carried unanimously.

Chloe Rylee

III. REPORTS

Executive Director – Erica Allen

Office Updates

The FY 2026-2030 Strategic Plan has been completed.

Financial Report

Erica Allen presented the Expenditure Report. A copy of the report is attached.

Jeff Hinton moved and 2nd by Carrie Coggins to accept the Expenditure Report for May 31, 2024, subject to audit. The motion carried unanimously.

Board Chair – Gerard Tarrant

Chairman Gerard Tarrant thanked Jeff Hinton for serving on the Board.

Board Vice-chair – Dr. Valerie Joiner

There was no report given.

Chair of Social Work – Rosalind Yarber

Rosalind Yarber reminded the social work discipline committee of 9:00 a.m. committee meetings.

Chair of Marriage & Family Therapy – Catherine Jones

There was no report given.

Board Member(s)

There was no report given.

Legal Counsel – Sarah Mann

Amy Whitten completed her report for presentation to the Board.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Social Work CE Report

Rosalind Yarber reported approval of 2 applications for continuing education.

MFT CE Report

Catherine Jones reported approval of 3 applications for continuing education.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Gwen Bouie-Haynes, NASW-MS Chapter, presented comments to the Board.

V. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Reports on New and Current Complaints

Erica Allen discussed the Complaints File Report, updating the Board on the status of pending complaints and investigations. A copy of the report is attached.

Reports on Disciplined Licensees' Progress

Carrie Coggins moved and 2nd by Rosalind Yarber to accept the recommendation for Tabitha Enis, LCSW, to conduct 6-month counseling for the subject of SW22-229. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Bobby Scott moved and 2nd by Veronica Knowles to go enter closed determination to determine if the Board had reason to go into executive session. The motion carried unanimously.

Valerie Joiner moved and 2nd by Veronica Knowles to exit closed session. The motion carried unanimously.

In open session, Chairman Gerrard Tarrant stated that the Board determined that Executive Session was necessary for the purposes of discussing complaint case SW22-231 and Amy Whitten's report.

Valerie Joiner moved and 2nd by Veronica Knowles to enter executive session for the purpose of complaint case SW22-231 and Amy Whitten's report. The motion carried unanimously.

moved and 2nd by to exit executive session. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board resumed in open meeting and announced to the public the above-described action taken by the Board in executive session.

VII. CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

moved and 2nd by to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The next Board meeting will be held July 12, 2024 in Suite 205 at 5 Old River Place, Jackson, MS 39202 at 10:30 a.m. and also be available via Zoom. Please see the website for more information under Board Information.


Chair


Recorder