

THE LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

MINUTES OF MEETING

August 25, 2025

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

A meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, pursuant to lawful notice, was convened and called to order at 8:30 a.m., August 25, 2025, by order of the President, at the anchor location of the Board, 630 Camp Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Board Members Present:

Roderick V. Clark, MBA, M.D., President
Kim S. Sport, JD, Vice President
Rita Horton, M.D., Secretary-Treasurer
Wyche Coleman, M.D.
Patrick K. O'Neill, M.D.
James Taylor, M.D.
Terrie R. Thomas, M.D.
Leonard Weather, M.D., R.Ph
Cheryl Williams, M.D.

Board Staff present:

Vincent A. Culotta, Jr., M.D., Executive Director
Patricia Wilton, Esq., Executive Counsel
Lauryn Sudduth, Esq. General Counsel
Aloma L. James, Director of Licensing
Alan W. Phillips, IT Director
LaKenya Collins, CPA, CFO
Susie Allen, DrPH, MBA, Director of Education and Research
Michael Francis, M.D., Director of Investigation
James Tebbe, M.D., Assistant Director of Investigation
Patricia Dufrene, Compliance Investigator
Darryl Albert, Compliance Investigator
Maya Ladmirault, Compliance Officer
Theresa Lockhart, Compliance Investigator
Angela Matherne, Compliance Investigator
Danielle Woods, Compliance Investigator
Ron Cayette, Compliance Investigator
Joe Bonke, Compliance Investigator
Pat Tillman, Compliance Investigator
Lillie Rodgers, Investigations Program Director
Melissa Jenders, Admin Program Specialist
Jacintha F. Duthu, Executive Staff Officer

Other Present

Kathryn Munson, Esq. Counsel for DOI

(1.) General Administrative Matters; Dr. Clark opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for our country and the citizens of this state. Dr. Culotta read the LSBME mission statement. At this time the President asked if there were any Public Comments.

The meeting was called to order and Dr. Culotta did a roll call, confirming there is a quorum of 9 members present.

(2.) Minutes of July 28, 2025; The Board reviewed and discussed the minutes of the July 28, 2025, meeting. On the motion of Dr. Coleman, duly seconded by Dr. Horton, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2025, meeting.

(3.) New Business; Athletic Trainers (AT) Rule Revisions; The Board received an update on the AT rule revision and will return with the proposed rules at the September Board meeting. No further action was needed or taken on this matter.

(4.) Follow-Up Action Items; Consideration for Hire; Director of Investigations; The Board reviewed the curriculum vitae of Dr. Michael Francis for permanent hire for the Director of Investigations (DOI) position for the LSBME. On the motion of Dr. Weather, duly seconded by Dr. Coleman, the Board voted as follows to hire Dr. Francis as the DOI:

YEA	NAY	ABSTAIN
Dr. Weather		Dr. Thomas
Dr. Horton		
Dr. Coleman		
Mrs. Sport		
Dr. Clark		
Dr. O'Neill		
Dr. Taylor		

(5.) Follow-Up Action Items; CME Rules; Notice of Intent; The Board reviewed the CME rules for the Notice of Intent. On the motion of Dr. Thomas, duly seconded by Dr. Coleman, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed rule.

(6.) Follow-Up Action Items; Obesity Rules; The Board reviewed the proposed Obesity rule revisions. On the motion of Dr. Taylor, duly seconded by Dr. Horton, the Board voted unanimously to approve the rule revisions.

(7.) General Administrative Matters; President's Report; The President had nothing to report other than he is happy to announce our newly hired Director of Investigations.

(8.) General Administrative Matters; Executive Director's Report; The Executive Director Reported as follows:

He and Mrs. Wilton attended FARB meeting.

Colorado is rethinking Regulation and setting the Standard for Public Protection.

Trends in Litigation and Legislation

Crisis Communications for Regulators: Building an Effective Government Affairs Program.

Policymaker Panel: State Legislators

The Shifting Regulatory Landscape: Navigating Uncertainty and Opportunity

Modernizing Model Laws: Strategies for Relevance and Impact

Loper Bright and the Future of Regulatory Deference.

Data Security and Efficacy: Ensuring Effectiveness in Process and Protection.

Fairness and Accessibility Considerations in Regulation: How to Evolve and Maintain Integrity of the Process.

Outdated Tools, Emerging Tech: The Legislative Struggle to Regulate AI Speech or Conduct?

The First Amendment and Professional Licensure.

Maintaining Relevancy During AI and Digital Evolution.

RT compact formation meeting.

Veto of dietician compact.

Sound system improvement should be up and installed for the next meeting.

The Executive Director also reported the Average Number of Days for Licensure for all Licensure classes.

(9.) General Administrative Matters; Director of Investigations' Report; Dr. Francis reported:

INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION BOARD REPORT

July 1st – July 31st 2025

Number of complaints received: 69

Percentage of Complaints Resolved within 7 days: 7%

Number of cases closed: 20

Total number of currently open cases: 49

Total number of open cases as of July 31, 2025: 165

(10.) General Administrative Matters; Financial Report. The Board reviewed the financial report for June 2025. The Board also reviewed the fiscal impact for the mandatory 2025 market adjustments. On the motion of Dr. Horton, duly seconded by Mrs. Sport, the Board voted unanimously to approve the financial report.

(11.) Administrative Matters; Next Meeting Dates; The Board reviewed the remainder of the 2025 Meeting Dates. No further action was needed or taken on this matter. The Board reviewed the proposed 2026 meeting dates. On the motion of Dr. Coleman, duly seconded by Dr. Weather, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2026 meeting dates.

(12.) Rules and Regulations. Rules/Amendments. The Board reviewed the Rules Chart for the August 2025 updates.

[13.] Minutes of Executive Sessions. Upon the motion of Mrs. Sport, duly seconded by Dr. O'Neill, the Board voted unanimously to convene in executive session pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17A to receive and review the executive minutes of the Board's July 28, 2025, meeting. Following the review, the Board returned to the Public Session. Upon the motion of Mrs. Sport, duly seconded by Dr. Horton, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of its July 28, 2025, meeting.

[14.] Report on Pending Litigation. Upon the motion of Mrs. Sport duly seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board voted unanimously to convene in executive session pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17A(2, 4 and 10), La. C.E. art. 508, and/or La. R.S. 44:4.1C, to receive and review the report of legal counsel on pending litigation to which the Board is a party, the unauthorized practice of medicine cases assigned for injunction, and the status of proceedings for judicial review of prior Board decisions.

Do No Harm v. Edwards, USDC-WDLA, No. 5:24-cv-00016 – JE, Jr. – JMH

Susie Soe, et al v. LSBME, et al, CDC Parish of Orleans, State of Louisiana, 2024-00172 Div D-12

Birthmark Doula Collective, LLC, et al. v. State of Louisiana, et al.No. 755,217 19th Judicial District Court, Parish of East Baton Rouge

[15.] General Administrative Matters; Attorney Advice; Predetermination; The Board reviewed the Predetermination requests. Upon returning to Public Session, on the motion of Dr. Weather, duly seconded by Dr. Thomas, the Board voted unanimously to draft a response for pre-eligibility determination.

[16.] General Administrative Matters; Waiver of Qualifications for Licensure; The Board convened in executive session to review the request of Agenda 05.00.01 for a waiver of qualifications for a restricted license. Upon returning to Public Session, on the motion of Dr. Horton, duly seconded by Dr. Williams, the Board voted unanimously to approve the licensee's request for a waiver.

[17.] General Administrative Matters; Waiver of Qualifications for Licensure; The Board convened in executive session to review the request of Agenda 05.00.02 to waive the SPEX examination requirement. Upon returning to Public Session, on the motion of Dr. Horton, duly seconded by Mrs. Sport, the Board voted 7 YEAS 2 NAYS for a provisional license and 1 year to take and pass the SPEX exam.

[18.] Personal Appearances/Docket Calendar. On the motion of Dr. Coleman, duly seconded by Dr. Weather, 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 investigations, the character and professional conduct of a licensee and allegations of misconduct, pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17(A)(1), (4) & (10), La. C.E. art. 508, and/or La. R.S. 44:4.1C. No further action was needed or taken on this matter.

[19.] Investigative Reports. On the motion of Dr. Coleman, duly seconded by Dr. Weather, 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, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §42:17A(1) and (4). Following review and discussion, the Board resumed in public session as follows:

- a. Administrative Compliant: On the motion of Mrs. Sport, duly seconded by Dr. Horton, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Administrative Compliant filing in the following matter:

Investigation No.	2022-I-174
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- b. Interim Action: On the motion of Mrs. Sport duly seconded by Dr. Weather, the Board voted unanimously to approve ratifying the Interim action in the following matter:

Investigation No.	2022-I-174
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- c. Initiate Formal Investigation: On the motion of O'Neill, duly seconded by Dr. Horton, the Board voted unanimously to approve initiating formal investigation in the following matters:

Investigation No.	2025-307
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On the motion of Dr. O'Neill, duly seconded by Dr. Horton, the Board voted 8 YEAS 1 NAY to approve initiating formal investigation in the following matter:

Investigation No.	2025-303
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On a subsequent motion of Dr. Thomas duly seconded by Dr. Taylor, for Summary Suspension in addition to initiating formal investigation in the above matter, the Boar voted 2 YEAS 7 NAYS.

- d. Extend Time for Preliminary Review: On the motion of Dr. O'Neill duly seconded by Dr. Horton, and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Board approved granting a 90-day extension to continue preliminary review in the following matters and to authorize the DOI to request Executive Counsel to proceed with measures to enforce compliance with Board subpoenas where no response had been received within 90 days of issuance:

Investigation No.	2025-448
Investigation No.	2025-227
Investigation No.	2025-248
Investigation No.	2025-249
Investigation No.	2025-297
Investigation No.	2025-250
Investigation No.	2025-228
Investigation No.	2025-252
Investigation No.	2025-229
Investigation No.	2025-230
Investigation No.	2025-253
Investigation No.	2025-355
Investigation No.	2024-811
Investigation No.	2024-827

- e. Consent Orders: On the motion of Mrs. Sport, duly seconded by Dr. Weather, the Board voted unanimously to increase the fine to \$5000 and approve the proposed consent order in the following matters:

Investigation Nos.	2022-I-033
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On the motion of Dr. Horton, duly seconded by Mrs. Sport, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed consent order in the following matters:

Investigation No.	2022-I-378
Investigation No.	2025-I-021
Investigation No.	2024-I-766

On the motion of Mrs. Sport, duly seconded by Dr. Horton, the Board voted unanimously to deny the proposed consent order in the following matters:

Investigation Nos.	2023-I-617, 2024-I-377
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On the motion of Dr. O'Neill, duly seconded by Dr. Coleman, the Board unanimously to approve the proposed consent order and accept the Voluntarily Surrender in the following matters:

Investigation No.	2024-I-855
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- f. Close/Dismissal with No Action: On the motion of Dr. Horton, duly seconded by Dr. Williams, the Board voted unanimously to approve closing the following matters with no action:

Investigation No.	2025-401
Investigation No.	2024-446
Investigation No.	2024-424
Investigation No.	2024-489
Investigation No.	2024-621
Investigation No.	2024-811
Investigation No.	2024-622
Investigation No.	2025-372
Investigation No.	2025-399
Investigation No.	2025-167
Investigation No.	2025-295
Investigation No.	2024-492
Investigation No.	2024-560
Investigation No.	2024-541
Investigation No.	2024-827
Investigation No.	2025-448
Investigation No.	2025-439 ¹
Investigation No.	2025-425

¹ Dr. O'Neill is recused from any and all participation of this matter.

- g. Professional Liability Report: The Board voted unanimously to convene 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). Upon returning to public session, the Board asked to clarify the date on the report and return it to the September meeting.
- h. Closed Case Report: The Board voted unanimously to convene in executive session to review allegations of misconduct pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. § 42:17A(4), as part of the closed case report. The Board returned to public session and upon the motion of Dr. Coleman duly seconded by Dr. Williams, the Board voted unanimously to approve the July 2025 closed case summary report.

[20.] Probationary Matters:

On the motion of Mrs. Sport duly seconded by Dr. Coleman, the Board voted unanimously to approve the request to terminate probation conditioned on a lifetime enrollment to HPFL in the matter of Agenda No. 09.01.01.

On the motion of Mrs. Sport, duly seconded by Dr. Horton, the Board voted unanimously to deny terminating probation in the matter of Agenda No. 09.02.01.

On the motion of Dr. O'Neill duly seconded by Mrs. Sport, the Board voted unanimously to deny reinstatement off suspension in the matter of Agenda No. 09.02.02.

Next **Meeting of the Board**. The President reminded the members that the next meeting of the Board is scheduled for September 29, 2025.

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, conducted therein, held on August 25, 2025, and approved by the Board on the 29th day of September 2025.

Rita Horton, M.D.
Secretary-Treasurer

Roderick Clark, M.D., MBA
President