

**BOARD OF AUDIOLOGY AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 13, 2018**

- TIME AND PLACE:** The Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (Board) meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 13, 2018, at the Department of Health Professions (DHP), Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2nd Floor, Board Room 3, Henrico, Virginia.
- PRESIDING OFFICER:** A. Tucker Gleason, Ph.D., CCC-A
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Lillian B. Beahm, Au. D, CCC-A
Kyttra Burge, Citizen Member
Corliss V. Booker, Ph.D., APRN, FNP-BC
Bradley W. Kesser, M.D.
Angela W. Moss, MA, CCC-SLP
Laura Purcell Verdun, MA, CCC-SLP
- MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:** All members were present.
- QUORUM:** With all members of the Board present, a quorum was established.
- STAFF PRESENT:** Leslie L. Knachel, Executive Director
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst
Charis Mitchell, Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel
Diane Powers, Director of Communications
Carol Stamey, Operations Manager
David E. Brown, D.C., DHP Director
- OTHERS PRESENT:** Marie Ireland, Department of Education (DOE)
Jessica Kelly, Administrative Processing Division
- ORDERING OF AGENDA:** It was noted that Dr. Brown and Ms. Yeatts were attending concurrent meetings and the agenda would be adjusted to receive their reports based upon their availability. Additionally, a presentation by Diane Powers was added to the agenda.
- PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comment was presented.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Ms. Moss moved to approve the July 11, 2017, meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and carried.
- AGENCY LOGO:** Ms. Powers reported that a team made up of DHP employees, VCU design team and board members had been tasked with designing a new agency logo to increase and strengthen visibility. Ms. Powers presented the new agency logo for the Board's review and comment.
- DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Dr. Brown reported on the following items:
- New administration/reappointments;
 - Appointed positions in the agency;
 - Announcement of Lisa Hahn as the new agency Chief Operating Officer;
 - Upcoming relocation of the business operations of the agency;

- New agency logo;
- Online complaint system; and
- Legislative session.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Update on Continuing Education (CE) Audit

Ms. Knachel reported that the CE audit for 2017 would begin at the end of February.

Letter from American Academy of Audiology – Consideration of request for Approval of Accrediting Body

Ms. Knachel reported that the American Academy of Audiology had submitted a request to the Board seeking recognition as an accrediting body of audiology programs. The Board discussed the request.

Ms. Moss moved to accept the American Academy of Audiology as an accrediting body; however, withdrew her motion.

Dr. Booker moved that additional information be collected and reported back to the Board at its next meeting. The motion was seconded and carried with five voting “yes” and two voting “no.”

LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY UPDATE:

2018 Regulatory Update

Ms. Yeatts presented an overview of the 2018 legislative session.

Licensure by Endorsement (18VAC30-21-80) – Consideration of Change in Licensure Process

Ms. Yeatts stated that this topic would be covered by Ms. Knachel following the discussion about the cash balance.

Revenue, Expenditure and Cash Balance Analysis – Consideration of Change of Renewal Date

Ms. Yeatts apprised the Board that a biennial analysis of the Board’s revenues and expenditures revealed the need for a fee reduction. She presented the following options to the Board for consideration:

- Consideration of change of renewal date: A license expiring on 12/31/18 would be renewed with an extended expiration date to a board-approved month in 2020. All subsequent expiration dates would be at the end of approved month;
- Approve a one-time fee reduction at the 2018 renewal; or
- Approve a one-time fee reduction at the 2018 renewal and combine with an extension and change of the renewal date

Ms. Knachel explained that the current expiration date of December 31 is difficult because of the state holiday schedules, mailing issues due to holiday mail and staff resources issues.

The Board discussed the best month for renewal. Dr. Gleason asked Ms. Ireland if she had any comments regarding the expiration month. Ms. Ireland stated that a majority of the speech-language pathologists work for local school districts and suggested that a June 30th expiration date would work well with the school year contract structure.

Ms. Burge moved to accept the option of a 25% one-time fee reduction for 2018 and move the next expiration date to June 30, 2020, with all subsequent renewal dates changed to June 30th of each year. The motion was seconded and carried.

Licensure by Endorsement (18VAC30-21-80) – Consideration of Change in Licensure Process

Ms. Knachel reviewed the draft changes for licensure qualifications by endorsement. She stated that the current qualifications for licensure do not require an applicant who has been licensed in another United States jurisdiction with no active practice to apply by endorsement. Therefore, such an applicant could apply for initial licensure after being out of practice for many years. She explained that availability of a provisional licensure is the pathway that will ensure public safety for those returning to practice after an extended leave.

In addition, draft language was presented that reduced the fee for a provisional licensee to apply for a full license.

Ms. Verdun moved to accept the draft document dated February 13, 2018, as presented. The motion was seconded and carried.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS
CONTINUED:**

**FEES Question – Request for Clarification of the Term
“procedures” used in 18AC30-21-131(B)(2)**

Ms. Knachel stated the Board received a question requesting clarification as to whether a speech-language pathologist must be observed doing the whole FEES procedure or just the passing of the scope. The Board discussed that the regulation clearly defines what an “endoscopic procedure” means and that the passing of the scope and collection of data and interpretation cannot be separated.

After review and discussion, the Board took no action because the regulation was determined to be clear.

BOARD COUNSEL REPORT:

Ms. Mitchell noted that there was no report to present.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

Dr. Gleason thanked staff for their expertise and hard work.

REPORT FROM DR. BOOKER:

Dr. Booker apprised the board that she had attended the National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (NCSB) annual meeting in September 2017, and reported on the board’s activities.

Ms. Knachel noted that discussion of licensure compact was on the agenda at the NCSB meeting. She expressed concern about not being able to ascertain who is representing the state boards during these meetings despite asking for the information. Ms. Knachel indicated that she would continue to follow the compact issue and report to the Board.

Ms. Knachel reported that the next NCSB meeting is scheduled for October 2018 in Washington, D.C.

**BOARD OF HEALTH
PROFESSIONS' REPORT:**

Ms. Verdun reported that four boards were updating their Sanction Reference Points manuals and requesting additional training. Additionally, she noted that the art therapists were requesting a study on the need for licensure.

STAFF REPORTS:

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Knachel provided an overview of the licensure statistics.

Discipline Report

Ms. Blount provided an overview of the caseload statistics. Additionally, Ms. Blount informed the board that a training session on "Probable Cause" review would be conducted at the next board meeting.

NEXT MEETING:

The next scheduled full board meeting is June 5, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

A. Tucker Gleason, Ph.D., CCC-A
Chair

Leslie L. Knachel, M.P.H
Executive Director

Date

Date