

# THE LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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## MINUTES OF MEETING

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December 15, 2025

### NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

A meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, pursuant to lawful notice, was convened and called to order, via Zoom, at 8:30 a.m., December 15, 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  
Rita Horton, M.D., Vice President  
Leonard Weather, M.D., R.Ph, Secretary-Treasurer  
Wyche Coleman, M.D.  
John Hamide, M.D.  
Patrick K. O'Neill, M.D.  
Kim S. Sport, Esq.  
James Taylor, M.D.  
Terrie R. Thomas, M.D.  
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 Ladmiraault, 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  
Jacinta F. Duthu, Executive Staff Officer

**(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 was a quorum of 10 members present.

**(2.) Minutes of October 27, 2025;** The Board reviewed and discussed the minutes of the October 27, 2025, meeting. On the motion of Dr. Horton, duly seconded by Dr. Coleman, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2025, meeting, with amendments.

At this time Dr. Culotta asked that an item be added to the Executive Session agenda, a Waiver request regarding a dispensing permit for physicians. On the motion of Dr. Horton, duly seconded by Dr. Williams, the Board voted unanimously to add the item to the Executive Session Agenda.

**(3.) New Business; Request for Statement of Position or Advisory Opinion; MCCD Psychiatry Services PLLC;** The Board received a Power Point by Talkiatry by Chief Compliance and Legal Officer, Eric Triana, Esq, CHC, CFE.

Public Comment was received from Georgia Gaveras, CMO Talkiatry and Cheryl Pearson, National Doctor of Clinical Quality.

**(4.) New Business; Proposed LSBME 2026 Budget;** The Board reviewed the 2026 proposed budget. On the motion of Dr. Weather, duly seconded by Dr. Horton, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2026 Budget

**(5.) Follow-Up Action Items; Request for Public Comment; Perry Fisher, M.D.;** The Board heard from Dr. Perry Fisher regarding his license revocation. No further action was taken on this matter.

**(6.) General Administrative Matters; President's Report;** The President wished everyone Happy Holidays. The President recognized the dedication and excellent performance Dr. Culotta and the personnel staff for doing an outstanding job in taking this agency to the next level and reaching the goals put forth. He took his time to recognize the individual Department Heads: Dr. Michael Francis, Director of Investigations, Patricia Wilton, Chief Legal Counsel, Aloma James, Director of Investigations, Alan Phillips, Chief Information Officer, Lakenya Collins, Chief Financial Officer, Susie Allen, Director of Research and Education, and Jacintha Duthu, Executive Staff Officer, for their excellent work. He also recognized the Board Members who give so generously the time and service to the citizens of Louisiana, Dr. Horton, Vice President, Dr. Leonard Weather, Secretary/Treasurer, Dr. Wyche Coleman, Dr. John Hamide, Mrs. Kim Sport, JD, Dr. Cheryl Williams, Dr. Patrick O'Neill, Dr. Terrie Thomas, and Dr. James Taylor.

As you can recall at the last meeting regarding potential rules for Collaborative Practice agreements with physicians and advance practice nurses. Since the last meeting I learned of transitions that will occur with the nursing Board. With our deepest respect for the Nursing Board the President has deferred the rules until the Nursing Board has had some time. At this time our rule making process is postponed until the time is appropriate to move forward, possibly in the next few months.

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

### **ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

The National Acupuncture certification body is changing the name of the organization. We are working with the advisory committee to address all the necessary rules that need to be made to standardize our process with the new certification agency. We have to replace the Physician amender of the committee; Dr Michael Weideman, a board certified OBGYN and acupuncturist, has volunteered to accept the position and I ask the Board to appoint him to the committee.

*On the motion of Mrs. Sport, duly seconded to Dr. Taylor, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Dr. Michael Weideman to the Acupuncture Advisory Committee.*

The **RCAC (Respiratory Care Advisory Committee)** have met several times to address the possibility of a respiratory care compact. We have participated in meetings with Rep Jackson from District 2 in the Shreveport area. I have been advised by members of the advisory committee that the state association will not request a compact law at this time. The RCAC is also finalizing a rule change that will soon be presented to you for approval and begin the APA process.

The **OTAC (Occupational Therapy Advisory Committee)** is meeting, electing new officers, new members, and examining the concerns of the community regarding the recent rule changes.

The **MPAC (Medical Psychology Advisory Committee)** met and reviewed the recent rules and revisions of the board, and the rules are proceeding in the promulgation process.

The **PAAC (Physician Assistant Advisory Committee)** met and dealt with some discipline matters in accordance with legal requirements for their review.

While there is no formal advisory committee for midwives at this time, we have met with some of their association leadership and attorney in an effort to build consensus for our upcoming rule change for the midwives. We are considering rules that have the board establish an advisory committee.

### **COMPACTS**

The OTCC (Occupational Therapy Compact Commission) met. I have the privilege of serving as a commissioner to this compact. I presented the concerns of our OTAC & LSBME regarding the problem present in their new rules regarding CBC. There was a spirited discussion, and our state's position was outvoted 14 to 13. The OTCC will require the LSBME to license by privilege OTs and OTAs that have never had a CBC. We have so far been able to protect the personal information of our licensees by changing the data system methods.

### **RULES**

Mrs. Wilton and I met with the AG's office to address some questions about the FTFP rules. We received some recommendations for change from the AG's office. Mrs. Wilton and I are working to incorporate them in the proposed rules for your approval as rapidly as possible.

### **MEETINGS**

Mrs. Wilton and I attended the IMLCC commission meeting in Denver Nov 17 & 18. The IMLCC is working to provide IT support services to newly formed compacts. I continue to serve on the technology committee and Mrs. Wilton continues to serve on the rules committee.

Mrs. Aloma James, our director of licensing, presented information to the Louisiana Society of Medical Staff Services (LSMSS). She addressed the Board's mission, licensing staff, licensing processes, licensing metrics, and alternative pathways to licensure (which includes military permits, welcome home permits, retired statuses, and fully trained foreign physicians). She and Ms. Wilton addressed issues related to our investigative processes.

### **METRICS**

Our licensing data continues to demonstrate overall average time from initial application to granting of license is less than 20 days. Review of our investigations data indicates an average time in preliminary review of 84 days. We still have opportunities to bring the averages down. Both departments are doing great work in timeliness and effectiveness. This hard work is consistent with our mission to protect the citizens through licensing and regulation ....in a manner that protects the rights of our licensees.

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

**(8.) General Administrative Matters; Director of Investigations' Report;** Dr. Francis, DOI reported:

**INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION BOARD REPORT**

**October 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025**

Number of complaints received: 63

Percentage of Complaints Resolved within 7 days: 21%

Number of cases closed: 17

Total number of currently open cases: 46

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Total number of open cases as of October 31<sup>st</sup>: Approximately 177

**(9.) General Administrative Matters; Financial Report.** The Board reviewed the financial report for October 2025. On the motion of Dr. Coleman, duly seconded by Dr. Hamide, the Board voted unanimously to approve the financial report.

**(10.) Administrative Matters; Next Meeting Dates;** 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.

**(11.) Rules and Regulations. Rules/Amendments.** The Board reviewed the Rules Chart for December 2025 updates.

**[12.] 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 October 27, 2025 meeting. Following the review, the Board returned to the Public Session. Upon the motion of Dr. Taylor, duly seconded by Dr. Hamide, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of its October 27, 2025, meeting with amendments.

**[13.] 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.

**[14.] General Administrative Matters; Waiver of Qualifications for Licensure;** The Board convened in executive session to review the request of Agenda 05.00.01 to waive the second application fee. After returning to public session, on the motion of Dr. Taylor, duly seconded by Mrs. Sport. The Board voted unanimously to approve the licensee's request. The staff will also make a clarification to the language on the application

**[15.] 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.

**[16.] 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 Dr. Taylor, duly seconded by Mrs. Sport, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Administrative Compliant for filing in the following matter:

Investigation No.	2024-I-70
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- b. Interim Action: On the motion of Dr. Horton duly seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board voted unanimously to approve ratifying the Interim action in the following matter:

Investigation No.	2025-I-630
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- c. Initiate Formal Investigation: On the motion of Dr. Horton, duly seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board voted unanimously to approve initiating formal investigation in the following matter:

Investigation No.	2025-527
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- d. Extend Time for Preliminary Review: On the motion of Dr. O'Neill duly seconded by Mrs. Sport, 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.	2025-685
Investigation No.	2025-595
Investigation No.	2025-726
Investigation No.	2025-614
Investigation No.	2025-631
Investigation No.	2025-632
Investigation No.	2025-636
Investigation No.	2025-637
Investigation No.	2025-638
Investigation No.	2025-639
Investigation No.	2025-640
Investigation No.	2025-718
Investigation No.	2025-719
Investigation No.	2025-723
Investigation No.	2024-724
Investigation No.	2023-684
Investigation No.	2024-200
Investigation No.	2025-733

- e. Consent Orders: On the motion of Dr. Horton, duly seconded by Mrs. Sport, the Board voted to approve the proposed consent order in the following matters:

Investigation No.	25-I-556
Investigation No.	20-I-104
Investigation No.	2025-464
Investigation No.	25-I-210

- f. Close/Letter of Concern/Enhanced Letter of Concern: On the motion of Dr. Horton, duly seconded by Dr. Williams, the Board voted unanimously to approve closing the following matters with a letter of concern:

Investigation No.	2024-I-831
Investigation No.	2025-I-039

On the motion of Dr. Horton, duly seconded by Dr. Williams, the Board voted unanimously to close the following matters with an enhanced letter of concern:

Investigation No.	25-I-672
Investigation No.	24-I-806

- g. Close/Dismissal with No Action: On the motion of Mrs. Sport, duly seconded by Dr. Horton, the Board voted unanimously to approve closing the following matters with no action:

Investigation No.	2025-486
Investigation No.	2025-599
Investigation No.	2025-619
Investigation No.	2025-559
Investigation No.	2025-603
Investigation No.	2025-696
Investigation No.	2025-497
Investigation No.	2025-625
Investigation No.	2025-751
Investigation No.	2025-585
Investigation No.	2025-607
Investigation No.	2025-692
Investigation No.	2025-693
Investigation No.	2025-694
Investigation No.	2025-695
Investigation No.	2025-697
Investigation No.	2025-699
Investigation No.	2025-678
Investigation No.	2025-632
Investigation No.	2025-702
Investigation No.	2024-563
Investigation No.	2025-489
Investigation No.	2025-623
Investigation No.	2025-152
Investigation No.	2025-736
Investigation No.	2025-690 & 2025-691
Investigation No.	2025-614
Investigation No.	2025-714

- h. 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, on the motion of Dr. Horton, duly seconded by Mrs. Sport, the Board voted unanimously to accept the October 2025 and November 2025 report.

- i. 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. Horton duly seconded by Mrs. Sport, the Board voted unanimously to approve the October 2025 and November 2025 closed case summary reports.

**Next Meeting of the Board.** The President reminded the members that the next meeting of the Board is scheduled for January 26, 2026.

**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 December 15, 2025, and approved by the Board on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026.

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Leonard Weather, M.D., R.Ph,  
Secretary-Treasurer

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Roderick Clark, M.D., MBA  
President