

**THE LOUISIANA STATE
BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

**MINUTES
OF
MEETING**

**MARCH 12, 2018
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA**

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, March 12, 2018, by order of the President, at the offices of the Board, 630 Camp Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Board Members present as follows:

Christy Lynn Valentine, M.D., President
Roderick V. Clark, M.D., Vice-President
Kweli J. Amusa, M.D.
Lester Wayne Johnson, M.D.
Daniel K. Winstead, M.D.

Board Members absent as follows:

Joseph Kerry Howell, M.D., Secretary-Treasurer
Mark Henry Dawson, M.D.

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

Vincent A. Culotta, Jr., M.D., Executive Director
Jennifer Stolie, Attorney, General Counsel
Lesley Rye, RN, Compliance Investigator
Cathy Storm, RN, Compliance Investigator
Lillie Rodgers, Investigations Manager
Aloma James, Licensing Analyst Supervisor
Kieshan Falls Williams, Administrative Program Specialist
Jacintha Duthu, Administrative Program Specialist
Rita L. Arceneaux, Executive Assistant

Legal counsel to the Board was present as follows:

Philip O. Bergeron
Michael G. Bagneris (Ret)

Member of the public present as follows:

Jeff Williams, Executive Vice-President & CEO, Louisiana State Medical Society

1. **Minutes of February 19, 2018 Meeting.** The Board reviewed the minutes of its meetings held February 19, 2018. On the motion of Dr. Clark, duly seconded by Dr. Amusa and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the minutes of the meetings with all necessary corrections.
2. **Personal Appearance; Arthur Hengerer, M.D., Federation of State Medical Boards (“FSMB”); Past Chair; Physician Burnout and the Impact on Wellness and Resilience.** At the request of the Board, Arthur Hengerer, M.D., Past Chair, FSMB, appeared before the Board to give a presentation of “Physician Burnout and the impact on Wellness and Resilience. Dr. Hengerer gave an overview of the FSMBs efforts in this matter stating that its goal was to engage conversation, broaden public awareness, encourage re-evaluation by state boards as to their role and to give physicians guidance. He covered the many factors facing physicians from the time of medical school until retirement, one of which is the stigma associated with burnout and/or the reporting of mental illness on initial and renewal applications. Following his appearance, the Board thanked Dr. Hengerer for his presentation acknowledging this information would be beneficial to physicians in Louisiana.
3. **Personal Appearance; Kenneth Jones, Executive Director, Louisiana State Radiologic Technology Board of Examiners.** Kenneth Jones, Executive Director, Louisiana State Radiologic Board of Examiners appeared before the Board to discuss encounters with non-licensed radiologic technologist employed at Urgent Care Centers in Louisiana. He stated the qualifications of radiologic technologists working in the hospital and physician office setting and cited the public safety issues for both Boards. Mr. Jones concluded his presentation asking for the development of a joint statement addressing the commonality of both licensure statutes stating the need for patient and employee safety. Following his dismissal, on the motion of Dr. Amusa, duly seconded by Dr. Clark, and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board deferred action on this matter pending further research.
4. **General Administrative Matters; Personal Appearance; Patsy Jarreau, Member, Clinical Laboratory Personnel Advisory Committee (“CLPC”); Comments; Department of Health and Human Services; Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services; Request for Information: Revisions to Personnel Regulations, Proficiency Testing Referral, Histocompatibility Regulations and Fee Regulations Under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA).** Patsy Jarreau, Member, CLPC addressed the Board regarding the request for comments to proposed changes Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 found in Volume 83, No. 6, of the Federal Register published January 9, 2018. Following review and discussion of the comments submitted by the CLPC, on the motion

of Dr. Clark, duly seconded by Dr. Johnson, and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board authorized the CLPC to provide its comments, on behalf of the Board, to the proposed changes.

5. 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.

6. Rulings and Advisory Opinions; HIPAA Violations; Follow-up. The Board reviewed the draft correspondence prepared in response to the communication received from Donna U. Grodner, Attorney, Grodner Law Firm, seeking an opinion from the Board relating to prisoners and the review of their medical history without the consent of said prisoner advising her that as noted HIPAA is federally regulated by Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Civil Rights which is responsible for enforcing the Privacy and Security rules prescribed by HIPAA and, therefore, outside the jurisdiction of the Board. Following review on the motion of Dr. Winstead, duly seconded by Dr. Clark and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the correspondence as written.

7. Rulings and Advisory Opinions; Mark McDonnell, M.D., Request for Clarification; Opioid Prescribing Laws; Follow-up. The Board reviewed the draft reply to the electronic correspondence received from Mark McDonnell, M.D., requesting clarification regarding the opioid prescribing laws. Following review and discussion, on the motion of Dr. Amusa, duly seconded by Dr. Clark and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the response advising that the Board interprets the law *in toto* to mean the first time that an opioid is being prescribed to an adult patient for a particular condition; that neither the law or the Board's rules define an "acute condition", however, the Board's Pain Rules does define "chronic pain"; and that with respect to a prescription written for more than a seven day supply that may be dishonored by the pharmacist, the law waives the seven-day limit for opioids.

8. Ruling and Advisory Opinions; Exception for Prescribing Controlled Dangerous Substances in Rural Nursing Homes. The Board reviewed the electronic correspondence received from James Rush, M.D., seeking an exception from the Board to be able to prescribe benzodiazepines in rural nursing homes. Following review and discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to advise Dr. Rush that his request was outside the jurisdiction of the Board inasmuch as it required an exception to federal regulations.

9. Communication and Information; Robert L. Sumwalt, III, Chairman; National Transportation Safety Board. The Board reviewed correspondence received from Robert L. Sumwalt III, Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board relative to Safety Recommendations I-14-1 and -2 issued to the state of Louisiana regarding *Drug Use Trends in Aviation: Assessing the Risk of Pilot Impairment*. Following review and discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to provide Mr. Sumwalt a copy of the March 2015 *Newsletter* that addressed this matter and to further advise that this information will be provided as a reminder to health care providers with prescriptive authority.

10. General Administrative Matters; President's Report. The Board received the report of its President on her activities since the last meeting of the Board. No further action was required or taken on this matter.

11. General Administrative Matters; Executive Director's Report. The Board received the report of its Executive Director on his activities since the last meeting of the Board. Dr. Culotta

reported that the Office of State Procurement had approved the purchase of the fingerprint machine ("AFIS") to facilitate the licensure process.

12. General Administrative Matters; Internal Policy; Purchasing. The Board received the Internal Policy for Purchases over \$5,000.00. Following review and discussion, on the motion of Dr. Winstead, duly seconded by Dr. Clark and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the Internal Policy for Purchases over \$5,000.

13 General Administrative Matters; Financial Reports. The Board reviewed the Income Statement, for the first month of 2018 presented by Danny Allday, CPA. No further action was required or taken on this matter.

14. Rules and Regulations.

a. **Final Rules/Amendments: Physicians; Collaboration with APRNs:** The President of the Board directed staff to reach out to the Louisiana State Board of Nursing to address a number of issues previously identified as problematic for collaboration between physicians and advanced practice registered nurses. Representatives of the respective agencies met in December 2016 to discuss the effort, which focused on solutions within the structure of the current law. The Board reviewed a draft of the rules dealing with physicians who collaborate with APRNs. In April 2017, the Louisiana State Board of Nursing considered amendments to its rules on APRN collaboration that incorporate the same concepts as the Board's draft rules. At its May 2017 meeting, the Board approved the draft amendments and voted to provide *Notice of Intent* to adopt the amendments in the *Louisiana Register*. The *Notice of Intent* appeared in the October 2017 edition of the *Louisiana Register* and the corresponding Board of Nursing rules appeared in the November 2017 edition of 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 December 2017 meeting, the Board voted to adopt the rules in the same form as previously noticed by and upon publication in the *Louisiana Register*. The final rules appeared in the February 2018 edition of the *Louisiana Register*, thereby concluding this rule-making project. **Physicians, Podiatrists, PAs; Mandatory Access and Review of Prescription Monitoring Program Data:** At its July 2017 meeting, the Board reviewed Act 76 (2017 Regular Session of the Legislature) which, among other items, also requires licensing boards regulating practitioners with prescribing authority that includes opioids, to adopt rules requiring the prescriber or his delegate to access and review a patient's Prescription Monitoring Program ("PMP") data prior to initially prescribing any opioid to the patient. The Act further provides that the prescriber or his delegate shall access and review the patient's PMP data at least every ninety days if the patient's course of treatment continues for more than ninety days. The Act also provides for specific exceptions and enforcement. Following review and discussion, the Board voted to undertake a rulemaking effort to comply with Act 76. A draft was presented for initial consideration at its August 2017 meeting. A revised draft, including suggestions and recommendations was presented for further consideration. Following review and discussion, the Board approved the proposed rules and authorized publication of a *Notice of Intent* to adopt the rules in the *Louisiana Register*. Said *Notice of Intent* appeared in the October 2017 edition of the *Louisiana Register*. Thereafter, a request for a public hearing was not received, however, one commenter submitted an inquiry questioning whether proposed Section 6935C.2 applies to intractable pain from any cause, or just intractable pain that is cancer-related. Following review at its December 2017 meeting, the

Board elected to advise the commenter that the exception applies only to pain related to cancer, whether it is cancer-related pain or cancer-related intractable pain. The Board further voted to adopt the rules in the same form as previously noticed by and upon publication in the *Louisiana Register*. The final rules appeared in the February 2018 edition of the *Louisiana*, thereby concluding this rule-making effort.

b. **Rules/Amendments – Noticed for Intent to Adopt: 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 IMGs. Finally, it considered staff's recommendation that an increase in PGY training should result in a decrease in physician disciplined by the Board. 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 considered an initial 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 rule amendments in the *Louisiana Register*. Prior to providing such notice, the Board approved additional amendments at its February 2017 meeting. The *Notice of Intent* appeared in the July 2017 edition of the *Louisiana Register*. Several written comments were received during the comment period and a public hearing was held on August 28, 2017, to receive data, views, arguments, information or comments. The written comments and a copy of the hearing transcript were presented for review and discussion. Following review and discussion at its October 2017 meeting, the Board suggest several substantive amendments to address the concerns raised by commenters. These amendments appeared in the Potpourri Section of the December 2017 edition of the *Louisiana Register*. Thereafter, the Board did not receive written comments during the Potpourri comment period and no one appeared at the January 24, 2018 public hearing to offer comment on the substantive changes. In conformity with the Board's direction, it is anticipated that the final rules will appear in the March 2018 edition of the *Louisiana Register*. **Physicians, Podiatrists, PAs, Medical Psychologists; Controlled Dangerous Substances, Continuing Medical Education:** At its July 2017 meeting, the Board reviewed Act 76 (2017 Reg. Session of the Legislature) which, among other items, requires health care providers who prescribe controlled dangerous substances (CDS) to obtain 3 hours of continuing medical education ("CME") pertaining to drug diversion training, best practices regarding prescribing of controlled substances, appropriate treatment for addiction, and any other matters pertaining to the prescribing of CDS that are deemed appropriate by the licensing board. The CME is a one-time requirement and the three credit hours are considered among those required by the licensing board for license renewal. Act 76 provides that the CME requirement may be waived if the practitioner submits a certification form developed by the licensing board, attesting that she/he has not prescribed, administered or dispensed a CDS during the entire applicable reporting period. The certification must be verified by the Board through the PMP, which must submit aggregate annual compliance documentation to the Senate and House Committees on Health and Welfare. The law makes professional licensing boards responsible for developing rules and enforcement of the new requirements. Following review and discussion, the Board voted to undertake a rulemaking effort to comply with Act 76. As part of that effort, the Board determined it will provide a link on its website of approved courses that licensees may utilize to meet the requirements of Act 76 of the 2017 Louisiana Legislature. Further revisions providing for acceptance of CME from all approved CME providers was considered by the Board at its October 2017 meeting, following which the

Board voted to provide *Notice of Intent* to adopt the rules in the *Louisiana Register*. Said notice appeared in the December 2017 edition of the *Louisiana Register*. Following such *Notice of Intent*, the Board did not receive any written comments or a request for a public hearing. It is anticipated that the rules will be noticed for final adoption in the April 2018 edition of 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 consideration 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 word 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 2016 meeting, the Board reviewed the additional information submitted by the various stakeholders and entertained brief presentations by interested parties. Following discussion, the Board voted to defer action on this rule-making effort pending further review and voted to designate 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. During its January 2017 meeting, the Board received the committee's input. Following discussion, the Board requested certain changes to the draft previously appearing on its agenda, along with additional information for its consideration. Following further discussion and consideration at its April 2017 meeting, the Board voted to provide *Notice of Intent* to adopt Draft 2(A). During the March 2018 meeting, the Board determined to defer moving forward to the next step of the rulemaking process until it had an opportunity to further explore and consider all other available options, as well as the outcome of a bill introduced in this session of the Louisiana Legislature that would remove its jurisdiction to act in this matter. **Physicians** - Amendments to the physician licensure rules as suggested by staff was presented for initial review and discussion to update generally for consistency with current standards and make other substantive and technical modifications made necessary by the passage of time and current practices. Following review and discussion at its January 2018 meeting, the Board suggested proceeding slowly with the proposed changes in order to fully consider how such changes may affect other Sections of the rules. In the interim, the Board approved moving forward with the suggested amendment to §417B to clarify that a renewal reminder would be mailed to licensees in lieu of an actual application.

15. Legislative Matters; 2018 Proposed Legislation. The Board reviewed a list of proposed legislation for 2018 that may have an impact on the Board. Following the review of proposed legislation regarding the composition of the Board, on the motion of Dr. Johnson, dully seconded

by Dr. Clark, and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board authorized its President and/or Executive Director to meet with legislators and/or oversight committees to inform them that the Board believes it would be helpful to add a lay person to the Board.

16. Public Comments. The President asked if anyone from the public had questions and/or comments. Hearing none, the public session of the meeting ended.

[17.] Minutes of February 19, 2018 Executive Sessions. On the motion of Dr. Johnson, duly seconded by Dr. Clark 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 February 19, 2018. Following review and discussion, the Board resumed in open session and on the motion of Dr. Winstead, duly seconded by Dr. Clark and passed by unanimous voice vote, approved the minutes of the executive sessions conducted during its meeting of February 19, 2018.

[18.] Licensure and Certification; Other Licensure Matters; Physicians and Surgeons; International/Foreign Medical Graduates. On motion of Dr. Amusa, duly seconded by Dr. Johnson and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board convened in executive session to consider the non-routine renewal 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. Johnson and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board voted to extend the expiration of his license for thirty days pending receipt a letter from the dean of LSUHCS, Shreveport verifying his status:

Shokouh-Amiri, Hosein Mohammad, M.D.

[19.] Report on Pending Litigation. On the motion of Dr. Amusa, duly seconded by Dr. Johnson, 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).

[20.] President's Report. On the motion of Dr. Johnson, duly seconded by Dr. Clark and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board convened in executive session, to receive the report of its President on her activities since the last meeting of the Board. Dr. Valentine reported on her meetings with the Governor and Legislators on various issues. No further action was required or taken on this matter.

[21.] General Disciplinary Matters; Personal Appearance; Kenneth Betzing, PA, Chair, Physician Assistants Advisory Committee On the motion of Dr. Amusa, duly seconded by Dr. Winstead, and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board convened in executive session to consider a general disciplinary report as a matter relating to the character and professional conduct of a licensee, and allegations of misconduct, La. Rev. Stat. §42:17A(1) and (4). Following the review and discussion of this matter, the Board resumed in open session. On the motion of Dr. Amusa, duly seconded by Dr. Winstead, and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board voted to refer this matter to the investigation staff for handling.

[22.] General Disciplinary Matters; Personal Appearance; Lawrence Clarence Carter, M.D. On the motion of Dr. Winstead, duly seconded by Dr. Clark and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board convened in executive session, for the personal appearance of Lawrence Clarence Carter, M.D., as a matter relating to the character and professional conduct and allegations of

misconduct of a licensee, La .Rev. Stat.§ 42:17A(1) and (4). Dr. Carter appeared before the Board in connection with his request for reinstatement of license to a full, unrestricted status, off probation. Following his dismissal, the Board resumed in open session. On the motion of Dr. Amusa, duly seconded by Dr. Johnson and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board approved reinstatement of the license of Lawrence Clarence Carter, M.D., to a full, unrestricted status, off probation.

[23.] Licensure and Certification; Physicians and Surgeons; U.S./Canadian Medical Graduates. On the motion of Dr. Amusa, duly seconded by Dr. Clark and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board convened in executive session to consider the non-routine applications 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. Winstead and passed by unanimous voice vote, made the following decisions:

a. Approved – To approve the following for licensure provided all requirements had been met:

Benedict, Joseph
Hiner, Hervy Harrison
Johnson, Jody Michael, DO

Jones, Parker Benjamin
Pratt, Alan G.

b. Deferred – To defer action on the application of the following pending receipt of additional information:

Duhon, Gregory Joseph

[24.] Licensure and Certification; Foreign/International Medical Graduates. On the motion of Dr. Clark, duly seconded Dr. Johnson and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board convened in executive session to consider the non-routine applications 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 the review, the Board resumed in open session. On the motion of Dr. Johnson, duly seconded by Dr. Amusa and passed by unanimous voice vote, approved the following for licensure provided all requirements had been met:

Balhoff, Brent

Murthy, Avinash M.

25. Licensure and Certification; Short-Term Residency Permit. The Board considered the application of Saad Alhussain Al Awwad, M.D., for a short-term residency program submitted by Emad Kandil, M.D., MBA, FACS, FACE, Professor of Surgery, Tulane School of Medicine. Following review and discussion, on the motion of Dr. Amusa, duly seconded by Dr. Johnson and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board approved issuance of a Short-Term Residency Permit to Saad Alhussain Al Awwad, M.D.

[26.] Personal Appearances/Docket Calendar. On the motion of Dr. Johnson, duly seconded by Dr. Amusa, 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.

[27.] Investigative Reports. On the motion of Dr. Clark, duly seconded by Dr. Winstead, and passed by unanimous voice vote, 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. Winstead, duly seconded by Dr. Clark and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the following:

- a. Administrative Complaints: The following Administrative Complaints were accepted and for scheduling of a formal hearing:

Docket No., 15-I-1027
Docket No., 15-I-911
Docket No., 17-I-708

- b. Interim Actions: The Board approved the Interim Actions that had been handled by the President:

Docket No., 17-I-714¹
Docket No., 18-I-154²
Docket No., 16-I-172
Docket No., 17-I-018

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

Investigation No., 17-I-527
Investigation No., 17-I-984
Investigation No., 17-I-714³
Investigation No., 18-I-033⁴
Investigation No., 17-I-902
Investigation No., 18-I-095
Investigation No., 18-I-098⁵
Investigation No., 17-I-813

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

Adam Jace Nadelson, M.D., Docket No., 16-I-520
Marquita J. Carter, LRT, Docket No., 17-I-939
Timothy Paul Wakeman, CLP, Docket No., 17-I-553
Larry Clyde Daniels, M.D., Docket No., 17-I-243

1 Dr. Valentine recused herself from any and all participation in discussion and/or consideration of this matter.

2 Dr. Valentine recused herself from any and all participation in discussion and/or consideration of this matter.

3 Dr. Valentine recused herself from any and all participation in discussion and/or consideration of this matter.

4 Dr. Johnson recused himself from any and all participation in discussion and/or consideration of this matter.

5 Dr. Valentine recused herself from any and all participation in discussion and/or consideration of this matter.

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

Docket No., 15-I-690

Docket No., 17-I-552

Docket No., 18-I-051

f. Closed/Dismissed: The following matter was closed/dismissed with a Letter of Concern:

Docket No., 17-I-109

g. Closed Complaints Cases: The Board reviewed the Closed Complaint Cases Report for February 2018.

[28.] Professional Liability Report. On the motion of Dr. Winstead, duly seconded by Dr. Clark and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board convened in executive session to consider the report 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.

[29.] General Disciplinary Matters. On the motion of Dr. Amusa, duly seconded by Dr. Winstead, the Board convened in executive session to consider the request relating to the execution or modification of a Decision and/or Consent Order as matters 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. Amusa, duly seconded by Dr. Clark and passed by unanimous voice vote, made the following decisions:

a. Office-Based Surgery Report – To review the year-end report and presentation on Office-Based Surgery and adhere to the recommendations as presented.

b. Airhart, Richard Augustus, M.D. – To deny the request of Richard Augustus Airhart, M.D., for an exception to the Board's rule on Office-Based Surgery.

30. Next Meeting of Board. The President reminded the members that the next meeting of the Board was scheduled for April 9, 10, 2018.

Upon motion made, duly seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m., on Monday, March 12, 2018.

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 March 12, 2018 and approved by the Board on the 9th day of April, 2018.

Witness my hand and seal of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners this 9th day of April 2018.

Joseph Kerry Howell, M.D.
Secretary-Treasurer

Attest:

Christy Lynn Valentine, M.D.
President