

**GEORGIA BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF LICENSED DIETITIANS
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
February 8, 2008**

A Board Meeting of the Georgia Board of Examiners of Licensed Dietitians was held on February 08, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia.

The following members were present:

Frances Cook, MA, RD, LD-Chair
DeeDee Williams, Vice-Chair
Joan Fischer, PhD, RD, LD,
Tracey Neely, MS, RD, LD
Lula Hutchinson, RD, LD

Absent:

Nancy Walters, MMSc, RD, LD
Jessie Wright, MS, RD, LD, Cognizant

Administrative Staff Present:

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director,
Serena Gadson, Application Specialist II
Amanda Allen, Board Secretary,
Latrice Peaco, Legal Aid

Assistant Attorney General's Office:

Janet Wray, Assistant Attorney General, (via video-conference)

Board Liaison:

Gail Stinson, GDA Liaison

Ms. Cook established that a quorum of the Board was present and called the Board meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

Agenda:

Ms. Neely moved and Ms. Fischer seconded, and the Board voted to approve the agenda with late agenda items added. None opposed, Motion carried.

Announcements:

Mr. Zimmerman reminded the Board that the annual Georgia Dietetic Associations Conference would be held at the Cobb Galleria Conference Center from April 3rd-5th.

Mr. Zimmerman informed the Board that Ms. Janet Wray, Assistant Attorney General would be filling in as the Board's Attorney in the absence of Ms. Wylencia Monroe, Assistant Attorney General.

Minutes:

Ms. Neely moved, Ms. Fischer seconded, and the Board voted to approve the Minutes from the December 07, 2007 meeting with corrections. None opposed, Motion carried.

Correspondences:

The Board considered the following correspondences and matters of interest:

Mr. Vurtis E. Ross - The Georgia State Prison is discriminating against me; refusing my request for a “kosher” diet.

Board Response – Not in the Board’s jurisdiction; The Board has forwarded your complaint to the Department of Corrections and the Attorney General’s Office for processing.

Liaison Report:

The Liaison Report was presented by Ms. Gail Stinson, Georgia Dietetic Association.

Ms. Stinson informed the Board that they had placed the renewal reminder “flyer/hand-out” on the Georgia Dietetic website. In addition, if approved by their president, they were also going to complete a mass mail-out reminder notice to all licensees’ reminding them that it was time to renew their Georgia Dietitians license.

SOS Legal Section Report to Board:

The legal staff of the Professional Licensing Board’s division provided the Board with an overview of the Boards authority under their Practice Act and General Provisions statute with regard to disciplinary actions and Cease and Desist Orders.

Executive Director Report:

- Rules Committee – Plan to meet at 9:30 am, Friday, April 25, 2008 scheduled Board meeting. Full Board to meet beginning at 10:30 am. Mr. Zimmerman requested that the Rules Committee present to him suggestions on how to better organize the material presented to them for review before it is presented to the full Board.
- Mr. Zimmerman informed the Board that the “renewal” period had begun for the 2008-2010 time-frame. All licensees’ were now able to go on-line and renew their license. A percentage of active licensees will be randomly audited for compliance with Continuing Education Hours requirement.
- Mr. Zimmerman reminded the Board to please begin e-mailing him with any ideas for the Board’s monthly newsletter.

Rule Discussion:

The Board continued their discussion on the proposed amendments to rule 157-6-.01 and .02. The decision was made to post the following rule with the proposed amendments as presented:

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED RULE AMENDMENTS TO THE
GEORGIA BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF LICENSED DIETITIANS RULES,
CHAPTER 157-6 CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS OF DIETITIANS**

PURPOSE: The purpose of the proposed rule amendment is to correct any errors or omissions and add language to assist in the clarification of the rule to the general public.

MAIN FEATURES: The main feature of the proposed rule amendment is the rewording of several statements and the addition of clarifying statements within the existing rule.

THE PROPOSED RULE AMENDMENTS TO THE GEORGIA BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF LICENSED DIETITIANS RULES, CHAPTER 157-6, CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS OF DIETITIANS

NOTE: Underlined text is proposed to be added; lined through text is proposed to be deleted.

CHAPTER 157-6 CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS OF DIETITIANS

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157-6-.01 Code of Conduct. Amended.

157-6-.02 Ethics of Dietitians. Amended.

157-6-.01 Code of Conduct. Amended.

(1) Unprofessional Conduct Defined. Unprofessional conduct may include but is not limited to the following:

(a) failing to provide appropriate consultation or direction according to minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing practice;

(b) failing to supervise the provision of nutrition services in a healthcare facility according to minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing practice;

(c) failing to notify a doctor, nurse, or other appropriate practitioner of the healing arts as to recommended nutrition care changes;

(d) practicing dietetics below the minimum standards of the profession as to assessments, evaluation, and documentation;

(e) practicing without a valid license;

(f) aiding in unlicensed practice, including but not limited to: ~~supervising, consulting, or co-signing notes of a registered dietitian that is not licensed under 43-11A;~~

1. supervising, consulting, or co-signing notes of a registered dietitian that is not licensed under 43-11A;

2. failing to adequately supervise a student enrolled in an approved academic program in dietetics;

3. failing to adequately supervise a dietetic technician, certified dietary manager or dietetic aide in a healthcare facility.

(g) failing to report to the Board unlicensed practice of dietetics; and

(h) failing to provide client specific/appropriate nutritional counseling and education.

157-6-.02 Ethics of Dietitians. Amended.

(1) The licensure law for dietitians provides that a Code of Ethics will be adopted and published and licensed dietitians will be required to adhere to the Code of Ethics. This code of ethics reflects the ethical principles of the dietetic profession and outlines

obligations of the member to self, client, society, and the profession, and is adapted from the Code of Ethics for the Profession of Dietetics adopted by the American Dietetic Association and the Commission on Dietetic Registration. A violation of the Code of Ethics is considered unprofessional conduct and grounds for discipline under OCGA 43-1-19(6); 43-11A-15(6).

(2) Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §43-11A-7(9), the Georgia Board of Examiners of Licensed Dietitians shall have the power to adopt, publish and enforce a Code of Ethics. The Licensed Dietitian provides professional services with objectivity and with respect for the unique needs and values of individuals by:

(a) providing sufficient information to enable clients, and others, to make their own informed decisions;

(b) avoiding discrimination on the basis of factors that are irrelevant to the provision of the professional services, including, but not limited to, race, creed, sex, ethnicity, religion, disability, national origin, sexual orientation and age; and

(c) not engaging in sexual harassment;

(3) The Licensed Dietitian accurately presents professional qualifications and credentials by:

(a) using “~~L.D.~~” “LD” or “Licensed Dietitian” only when his/her license is current and authorized by the Georgia Board of Examiners of Licensed Dietitians;

(b) using “PLD” or “Provisionally Licensed Dietitian” only when his/her provisional permit is current and authorized by the Georgia Board of Licensed Dietitians;

(c) ~~permitting use of his/her name for purpose of~~ Ceertifying that the provision of dietetics services have been rendered only when if he/she has provided those services. directly by the licensed dietitian or under the supervision of the licensed dietitian.

(4) The Licensed Dietitian does not aid another in violating any Law or Rule of the Georgia Board of Examiners of Licensed Dietitians or aid another person in representing himself/herself as a Licensed Dietitian/Provisionally Licensed Dietitian or practicing dietetics when he/she is not licensed or otherwise exempted from licensure.

(5) The Licensed Dietitian remains free from conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict by providing full disclosure when a real or potential conflict of interest arises.

(6) The Licensed Dietitian promotes or endorses products only in a manner that is neither false nor misleading.

(7) The Licensed Dietitian assumes responsibility and accountability for personal competence in practice by:

(a) practicing dietetics based on scientific principles and current information;

(b) continually striving to increase professional knowledge and skills and to apply them in practice;

(c) recognizing the limits of his/her qualifications and where appropriate seeks counsel or makes referrals or collaborates with others;

(d) adhering to accepted standards for his/her area of practice.

(8) The Licensed Dietitian complies with all applicable laws and regulations concerning the profession, but seeks to change them if they are inconsistent with the best interest of the public and the profession.

(9) The Licensed Dietitian presents substantiated information and interprets controversial information without personal bias, recognizing that legitimate differences of opinion exist.

(10) The Licensed Dietitian maintains the confidentiality of information and makes full disclosure about any limitations on his/her ability to maintain full confidentiality.

(11) The Licensed Dietitian conducts him/herself with honesty, integrity and fairness by:

- (a) providing factual information to the public and colleagues of his/her services and not advertising in a false or misleading manner;
 - (b) making all reasonable effort to be objective and avoid bias of any kind in the professional evaluation of others.
- (12) The Licensed Dietitian accepts obligation to protect the public and promotes the high standards of professional practice by upholding the laws, rules and Code of Ethics of the Georgia Board of Examiners of Licensed Dietitians and by reporting alleged violations.

Authority O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-11A-7 and 43-11A-15

Ms. Fisher moved, Ms. Hutchinson seconded, and the Board voted to Post the above proposed rule amendments to Board rule 157-6 Code of Conduct and Ethics of Dietitians. None opposed, motion carried.

Ms. Neely moved, and Ms. Hutchinson seconded, and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. §43-1-2(k) (1) (2), and O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2 (1), O.C.G.A. § 43-1-2 (k) (4) to discuss Applications, and receive the Assistant Attorney General’s and Cognizant Report. In favor of the motion were those present who included Board members: Cook, Fischer, Wright, Williams, Neely, and Walters. The Board concluded Executive Session in order to vote on these matters and to continue with the public session.

Probation Report:

Heather Peebles- In compliance

Ms. Williams moved, Ms. Neely seconded, and the Board voted accept the Probation Report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Attorney General’s Report:

Ms. Janet Wray, Assistant Attorney General informed the Board that she did not have a formal written report to present to the Board and, at this time, they were no open cases in her office for review.

Ms. Neely moved, Ms. Williams seconded, and the Board voted to accept the Attorney General’s report as presented.

SOS Legal:

J. B- Ms. Neely moved, Ms. Hutchinson seconded, and the Board voted to forward file to Investigations.

Rosanna M. Gschwender - Ms. Neely moved, Ms. Hutchinson seconded, and the Board voted to accept the signed consent agreement.

Enforcement Report:

No report presented.

Complaint Summary:

Mr. Zimmerman presented the Board with a summary of all open complaint cases.

Board discussed their displeasure in the lack of response from the Investigations Division on complaint cases that have been referred to their department for review. Ms. Cook, Chair stated she would draft a memo to the Investigations Division in reference to the time-span it required their department to present cases back to the Board.

Ms. Neely moved, Ms. Williams seconded, and the Board voted to accept the Complaint Summary as presented, and, in addition, to allow Ms. Cook to draft the memo to the Investigations Division. None opposed, motion carried.

Cognizant Report:

No Cognizant Report Presented

Applications:

No applications presented to the Board for review

Ms. Gadson, Application Specialist II reviewed with the Board the revisions made to the Application for Licensure.

Ms. Neely moved, Ms. Hutchinson seconded, and the Board voted to accept the revisions made to the Application for Licensure.

Ms. Neely moved, Ms. Fischer seconded, and the Board voted to ratify those applications for licensure determined to have met licensure requirement issued between Board meetings as follows:

Approved Licenses:

Name	License No.	Issue Date
Menard, Sandra J	LD003248	12/5/2007
Giddens, Janice Carol	LD003249	12/14/2007
Takash, Jeana Nicole	LD003250	12/14/2007
Yi, Sarah Hope	LD003251	1/8/2008
Taylor, Audrey Lynn	LD003252	1/8/2008
Bell, Christen Simone	LD003253	1/8/2008
Davis, Nyssa Laurel	LD003254	1/8/2008
Bowling, Christina Lee	LD003255	1/16/2008
Morris, Diane F	LD003256	1/16/2008
Bodunrin, Kehinde Regina	LD003257	1/16/2008
Bryant, Melissa Renae	LD003258	1/16/2008
DiBiase, Elizabeth Marie	LD003259	1/16/2008
Knights, Herline A	LD003260	1/24/2008
Cooper, Condace Dornella	LD003261	1/24/2008
Dietsch, Betsy Mathes	LD003262	1/24/2008
Mona, Rhonda A	LD003263	2/5/2008
Hartline, Emily Lauren	LD003264	2/5/2008

Reinstatement:

Name	License No.	Issue Date
Marcano, Melinda J.	LD002224	12/19/2007

Provisional:

Name	Issue Date
Fuller, Lorraine	12/21/2007
Stein, Emily	1/8/2008
Zenker, Brandi	1/16/2008
Mchaffie, Jaime	1/16/2008
Holen, Michelle	1/22/2008

Additional Business:

None

Ms. Fisher moved, and Ms. Neely seconded, and with no additional business requiring discussion, the Board voted to adjourn today's meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Minutes recorded by:	Amanda Allen, Board Secretary
Minutes reviewed and edited by:	Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director

Frances Cook, Chair

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director

These minutes were approved/signed on _____