

MINUTES

**Mississippi State Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors
Robert E. Lee Building
239 North Lamar Street, Suite 402
Jackson, MS 39201**

**Special Called Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 25, 2017**

Board Members Present

Dr. Juawice McCormick, Chair, Congressional District IV
Steven Rollins Stafford, Vice-Chair Congressional District III
Dr. Walter Frazier, Congressional District At Large
Dr. Aretha Hargrove-Edwards, Congressional District II

Others Present

Wm. Jeffrey Jernigan, Special Assistant Attorney General, Board Attorney
LeeAnn Mordecai, Board Executive Director
Gloria Green, Special Assistant Attorney General, Hearing Officer
Katelyn Berch, Court Reporter
Jeana Stevenson, Respondent
Mary Johnson-Waldington, Respondent
Dawn Sias

Board Member Absent

Congressional District I – Vacant

I. Call to Order

The Special Called Board meeting of the Mississippi State Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors (“Board”) was called to order at 1:17 p.m. by Dr. Juawice McCormick, Chair (“Chair”) on Wednesday, January 25, 2017, for the purpose of conducting administrative hearings (2016-23 & 2016-03). The meeting was held in the Robert E. Lee Building, 239 North Lamar Street, Second Floor, Classroom C, Jackson, Mississippi 39201. A roll call of members was taken and a quorum was present.

- I. 2016-23 Administrative Hearing – 1:00 p.m.
Denied Application for Licensure – Dr. Jeana Stevenson

CLOSED DETERMINATION/EXECUTIVE SESSION for 2016-23

After the Board had received testimonial and documentary evidence in 2016-23, a motion was made by Stafford with a second by Frazier that the Board go into a closed determination session to establish the need for an Executive Session. Dr. Hargrove-Edwards recused herself from the consideration and deliberation in this matter and, therefore, did not cast any votes regarding the matter. The motion to go into a closed determination session was passed unanimously by the remaining Board members present at the hearing. Everyone exited the room with the exception of the three remaining Board members and the hearing officer.

In the closed determination session, Stafford moved, seconded by Dr. Frazier, that the Board had reason to go into Executive Session, namely for the purpose of deliberating and considering the qualifications of Dr. Jeana Stevenson for licensure, a subject which could lead to an appeal of the Board's decision or litigation against the Board. The motion carried with the following members voting for: Dr. Juawice McCormick, Dr. Walter Frazier, and Steven Stafford. After announcing its reasoning for the Executive Session, the Board went into Executive Session at 1:40 p.m.

The Board deliberated during the executive session and did not reach a determination on the merits and requested additional legal advice from the Hearing officer.

The Board exited from Executive Session on a motion from Stafford, seconded by Dr. Frazier, with unanimous support. The Board announced its action to the public.

- II. 2016-03 Administrative Hearing – 2:05 p.m.
Denied Application for Licensure – Mary Johnson-Waldington

CLOSED DETERMINATION/EXECUTIVE SESSION

After the Board had received testimonial and documentary evidence in 2016-03, a motion was made by Stafford with a second by Hargrove-Edwards that the Board go into a closed determination session to establish the need for an Executive Session at 4:32 p.m. Dr. Walter Frazier recused himself from the consideration and deliberation in this matter and, therefore, did not cast a vote regarding the closed determination session or any other issue on this matter. The motion to go into a closed determination session was passed unanimously by the remaining Board members present at the hearing. The three Board members remained with the hearing officer for the closed session.

In the closed determination session, it was motioned by Stafford and seconded by Hargrove-Edwards, that the Board had reason to go into Executive Session, namely for the purpose of deliberating and considering the qualifications of Mary Johnson-Waldington for licensure, a subject which could lead to an appeal of the Board's decision or litigation against the Board. The motion carried with the following members voting: Dr. Juawice McCormick, Dr. Aretha Hargrove-Edwards, and Steven Stafford. The Board went into Executive Session at 4:33 p.m. After announcing its reasoning, the Board began deliberations in executive session.

Upon motion by McCormick, seconded by Hargrove-Edwards, the Board unanimously agreed to exit the Executive Session at 5:22 p.m.

Executive Session

Within the Executive Session, the Board took the following action:

A motion was made by Stafford with a second by Dr. Frazier to deny Mary Johnson-Waldington her license to practice as a licensed professional counselor in Mississippi until Ms. Johnson-Waldington completes three months' equivalent in hours under a new supervisor. Agreement and contract submitted prior to beginning supervision.

The vote was as follows:

Aye-Dr. Aretha Hargrove-Edwards,

Aye-Dr. Juawice McCormick,

Aye-Steven Stafford

Upon the conclusion of the Executive Session, the Board voted, upon motion made by Dr. Frazier and seconded by Stafford to come out of Executive Session. The Board resumed open meeting by announcing the above described actions and votes taken in Executive Session.

Dr. Walter Frazier recused himself from the consideration and deliberation in this matter and, therefore, did not cast a vote on the motion. The motion was passed by the remaining Board members.

VIII. Next Meeting

Regular Board Meeting

TBD

VII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:26 p.m. by McCormick.

Approved this the 23rd day of February, 2017.

/s/

/s/

Board Chair

Board Member