



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Public Health

LOUISIANA DOULA REGISTRY BOARD

March 13, 2024
11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Location:
Benson Tower, Room 1800
1450 Poydras Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70112

Meeting link for members of the public:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82211236748?pwd=oU2Sg1XOBqaWPXo5Xqs9zvnr38jqvI.1>
Phone: 602-333-0032 Conference code: 453592

Minutes

- I. Roll Call**
The meeting was called to order by Chair, Dawn Collins at 11:16 a.m.
- II. Introductions**
Nine members attended, and a quorum was present. Members in attendance include Amanda Devereux, Nanette McCann, Cassandra Jessie-Johnson, Dawn Collins, Karelle Percy, Shanika Valcour-LeDuff, Zana Washington, Dr. Victoria Williams, and Meshawn Siddiq. Members not in attendance included Tiffany Wyatt, Angelica Rideaux (virtual), and Gia Hamilton (virtual). Guests in attendance include David McCay and Portia Williams. Virtual guests included Tylar Williams, Nicole Bell, Frankie Robertson, Flip Roberts, Natalya Piper, Tyler Louisiana, Lonsetta Primus, Theresa Graham, Amber Domingue, and Julie Morgan. Yoruba Baltrip-Coleman served as administrative staff for the meeting.
- III. Public Comment**
Chair Collins requested comments from the public. There was no public comment.
- IV. Approval of Minutes**
Dr. Williams motioned to accept the November 14, 2023 meeting minutes. Ms. Percy seconded the motion. The board members unanimously approved the minutes. Ms. Siddiq motioned to accept the January 11, 2024 meeting minutes. Ms. Jessie-Johnson seconded. The board members unanimously approved the minutes.
- V. Election of Board Chair**
Dawn Collins, Chair, opened the floor to nominations for the 2024-2026 chair position. Ms. Jessie-Johnson nominated Meshawn Siddiq. Ms. Valcour-LeDuff nominated current Chair, Dawn Collins, and Ms. Percy nominated Dr. Victoria Williams. Ms. Collins declined her nomination, as she is stepping down from the Doula Registry Board at the conclusion of the meeting. Ms. Siddiq then withdrew her name from the nominated list. Ms. Devereux

motioned a vote for Dr. Victoria Williams as Doula Registry Board Chair. Ms. Washington seconded the motion. Dr. Victoria Williams was unanimously voted in as the new Doula Registry Board Chairperson for a two-year term from March 2024 to March 2026.

VI. Determination/Voting Approval of Calendar Year 2024 Board Meeting Dates

Board members briefly discussed board meeting requirements and the expected frequency of meetings as stipulated by Act 182 of the 2021 Legislative Session. Ms. Baltrip-Coleman stated that per Act 182, Doula Registry Board members are required to meet once every quarter, but stated that a previous recommendation from Dr. Gillispie-Bell and Shane Bates, the Legislative and Policy Lead, suggested continuing to meet every other month until the application and website are approved and operational. Ms. Siddiq motioned to meet the second Wednesday of every other month from 10 A.M. to 12 P.M. for the remainder of Calendar Year 2024, with the exception of meeting on July 17, 2024. Ms. Devereux seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. **The Doula Registry Board will meet May 8, July 17, September 11, and November 13 for the remainder of Calendar Year 2024.**

VII. Board Discussion on the Doula Registry Application (Components and Process)/Voting Approval

Chair Collins requested that the promulgated rule from Act 182 of the 2021 Legislative Session, which was published in the February 2024 edition of the State Register, be added to the Doula Registry Website. Ms. Baltrip-Coleman informed that the rule is currently posted on the website.

Continuing their review of the application from the January 11, 2024 board meeting, board members discussed the application questions, requirements and website formatting after aligning with the stipulations written in the rule.

- a. Ms. Devereux motioned to change language in the doula definition from “birthing women” to “birthing persons.” Ms. Siddiq seconded the motion and the language was unanimously changed to birthing persons. Dr. Williams motioned to change the language in the doula definition from “families” to “support systems.” The motion was seconded by Ms. Percy and passed unanimously.
- b. Ms. Devereux motioned to eliminate the entire Social Security Number/Employment Identification (ID)Number/National Provider Number field under demographics section, to be replaced with State/Federal ID. Ms. Siddiq seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- c. Ms. Devereux motioned that all fields in the Identifying information/Demographics fields be made mandatory except for the Race, Gender and Language options, which should be optional fields on the website application. Ms. Percy seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- d. Ms. Percy motioned to add County to the Parish line option and Ms. Devereux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- e. Ms. Siddiq motioned to add HSET to the list of acceptable education options and Ms. Percy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- f. Ms. Jessie-Johnson motioned to change the wording beneath the Training Pathway section from “Date of Training” to “Certificate of Completion Date” and to make the “Certificate of Expiration Date” optional. Ms. Percy seconded and the motion for the change passed unanimously. Ms. Siddiq motioned to move the “Annual Continuing Education Hours” section from the general application and add it to the Renewal Application. Seconded by Ms. Devereux, the motion passed unanimously.
- g. Ms. Percy motioned to remove the Attestation (Background Check vs Attestation) section in its entirety from the application, seconded by Ms. Siddiq. The motion passed unanimously to remove Attestation/Background from application.

- h. Ms. Siddiq motioned to remove the References section from the application and Ms. Devereux seconded. The motion to remove references from the application passed unanimously.
- i. Ms. Devereux motioned to add additional services to the “Services Provided” drop down menu. Motion seconded by Dr. Williams to add Other, Certified Breastfeeding Specialist (CBS), Full-spectrum Doula, Bereavement, Registered Nurse (RN), Postpartum Doula, Community Health Worker, International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC), Certified Lactation Counselor (CLC), Placental Encapsulation, Child Birth Educator, and Healthy Birth Ambassador. The motion passed unanimously to add the above terms to the drop down menu under services provided.
- j. Ms. Devereux motioned to pass the application as it is with the changes made at today’s meeting. Ms. Percy seconded the motion and the application was accepted unanimously.
- k. Dr. Williams asked the Coordinator, Ms. Baltrip-Coleman, to type out the criteria in the rule stipulating the Doula Training Organization into an application/question format. The Board agreed unanimously that they would like to use the stipulations in section 17701 of the rule exactly as they appear to create the Doula Training Organization Application. Board members decided to review and vote on the Continuing Education/Renewal Application at a later date.
- l. Dr. Williams clarified that the doula registration requirements are separate from additional insurance stipulations that insurance companies may require of doulas seeking reimbursements.

VIII. Discussion on Appointment of Non-voting Advisory/Sub-committee Members/Determination of Appointment Process to fill vacancies/Voting approval of Process

The Board discussed addressing the appointment of non-voting advisory members at a future meeting. Board members were tasked with thinking of ways to fill the vacancies and of nominees to fill the vacant seats.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:11 p.m.

Note: The order of the agenda may not be followed exactly, to accommodate presenter schedules.

Presenters, members, and guests may submit requests for accessibility and accommodations prior to a scheduled meeting. Please submit a request to at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting with details of the required accommodations.

In lieu of verbal public comment, individuals may submit a prepared statement in accordance with Senate Rule 13.79. Statements should be emailed to DoulaRegistryBoard@LA.Gov and must be received at least 24 hours prior to the meeting to be included in the record for the meeting.