

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Louisiana Board of Examiners in Dietetics and Nutrition**

November 17, 2023

Attending:

**Martina Musmeci Salles, MPH, RDN, LDN, FAND, Chairperson
Monica Pierson-McDaniels, MS, RDN, LDN, Vice Chairperson
Marie Simpson, BSN, RN, CDE, Secretary/Treasurer
Jennifer Duhon, MS, RDN, LDN, Board Liaison
Anita Ferdinand, MS, RD, LDN, Board Member
Dr. Sablaa Ali, Medical Advisor**

Absent:

**Dr. Jack DiGangi, RD, LDN, Board Member
Vacant, Consumer Member**

Martina Musmeci Salles, Board Chairperson, called the meeting to order, read the board's mission statement, and welcomed the Board's newest member, Dr. Sablaa Ali, Medical Advisor, at 10:07 a.m. via in person meeting. Jolie Jones, Executive Director, and Luke Piontek, Legal Counsel, were present for the entire meeting. Members of the public were allowed to join via electronic means.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No member of the public was present for the open meeting.

AGENDA:

Motion was made by Jennifer Duhon, seconded by Monica Pierson-McDaniels and unanimously carried, to approve the agenda as presented.

MINUTES:

1. Meeting of August 18, 2023

Motion was made by Monica Pierson-McDaniels, seconded by Marie Simpson and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2023 meeting, as presented.

FINANCIAL:

1. Financial Statements for the months ended June 30, 2023 – August 31, 2023

Members of the board reviewed the financial statements prepared by Griffin and Furman, through the months ended August 31, 2023. Monthly budget to actual comparisons are attached.

2. **Quotes from Covalent Logic for Automated Verifications of Licensure, additional reporting, and changes for renewal**
Motion was made by Monica Pierson-McDaniels, seconded by Jennifer Duhon and unanimously carried, to approve the three quotes to improve our Content Management System in the amounts of \$1,150.00, \$1,000.00 and \$2,350.00.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW:

1. **Board Operations**

The Board reviewed data by Fiscal Quarter for 2024.

The totals for FY 2024, Quarter 2 (As of 11/09/2023), are as follows:

LDN Applications Received	14
Provisional LDN Apps Received	2
Reinstatement Requests	1
Upgrade Requests	1
LDN Applications Approved	18
Provisional LDN Apps Approved	2
Reinstatement Requests Approved	2
Upgrades Approved	3
Renewals	N/A
Inactive Renewals	N/A
Delinquent Renewals	N/A
Delinquent Inactive Renewals	N/A
Verifications Requested	13
Abandoned Applications	3
Complaints Received	0
Requests to return to Active	0

2. **Professionals Health Program Report**

The Practitioner Health Program Report was not received for this meeting.

3. **Executive Director Update**

Jolie Jones discussed with the Board that she requested a quote from Covalent Logic on having an accessible website. They indicated that the cost could be atleast \$20,000; however, they recommended that we use AccesiBe, which would cost \$490/year.

Motion was made by Marie Simpson, seconded by Anita Ferdinand and unanimously carried, to implement AccesiBe on the Board's website.

Mrs. Jones also discussed the Board's policy regarding Consent Agreement and Orders for practicing without a license.

Motion was made by Jennifer Duhon, seconded by Anita Ferdinand and unanimously carried to revise the policy as follows:

For those applicants who meet all the requirements of the Practice Act, working more than thirty days without a license, the board may issue a Consent Agreement and Order, with a remedial course of action, to include ~~the open book examination and~~ a personal appearance before the Board for a Compliance Hearing. This initial Consent Agreement and Order will not include reporting, as the allegations have not been proven, and this is not a final action of the Board. A Provisional LDN license can be issued by board staff. Upon appearance at the Compliance Hearing to resolve the ~~complaint~~ matter, the Board may choose to add ~~additional~~ stipulations, which will appear in the form of an additional Consent Agreement and Order.

4. Recommendation from the LBEDN Open Book Exam Committee & online exam procedures

Board members reviewed the Open Book Exam Committee's recommendations for revisions to the Open Book Exam.

Motion was made by Anita Ferdinand, seconded by Dr. Ali and unanimously carried, to implement the new Open Book Examination with revisions.

The Board staff will proctor the examination via Zoom, or similar platform.

5. Other Board's responses to email inquiring on their position on the suggested narrowing of scope to MNT by the national affiliate

Jolie Jones shared an email that she sent on August 4, 2023 to other state boards regarding the Academy's recommendation of narrowing the scope of practice to Medical Nutrition Therapy, as well as several responses received.

6. Schedule 2024 Board Meetings

Motion was made by Jennifer Duhon, seconded by Monica Pierson-McDaniels and unanimously carried, to schedule the 2024 board meetings for the following dates:

January 19, April 26, August 16, and November 15.

7. Election of Board Officers

Board members reviewed a ballot created by the Executive Director that included all board members who were eligible to serve in each position. Board members elected:

Motion was made by Jennifer Duhon, seconded by Monica Pierson-McDaniels and unanimously carried, to elect: Martina Musmeci Salles to serve as Chairperson, Monica Pierson-McDaniels to serve as Vice Chairperson, Marie Simpson to serve as Secretary/Treasurer, and Jennifer Duhon to serve as LBEDN Liaison to LAND.

CONFERENCE(S):

FARB

1. **Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB) Conference, January 25-28, 2024, Fort Worth, Texas**

Motion was made by Marie Simpson, seconded by Anita Ferdinand and unanimously carried, to send Jennifer Duhon to the FARB Conference on behalf of the Board.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. **Email dated October 3, 2023, from Oregon State University, regarding determination if their program of study meets the educational requirements for licensure**

Board members suggested that the university contact Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND).

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by Monica Pierson-McDaniels, seconded by Jennifer Duhon and unanimously carried, to move into Executive Session at 12:00 p.m. for the following reasons:

to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person, provided that such person is notified in writing at least twenty-four hours before the meeting,

for investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct or any other matter now provided for or as may be provided for by the legislature.

Motion was made by Jennifer Duhon, seconded by Marie Simpson and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 12:26 p.m. to make the following motions:

1. **Review of New Complaints**

No new complaints were received for this board meeting.

2. **Review of Pending Complaints**

- a. **Complaint #2022-10**

Motion was made by Marie Simpson, seconded by Monica Pierson-McDaniels and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2022-10.

- b. **Complaint #2024-04**

Motion was made by Monica Pierson-McDaniels, seconded by Marie Simpson and unanimously carried, to move forward and set disciplinary hearing with Attorney General's office, if no response to revised Consent Agreement and Order.

- c. **Complaint #2021-15**

Motion was made by Jennifer Duhon, seconded by Monica Pierson-McDaniels and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2021-15.

d. **Complaint #2022-02**

Motion was made by Marie Simpson, seconded by Monica Pierson-McDaniels and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2022-02.

3. Analysis of Proposed Legislation from Legal Counsel

The Board will wait to see if legislation is proposed and respond appropriately.

4. Review of Applications

a. **KG**

Board members reviewed an executed Consent Agreement and Order by KG.

Motion was made by Jennifer Duhon, seconded by Marie Simpson and unanimously carried, to accept and approve the applications for the **LDN License** for the following:

Hallendorf, Lauren	3654	McAvoy, Sydney	3655
Bryant, Abby	3657	Bowen, Amanda	3658
Stevens, Charli	3660	Brown, Amanda	3661
Newby, Jessica-Lauren	3662	Navarro, Cali	3663
Patrick, Elizabeth	3665	Latoff, Julia	3666
Grandberry, Samaria	3667	King, Christina	3669
Meyers, Stephanie	3671	McMinn, Jessica	3672
Scheele, Katie	3673	Sowell, Kymberli	3675
Hughes, Craig	3676	Norem, Brittany	3677
Angelle, Amy	3678	Matz, Jodi	3679
Mills, Merissa	3681	Sass, Cynthia	3682
Panks, Camryn	3683	Tauschek, Emily	3684
Thomas, Laura	3685	Bertholf, Laura	3686
Ledoux, Madison	3687	Theriot, Alexis	3688
Peters, Samantha	3689	Hutchison, Heather	3690
Woods, Ronald	3691	Linder, Brandy	3692
Holt, Ashley	3694	Wale, Krista	3695
Linville, Katie	3696	Ganje, Anne	3697
Tempanaro, Sophia	3698	Dean, Claire	3699
Withem, Megan	3700		

Motion was made by Marie Simpson, seconded by Monica Pierson-McDaniels and unanimously carried, to accept and approve the applications for the **Provisional LDN License** for the following:

LeCompte, Hannah	3656	Doll, Elizabeth	3659
Scott, Sierra	3664	Irvan, Leila	3668
Lipoma, Tilton	3670	Shelton, Addison	3674
George, L'Asia	3680	Heitritter, Halie	3693


Motion was made by Anita Ferdinand, seconded by Marie Simpson and unanimously carried, to **upgrade** the following licenses:

Chatelain, Linzay	3622	Weaver, Reanna	3626
Neese, Janice	3639	Smith, Raven	3605
LeCompte, Hannah	3656		

Motion was made by Marie Simpson, seconded by Monica Pierson-McDaniels and unanimously carried, to **reinstate** the following licenses:

Garvey, Katharine	2774	Bondurich, Melissa	3587
Martin, Daniel	2767	Wright, Marlo	942
Charles, Terry	226	Knotem, Natasha	2918

Motion was made by Marie Simpson, seconded by Jennifer Duhon and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 12:28 p.m.


 Martina Musmeci Salles, MPH, RDN, LDN, FAND
 Chairperson


 Marie Simpson, BSN, RN, CDCES
 Secretary/Treasurer