

**THE LOUISIANA STATE  
BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

---

**MINUTES  
OF  
SPECIAL CALL  
MEETING**

---

**APRIL 6, 2020  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA**

---

A Special Call Meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, pursuant to lawful notice, was convened and called to order at 6:00 p.m., Monday, April 6, 2020, by order of the President, with the following members participating via videoconferencing.

Board Members present as follows:

Roderick V. Clark, M.D., President  
Terrie R. Thomas, M.D., Secretary-Treasurer  
Rita Y. Horton, M.D.  
Lester Wayne Johnson, M.D.  
Patrick K. O'Neill, M.D.  
Kim S. Sport, JD  
James A. Taylor, Jr., M.D.  
Christy Lynn Valentine, M.D.

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

Vincent A. Culotta, Jr., M.D., Executive Director  
Lawrence H. Cresswell, DO, JD, Director of Investigations  
Mary K. Peyton, Esq., General Counsel  
Thadra C. White, Esq., Compliance Counsel  
Alan Phillips, Director of IT

Legal counsel to the Board was present as follows:

Philip O. Bergeron  
Don K. McKinney

Members of the public present as follows:

---

None

1. **Welcome.** The President thanked everyone for his or her attendance for the second meeting to follow-up on various matters.

**[2.] General Administrative Matters; Investigative Personnel.** On the motion of Ms. Sport, duly seconded by Dr. Thomas, and passed by unanimous vote, the Board convened in executive session to consider requests by the Governor's office and LDH, to reconsider its April 2, 2020 decision declining, due to a lack of resources, the AG's request to detail/reassign an investigator to the DOJ to work on investigative matters, as an extraordinary emergency related to the COVID-19 Pandemic, La. Rev. Stat. §42:17A(5). Following review and discussion, the Board resumed in open session and on motion of Ms. Sport duly seconded by Dr. Taylor and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board voted to approve the request for reassignment of personnel provided appropriate terms and conditions could be arranged with the DOJ.

3. **General Administrative Matters; Off-Label Use of Hydroxychloroquine or Chloroquine.** The Board discussed the request of the Attorney General to post clinical information on the off-label use of hydroxychloroquine, chloroquine and azithromycin in the treatment of COVID-19 infections. Dr. Culotta and Dr. Clark reported that they had earlier contacted Dr. Ghali, Chancellor of the LSU Shreveport medical school and requested information about the off label use of these drugs, information that could be posted on the website. This document was discussed. Further discussion ensued that the FDA had approved cautious use because of arrhythmias, dysrhythmias, alterations of glucose metabolism, the lowering of seizure thresholds and the potential problems of this medication requiring EKGs and blood sugar testing prior to initiation of medication. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to defer action on this matter pending the development of a guidance document.

4. **Next Meeting of the Board.** The President noted that the next regularly scheduled meeting was set for April 27, 28, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

**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 April 6, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., and approved by the Board on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020.

Witness my hand and seal of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners this 27<sup>th</sup> day of April 2020.

---

Terri Roselyn Thomas, M.D.  
Secretary-Treasurer

Attest:

---

Roderick Vince Clark, M.D., MBA  
President