

**THE LOUISIANA STATE  
BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

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**MINUTES  
OF  
MEETING**

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**JANUARY 9, 2017  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA**

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A meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, pursuant to lawful notice, was duly convened and called to order at 8:30 a.m., Monday, January 9, 2017, by order of the President, at the offices of the Board, 630 Camp Street, New Orleans, Louisiana,

Board Members present as follows:

John Michael Burdine, M.D., President  
Christy Lynn Valentine, M.D., Secretary-Treasurer  
Kweli J. Amusa, M.D.  
Roderick V. Clark, M.D.  
Mark Henry Dawson, M.D.

Board Member absent as follows:

Kenneth Barton Farris, M.D., Vice-President

The following members of the Board's staff were present:

Keith C. Ferdinand, M.D., FACC, FAHA  
Cecilia Ann Mouton, M.D., Director of Investigations  
Emily Dianne Eisenhauer, M.D., Assistant Director of Investigations  
Jennifer Stoller, Attorney, General Counsel 1  
Lesley Rye, RN, Compliance Investigator  
Cathy Storm, RN, Compliance Investigator  
Lillie Rodgers, Investigations Manager  
Shelley Humphrey, Assistant Investigations Manager  
Merian Glasper, Director of Licensure  
Rita L. Arceneaux, Executive Assistant

Legal counsel to the Board was present as follows:

Philip O. Bergeron

1. **Pledge of Allegiance.** All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **General Administrative Matters; John Barry Bobear, M.D., Interim Executive Director.** John Michael Burdine, M.D., President, on behalf of the Board expressed its appreciation for John B. Bobear, M.D., who agreed to serve as the Interim Executive Director on a temporary basis. It was the consensus of the Board to invite him to attend the next meeting to thank him for his service.
3. **General Administrative Matters; Keith C. Ferdinand, M.D.; Interim Executive Director.** Dr. Burdine informed the Board that Keith C. Ferdinand, M.D., FACC, FAHA, cardiologist from New Orleans, and former Board member, had agreed to serve as Interim Executive Director, until the hiring of a permanent replacement. On the motion of Dr. Valentine, duly seconded by Dr. Dawson, and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the appointment of Dr. Ferdinand as Interim Executive Director.
4. **Rules and Regulations; Ad Hoc Committee; Board Certification; Personal Appearance; Kim Edward LeBlanc, Ph.D., CHSe, Former Board Member.** Kim Edward LeBlanc, Ph.D., CHSe, Executive Director, Clinical Skills Evaluation Collaborations, Chair, Ad Hoc Committee, Board Certification, appeared before the Board to present the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Board Certification. At the conclusion of his presentation, Dr. Burdine thanked Dr. LeBlanc and his committee and informed him the Board would take their recommendations under advisement. Following his dismissal, it was the consensus of the Board to revise the wording of the current draft for consideration at its February 2017 meeting.
5. **Communication and Information; New Business; Senator Patrick Page Cortez; Attorney General Opinion 16-0185.** On the motion of Dr. Dawson, duly seconded by Dr. Valentine and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board voted to consider an item of new business, correspondence from Senator Patrick Page Cortez. Senator Cortez, who had requested an opinion from the office of the Attorney General “on the rights, duties, and obligations of the Board to regulate advertising by physicians certified by the American Board of Cosmetic Surgeons”, provided the Board with a copy of that opinion and asked the Board to inform his office how they plan to address this matter. Following review and discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to prepare a response to Senator Cortez outlining the steps taken so far in the rule making effort, informing him that the Board’s perspective of the AGs Opinion is different from his expressed views and looked forward to finalizing the proposed rule in the upcoming months.
6. **Communication and Information; Personal Appearance; Dawn Morton-Rias, EdD, PA-C, President/CEO; National Commission and Certification of Physician Assistants (“NCCPA”).** Dawn Morton-Rias, EdD, PA-C, President/CEO, NCCPA, appeared before the Board to give a presentation on the NCCPA, its history, function, and contribution to PA profession. She stated the purpose of the NCCPA is to provide certification programs that reflect standards for clinical knowledge and reasoning and other medical skills and behaviors required to practice as a physician assistant. She informed that Board that there are 218 PA programs across the country. Following her presentation, the Board thanked her for a very informative visit.

**7. Rulings and Advisory Opinions; Personal Appearance; Tracy Young, CRNA, MBA, President, Louisiana Association of Nurse Anesthetists.** Tracy Young, CRNA, MBA, President, Louisiana Association of Nurse Anesthetists, appeared before the Board in connection with the request for an advisory opinion on the scope of practice for physician assistants to administer Diprivan/Propofol anesthesia. It was their opinion that PAs are not by their education trained to administer Diprivan/Propofol anesthesia and their ability to do so would be in conflict with law.

**8. Rulings and Advisory Opinions; Physician Assistant (“PA”); Scope of Practice; Administration of Diprivan/Propofol.** The Board reviewed electronic correspondence received from V.L. Douse asking several questions relating to the scope of practice for a PA. Specifically she asked whether a PA has the ability under his scope of practice to administer Diprivan/Propofol anesthesia, whether an anesthesiologist is required to identify himself/herself to the patient before administering anesthesia and whether there is any recourse when a physician has made entries in the patient’s chart that did not occur. Following review and discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to inform Ms. Douse that the services a PA may perform under Louisiana law does not include the administration of anesthesia unless said PA is a certified registered nurse anesthetist; that there is no requirement in the laws/rules administered by the Board that an anesthesiologist has to identify himself to the patient prior to administering anesthesia and that a physician who makes a false entry in the medical record would be in violation of the law for unprofessional conduct, furthermore, federal regulations provide that a patient may request a health care provider to change or amend incorrect information in his/her medical record and if the request is denied, the patient has a right to submit a statement of disagreement that must be added to the patient’s chart.

**9. Minutes of December 5, 2016 Meeting.** The Board reviewed the minutes of its meetings held December 5, 2016. On the motion of Dr. Amusa duly seconded by Dr. Dawson and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the minutes of the meetings with all necessary corrections.

**10. Status Report on Action Items of Prior Board Meetings; Report on Assignments to Counsel.** The Board noted the action items as assigned to staff and counsel from previous meetings. On the motion of Dr. Clark, duly seconded by Dr. Dawson, and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board approved dissemination of all draft responses.

**11. Communication and Information; SCR 65 Meaningful Oversight.** The Board received the report of Jennifer Stolier, Attorney, of the Board’s staff on her attendance at the Taskforce Meeting on Meaningful Oversight that included the Final Report submitted to the Legislature as required by SCR 65, 2016 Louisiana Regular Legislative Session. No further action was required or taken on this action.

**12. Communication and Information; HCR 113, Louisiana Commission on Preventing Opioid Abuse.** The Board noted receipt of the report of Jennifer Stolier, Attorney, of the Board’s staff, on HCR 113, Louisiana Commission on Preventing Opioid Abuse providing information on the next meeting scheduled for January 19, 2017 and that Malcolm Broussard, Executive Director of the Louisiana State Board of Pharmacy was drafting a report due to the Legislature February 1, 2017. No further action was required or taken on this action.

**13. Communication and Information; HCR 115, Tiered Approach to Physician Probation and Best Practices for Reporting Probationary Status.** The Board reviewed a draft of the Final Report for submission relative to HCR 115, 2016 Louisiana Regular Legislative Session that asked the Board to study

and make recommendations to the Legislature on a potential tiered approach to placing physicians on probation and the best practices for reporting the probationary status of a physician to the public. Following review and discussion, on the motion of Dr. Dawson, duly seconded by Dr. Amusa, and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the Final Report for dissemination to the Legislature.

#### 14. **General Administrative Matters; Financial Reports.**

Travel Expenses. On the motion of Dr. Clark, duly seconded by Dr. Amusa, and passed by unanimous voice vote of the members present, the Board authorized the Executive Director to approve routine and special travel for Board Members, Board staff, Board consultants and legal counsel for calendar year 2017, including but not limited to the following:

- 1) Travel expenses in connection with attendance at all Board meetings and Board Committee meetings.
- 2) Travel expenses in connection with appearances at appropriate private or state entities on behalf of or to represent the Board.
- 3) Travel expenses in connection with investigations conducted by the Board, to include travel expenses of witnesses.
- 4) Travel expenses in connection with any court or deposition appearance for the purpose of providing testimony on behalf of the Board.
- 5) Travel expenses for attending the annual meetings of the Louisiana State Medical Society and the Louisiana State Medical Association, with payment of per diem for any member giving an annual report to said organizations.
- 6) Travel expenses in connection with meetings of the following national organizations and any committee thereof on which a member of the Board or a member of the Board's staff serves on behalf of the Board, including but not limited to the Federation of State Medical Boards, Administrators in Medicine and National Board of Medical Examiners, and all authorized meetings for educational purposes.

#### 15. **Rules and Regulations.**

a. Final Rules/Amendments: **Physicians, Medications Used in the Treatment of Obesity**: During its March 2016 meeting, the Board requested amendments to its obesity rules that would permit the prescribing of the individual ingredients of any non-controlled drug approved by the USFDA in the treatment of exogenous obesity. The Board at its April 2016 meeting reviewed an initial draft of amendments. Following review and discussion at its May 2016 meeting, the Board approved the draft and voted to provide a *Notice of Intent* to adopt the rule amendments. The *Notice of Intent* ("NOI") appeared in the July 2016 edition of the *Louisiana Register*. Following publication of the NOI, the Board did not receive a request for a public hearing or written comments during the comment period. At

its August 2016 meeting, the Board voted to promulgate the amendments by and upon publication in the *Louisiana Register*. The final amendments appeared in the December 2016 edition of the *Louisiana Register*, concluding this rule-making effort. **Podiatry; Histories and Physicals:** During its December 2015 meeting, the Board heard the request of the Louisiana Podiatric Medical Association (“LPMA”) and the Board’s Podiatry Advisory Committee (“PAC”) for a rule-making effort or advisory opinion authorizing the performance of histories and physicals (“H&Ps”) by podiatrists in Louisiana. Following discussion, the Board asked the LPMA and the PAC to submit their suggestions to staff for its preparations of a draft rule addressing the topic for its further consideration. Following the receipt of the suggestions and input from interested stakeholders and Board staff, a draft was presented for review and consideration. Following review and discussion of the draft, several changes were suggested. Further comments from the President of the Louisiana Podiatry Association and a communication on behalf of the Louisiana Orthopaedic Association were considered during the April 2016 meeting. In May 2016, the Board received a follow-up communication from the LPMA advising that, while not everything for which it had hoped, the proposed amendments were acceptable. Following further discussion and consideration at its June 2016 meeting, including input from the President of the LPMA, the Board approved the draft and voted to provide a *Notice of Intent* to adopt the rules in the *Louisiana Register*. Following publication of the *Notice of Intent*, the Board did not receive a request for a public hearing or written comments during the comment period. At its August 2016 meeting, the Board voted to promulgate the amendments by and upon publication in the *Louisiana Register*. The final amendments appeared in the December 2016 edition of the *Louisiana Register*, concluding this rule-making effort.

b. **Rules/Amendments – Noticed for Intent to Adopt: Physicians; Medical Marijuana:** Act 96 (SB271, Sen. Mills) of the 2016 Session of the Louisiana Legislature made several changes to the law applicable to therapeutic marijuana. Among other items, the amendments: (i) change the terminology of the act of ordering the drug for a patient from “prescription” to “recommend;” (ii) change the term for, and expand the medical conditions by, “eligible diseases and conditions” to a “debilitating medical condition;” (iii) provide for certain exceptions in the event of approval of the drug by the USFDA; and (iv) necessitate various other changes to the Board’s current rules. In order to accommodate such changes, an initial draft of the amendments were prepared and presented to the Board for review and discussion at its July 2016 meeting, along with a copy of Act 96 for ease of reference. Following due consideration, the Board and staff suggested additional changes, which were incorporated into a revised draft. Following further discussion and consideration at its August 2016 meeting, the Board approved the amendments and voted to provide *Notice of Intent* to adopt the rule amendments in the *Louisiana Register*. Said NOI appeared in the October 2016 edition of the *Louisiana Register*. A timely comment was received during the comment period. Following due consideration at its December 2016 meeting, the Board voted to reject the comments and promulgate the amendments in the same form as previously noticed by and upon publication in the *Louisiana Register*. **Physicians; Telemedicine:** Acts 630 (Rep. Schroder) and 252 (Rep. K. Jackson) of the 2016 Session of the Louisiana Legislature made several changes to the laws applicable to telemedicine. In order to accommodate such changes, an initial draft of amendments was prepared and presented to the Board for review and discussion along with copies of the

Acts and an annotated version of the resulting changes to the Louisiana Medical Practice Act at its July 2016 meeting. Following due consideration, the Board and staff suggested additional changes that were incorporated into a revised draft and presented for review and discussion at its August 2016 meeting following which the Board approved the amendments and voted to provide *Notice of Intent* to adopt the rule amendments in the *Louisiana Register*. Said NOI appeared in the October 2016 edition of the *Louisiana Register*. Timely comments (of appreciation) were received during the comment period; however, no comment required a substantive change to the proposed amendments. Following due consideration at its December 2016 meeting, the Board voted to promulgate the amendments, in the same form as previously noticed, by and upon publication in the *Louisiana Register*.

c. Rules/Amendments Under Development: **Physician Compounding Medication:** At its December 2014 and January 2015 meetings, the Board reviewed Emergency Rules adopted by the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy to reflect certain changes in federal law concerning compounded medication. Following review and discussion, the Board elected to undertake a rulemaking effort as to physicians who compound medication in order to insure consistency with federal and state law and regulations. A draft will be presented for initial review and discussion in due course. **Physician Advertising; Board Certification:** At its March 2015 meeting, the Board determined to undertake a rulemaking effort to establish a process for its approval of certifying boards, alternative to the ABMS and AOA, for purposes of physician advertising of *Board Certification*. The Board directed that a draft be prepared and presented for review and approval. In conformity with the Board's direction, a draft was presented for initial review and discussion at the April 2015 meeting. At its May 2015 meeting, the Board approved publication of a *Notice of Intent* to adopt the rule amendments in the *Louisiana Register*. An additional wording change was discussed and pre-notice input was received from interested parties. Following review and discussion, the Board elected to defer this effort to allow further consideration and input by other stakeholders. Inasmuch as further input had not been received, it was the consensus of the Board to write to several interested parties to ask for their input by the May meeting of the Board. During the May agenda, the Board reviewed the additional information submitted by the various stakeholders and entertained brief presentations by the plastic and cosmetic surgeons along with a comment from a dermatologist. Following their dismissal, it was the consensus of the Board to form a Special Committee consisting of individuals recommended by the deans of the state's medical schools and a former Board member, to provide information on the processes involved in the accreditation of physician post-graduate training. **Athletic Trainers:** The Board's Athletic Trainer Advisory Committee is working on amendments to the athletic trainer rules to conform them to the 2014 amendments to the Athletic Trainer Practice Act. The Committee's draft has been received and reviewed by staff. A revised draft was submitted to the Athletic Trainer Advisory Committee for their final input. The Committee submitted additional changes that were incorporated into a draft presented to the Board for review and discussion at its July 2016 meeting. Following further review and consideration at its August 2016 meeting, the Board approved the amendments and approved publication of a *Notice of Intent* to adopt the rule amendments in the *Louisiana Register*. **Physician Assistants:** Act 453 (SB 115, Sen. Mills) modified the law governing physician assistants ("PAs) in a number of ways. A rulemaking effort will be needed to conform the Board's existing rules to the changes in the

law. In the interim, the law as amended by Act 453 controls any disparity with the rules. The Board solicited the input of its PA Advisory Committee ("PAAC") and the Louisiana Association of Physician Assistants ("LAPA") respecting the amendments made necessary by virtue of Act 453. A draft of proposed amendments were received from PAAC in conjunction with the LAPA in August 2016. Following a meeting between staff and representative of the PAAC/LAPA, a revised draft was recommended for consideration by the Board. **Physicians; Training:** During its December 2015 meeting, the Board received a further report from staff outlining the review and analysis of data, which correlates a decrease in disciplinary action with an increase in post-graduate year medical education. It also discussed the PGY requirements of other state medical boards and considered the current requirements in Louisiana for both US and International Medical Graduates. Finally, it considered staff's recommendation that an increase in PGY training should result in a decrease in the amount of discipline. Following lengthy discussion and consideration, the Board asked that a draft rule be prepared for its review that would prospectively require physician applicants to complete an ACGME residency as a prerequisite to medical licensure. The Board gave initial consideration to the draft during the April 2016 meeting. Following further review and discussion at its June 2016 meeting, the Board approved providing a *Notice of Intent* to adopt rules requiring three years of post-graduate training for both US and International Medical Graduates commencing July 2019. **Acupuncture:** Act 550 (HB 557 Rep. Jay Morris) of the 2016 Session of the Louisiana Legislature made several changes to the laws governing the practice of acupuncture in this state. A rulemaking effort will be needed to conform the Board's existing rules to the changes. In the interim, the law as amended by Act 550 controls any disparity with the rules. The Board has received the input of the Acupuncture Association of Louisiana. At its December 2016 meeting the draft amendments were presented for initial review and consideration. Following due consideration at its January, on the motion of Dr. Clark, duly seconded by Dr. Dawson and approved by unanimous voice vote, the Board approved publication of a *Notice of Intent* to adopt the amendments in the *Louisiana Register*.

**[16.] Minutes of December 5, 2016, Executive Sessions.** On the motion of Dr. Valentine, duly seconded by Dr. Amusa and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board convened in executive session to review the minutes of its executive sessions conducted during the meeting of December 5, 2016. Following review and discussion, the Board resumed in open session and on the motion of Dr. Amusa, duly seconded by Dr. Valentine and passed by unanimous voice vote approved the minutes of the executive sessions conducted during its meeting of December 5, 2016.

**[17.] Report on Pending Litigation.** On the motion of Dr. Farris, duly seconded by Dr. Clark, the Board convened in executive session to receive the report of legal counsel on pending litigation to which the Board was a party and the status of proceedings for judicial review of prior Board decisions, La. Rev. Stat. § 42:17A(2). No further action was required or taken on this matter.

**[18.] Personal Appearances/Docket Calendar.** On the motion of Dr. Dawson, duly seconded by Dr. Valentine, and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board convened in executive session, to review the calendar of personal appearances and docketed hearings, as matters relating to the character and professional conduct of a licensee and allegations of misconduct, La. Rev. Stat. 42:17 A(1), (4). No further action was required or taken on this matter.

**[19.] Investigative Reports.** On the motion of Dr. Amusa, duly seconded by Dr. Clark, the Board convened in executive session, to consider the investigative reports as matters relating to the character and professional conduct of a licensee, and allegations of misconduct, La. Rev. Stat. §42:17A(1) and (4). Following review and discussion the Board resumed in open session. On the motion of Dr. Valentine, duly seconded by Dr. Farris and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the following:

- a. Interim Action: The Board approved the Interim Action that had been handled by the President and/or the Vice-President in his absence:

Docket No., 16-I-486

- b. Formal Investigations: The Board approved commencing formal investigations in the following matters:

Investigation No., 16-I-587

Investigation No., 16-I-621

- c. Consent Orders: The following Consent Orders were accepted:

Scott Gerard Conklin, M.D., Docket No., 16-I-007

Carlos Manuel Choucino, M.D., Docket No., 15-I-149

Martin Fleming Schreeder, M.D., Docket No., 15-I-439

Pramela Rani Ganji, M.D., Docket No., 15-I-486

Iqbal Ahmad, M.D., Docket No., 16-I-894

- d. Closed/Dismissed: The following matters were closed/dismissed with a Letter of Concern:

Docket No., 16-I-401

Docket No., 16-I-643

Docket No., 15-I-614

Docket No., 14-I-714

- e. Closed/Dismissed: The following matters were closed/dismissed:

Docket No., 15-I-946

Docket No., 16-I-402

Docket No., 15-I-984

- f. Closed Complaint Cases: The Board reviewed the Closed Complaint Cases Report for November and December 2016.

**[20.] Physicians Health Program.** On the motion of Dr. Amusa, duly seconded by Dr. Clark and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board convened in executive session to receive the report of Brian Zganjar, M.D., Interim Director, Physicians' Health Foundation ("PHP"), on the participants in the Physicians' Health Program who were either appearing before the Board or had matters before the Board for review

and discussion, as matters relating to the character and professional conduct and allegations of misconduct of a licensee, La .Rev. Stat.§ 42:17A(1) and (4). No further action was required or taken on this matter.

**[21.] General Disciplinary Matters.** On the motion of Dr. Farris, duly seconded by Dr. Dawson, the Board convened in executive session to consider the request relating to the execution or modification of a Decision and/or Consent Order as a matter relating to the character and professional conduct of licensees, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §42:17A(1) and (4). Following review and discussion, the Board resumed in open session and upon the motion of Dr. Farris, duly seconded by Dr. Dawson and passed by unanimous voice vote, made the following decisions:

- a. Vasquez, Willie Raymond, Jr., PA – To approve the request of Willie Raymond Vasquez, Jr., PA, for reinstatement of his license to a full, unrestricted status, off probation.
- b. Anderson, Robert Michael, M.D. – To deny the request of Robert Michael Anderson, M.D., for early reinstatement of his license to a full, unrestricted status, off probation.
- c. Allied Health Monitoring Report – To review the Allied Health Monitoring Report submitted for the fourth quarter 2016.

**[22.] Professional Liability Report.** On the motion of Dr. Dawson, duly seconded by Dr. Valentine and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board convened in executive session to consider the report of Dr. Eisenhauer, on professional liability cases reviewed since the last meeting of the Board as matters relating to the character and professional conduct of a licensee and allegations of misconduct, La. Rev. Stat. § 42:17A(1) and (4). No further action was required or taken on these matters.

**[23.] Licensure and Certification; Physicians and Surgeons; U.S./Canadian Medical Graduates.** On the motion of Dr. Clark, duly seconded by Dr. Dawson and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board convened in executive session to consider the non-routine application for licensure as a matter of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an applicant, pursuant to La.Rev.Stat. 42:17A(1). Following review and discussion, the Board resumed in open session and on the motion of Dr. Clark, duly seconded by Dr. Amusa and passed by unanimous voice vote approved the following licensure provided all requirements had been met:

Chung, Amy  
Johnson, Diane Felder  
Sharma, Atul

Daigle, Jessica  
Seymore, Karen P.  
Wilson, Jack J.

**[24.] Licensure and Certification; International Medical Graduates.** On the motion of Dr. Valentine, duly seconded Dr. Dawson and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board convened in executive session to consider the non-routine application for licensure as a matter of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an applicant, pursuant to La.Rev.Stat. 42:17A(1). Following review and discussion, on the motion of Dr. Dawson, duly seconded by Dr. Clark and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board denied the request of Abhishek Mathur, M.D., for a waiver of three years of ACGME accredited training.

**[25.] Licensure and Certification; Other Licensure Matters; Reinstatement/Relicensure.** On motion of Dr. Dawson, duly seconded by Dr. Clark and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board

convened in executive session to consider the non-routine applications for reinstatement/relicensure as a matter of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an applicant, pursuant to La.Rev.Stat. 42:17A(1). Following review and discussion, the Board resumed in open session and on the motion of Dr. Clark, duly seconded by Dr. Valentine and passed by unanimous voice vote, approved the following for reinstatement/relicensure provided all requirements had been met:

Physician and Surgeon

Shissias, Charles George, M.D.

**26. Licensure and Certification; Personal Appearance; Robert L. Marier, M.D., Chairman, Hospital Medicine, Ochsner Medical Center; Ochsner Sports Medicine Residency Program.** Robert L. Marier, M.D., accompanied by Nicole Phegley, AT, appeared before the Board in connection with the request for approval of a Sports Medicine Residency Program for Athletic Trainers/Orthopedic Technicians. Following their dismissal, it was the consensus of the Board to defer action on their request pending adjustments to the structure and submission of a revised description of the program in the event they wished to pursue implementation.

**27. General Administrative Matters; Personal Appearance; John D. England, M.D., FAAN, Medical Marijuana Advisory Group.** John D. England, M.D., FAAN, Medical Marijuana Advisory Group, appeared before the Board to give the annual report on recommendations of the Medical Marijuana Advisory Group and their report to the Louisiana Legislature as required by Act 96 of the 2016 Regular Session of the Legislature. Following his report, the Board thanked Dr. England and his group for their service.

**28. General Administrative Matters; Report Concerning Therapeutic Marijuana.** In accordance with Act 261, 2015 Louisiana Regular Session of the Legislature and Act 96 of the 2016 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the Board reviewed the draft report prepared for submission as required by the Act. Following review and discussion, on the motion of Dr. Clark, duly seconded by Dr. Dawson and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the report as prepared.

**[29]. General Administrative Matters; Board Communications.** On motion of Dr. Dawson, duly seconded by Dr. Clark and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board convened in executive session to consider an item of new business, communication to outside entities as a matter of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an applicant, pursuant to La.Rev.Stat. 42:17A(3). Following review and discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to prepare draft correspondence for the review and approval at the next meeting of the Board,

**30. Next Meeting of Board.** The President reminded the members that the next meeting of the Board was scheduled for February 13, 14, 2017.

Upon motion made, duly seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m., on Monday, January 9, 2017.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

MINUTES OF MEETING  
JANUARY 9, 2017

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**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing is a full, true and correct account of the proceedings of the meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, save for executive session of the Board conducted therein, held on January 9, 2017 and approved by the Board on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2017.

Witness my hand and seal of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners this 13<sup>h</sup> day of February 2017.

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Christy Lynn Valentine, M.D.  
Secretary-Treasurer

Attest:

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John Michael Burdine, M.D.  
President