

**BOARD OF AUDIOLOGY AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY  
MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 26, 2011**

**TIME AND PLACE:** The Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (Board) meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. on Thursday, May, 26, 2011, at the Department of Health Professions (DHP), Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Board Room 3, Henrico, Virginia.

**PRESIDING OFFICER:** A. Tucker Gleason, Ph.D., CCC-A

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Lillian Beasley Beahm, Au.D., CCC-A  
George T. Hashisaki, M.D.  
Ikeita Cantú Hinojosa, JD, MSW, LBSW  
Wanda L. Pritekel, MA, CCC-SLP  
Laura Purcell Verdun, MA, CCC-SLP  
Ronald Spencer, R.N.

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:** All board members were present.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Leslie L. Knachel, Executive Director  
Amy Marschean, Sr. Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel  
Elaine Yeatts, Sr. Policy Analyst  
Carol Stamey, Operations Manager  
Asia Williams, Administrative Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT:** David Bailey, Speech Hearing Association of Virginia (SHAV)  
Scott Rankins, SHAV

**QUORUM:** With all members of the board present, a quorum was established.

**ORDERING OF AGENDA:** Dr. Gleason requested that the order of the agenda be revised to include "Guidance Document on Licensure" as part of the Discussions Items. Ms. Pritekel moved to accept the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded and carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comment was provided.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mr. Spencer moved to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2011, full board meeting as presented. The motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Spencer moved to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2011, Legislative/Regulatory Committee (LRC) meeting as presented. The motion was seconded and carried.

Ms. Verdun moved to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2011, Ad Hoc Committee on Fiberoptic Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing (FEES) committee meeting as presented. The motion was seconded and carried.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Ms. Knachel informed the Board that Dr. Reynolds-Cane and Mr.

Owens would not be available to provide a report.

## **LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY REVIEW:**

### **Draft Legislation for Provisional Licenses for Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs)**

Ms. Yeatts reported that the LRC had met on February 3, 2011, and raised concerns that the SLP graduates seeking licensure were not required to complete a Clinical Fellowship Year (CFY). She also noted that prior to proposing regulatory changes requiring a CFY, a Code modification to allow provisional licenses to SLPs was necessary and could be proposed through draft emergency legislation.

As requested by the LRC, Ms. Knachel informed the Board that of the 48 states that requires SLPs to be licensed; only three do not require a CFY of which Virginia is one. Ms. Yeatts noted that the proposed legislation would bring Virginia in line with the other states requiring a CFY and that it was critical to public safety.

Ms. Verdun moved to recommend that the proposed legislation for provisional SLP licensure be included in the Department's 2012 legislative package for consideration by the administration. The motion was seconded and carried.

### **Draft Proposed Amendments to Regulations**

Ms. Yeatts reported that the LRC had met and drafted proposed amendments to the current regulations for the Board's consideration. She provided an overview of the proposed amendments recommended by the LRC noting areas for discussion, the repeal of Chapter 20 and the reorganization of the proposed regulations.

The Board discussed the proposed draft regulations and recommended amendments as follows:

#### Requirements for Licensure

*18VAC30-21-60.2 Qualifications for initial licensure in audiology.*

Recommended adding language that provided for a 6 month provisional license or retake PRAXIS.

*18VAC30-21-70. Provisional licensure in audiology.* Subdivisions A(1) and A(2) were combined to become A (1) and revised to require an applicant to successfully complete all didactic course work required for a doctoral degree as documented by the audiology program of an accredited college or university (deleted the current requirement for enrollment in a doctoral degree program). Subdivision A (3) was reordered to A (2) and amended to require passage of a qualifying examination (deleted current requirement of passage of examination in the past three consecutive years).

Upon review and discussion of the draft proposed regulations, Ms. Verdun moved to adopt the proposed amendments to the

regulations as discussed and to authorize staff to withdraw or adjust fees in accordance with the requirements of the administration. The motion was seconded and carried. Additionally, Ms. Pritekel moved to repeal Chapter 20 of the *Regulations Governing the Practice of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology*. The motion was seconded and carried.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

### **Sanctioning Reference Points (SRP) Predefined Sanctions**

- **Continuing Education (CE) Audit Update**

Ms. Williams provided the Board with the results of the 2009-2010 CE Audit and gave an overview of issues that occurred during the audit. The audit results and issues that she provided were as follows:

- 70 licensees were audited, 61 of which were notified electronically;
- 4 licensees submitted partial CE;
- 5 licensees submitted no CE;
- Non-compliance issues were the result of licensees obtaining unacceptable courses or no CE; and
- CE certificates were missing vital information.

- **CE Audit Sanction Guidance Document**

Ms. Knachel reported that other boards at the Department of Health Professions have created a guidance document that includes sanction information for failure to complete CE requirements. A CE guidance document can be easily revised when needed. She reviewed a draft guidance document that included information on requests for CE extensions and exemptions, the audit process and disciplinary actions for non-compliance with CE requirements. The Board discussed the draft guidance document and made recommendations for additions. Ms. Cantú Hinojosa moved to adopt the CE Audit Sanction Guidance Document as amended. The motion was seconded and carried.

### **Probable Cause (PC) Review Process**

Ms. Knachel expressed to the Board that they may want to consider having one board member review cases, with the option of review by a second board member, if necessary. She explained that conducting the PC review process in this manner would be less costly and consistent with processes used by other regulatory boards within the agency. Ms. Pritekel moved to approve the recommended PC review process. The motion was seconded and carried.

### **Research Needed to Address Issues Related to Telepractice**

Ms. Knachel informed the Board of an inquiry received in reference to telepractice guidelines for Virginia. She stated that there is consensus among the boards within the agency that telepractice is emerging with the advancements in technology. Additionally, there is consensus among the boards that if the patient or client receiving services resides in Virginia, then the

health professional providing the services must be licensed in Virginia. Ms. Knachel expressed that before guidelines can be determined, more information must be gathered regarding the functions that can be carried out by audiologists and SLP's via telepractice. Dr. Gleason reported that ASHA recently formed a special interest group with the goal of developing guidelines for telepractice. In addition, Scott Rankins, SHAV, commented that he recently attended two conferences that provided highlights regarding the growth of telepractice and provided some resources that would assist in gaining a better understanding of the movement and growth of telepractice in Virginia. The Board requested that staff continue to gather information from the professional speech and hearing associations and how other states are addressing telepractice.

#### **Guidance Document for Licensure**

Ms. Knachel presented a guidance document for SLPs to address frequent inquiries and confusion regarding general licensure requirements, school licensure requirements, student or intern practice and licensure renewal. Upon review by the Board, Dr. Beahm moved to adopt the draft guidance document for licensure as presented and to forward the document via email to all licensees and the Department of Education. The motion was seconded and carried.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORT:**

##### **Ad Hoc Committee on FEES**

##### **Proposed regulations for adoption**

Dr. Gleason reported that the Committee had met on March 25, 2011, and developed a draft of the proposed FEES regulations for the Board's review and adoption. Following review of the proposed regulations by the Board, Ms. Verdun moved to adopt the proposed regulations for FEES as presented. The motion was seconded and carried.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

##### **Recognition of Board Staff**

Dr. Gleason, on behalf of the Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology, recognized board staff for providing their individual and collective expertise to ease the transition of the new members to the Board. Additionally, she expressed appreciation for their assistance provided to the Ad Hoc Committee on FEES in developing the draft proposed regulations.

##### **American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) Special Interest Group (SIG) 18**

Dr. Gleason reported that she would be joining a special interest group formed by ASHA to address *Telepractice*.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Ms. Knachel informed the Board that the terms of two if its members were set to expire on June 2011, and board member appointments/reappointments should be received soon.

##### **Statistics**

Ms. Knachel provided an overview of the statistical information

regarding licensure.

**Budget**

Ms. Knachel provided a summary of the cash balance, revenue and expenditures for the Board.

**Newsletter**

Ms. Knachel noted that the upcoming newsletter would include articles informing licensees of the recently adopted guidance documents. She encouraged the board members to continue providing ideas for articles that would be beneficial for licensees and the general public.

**Paperless License**

Ms. Knachel informed the Board that the agency is considering the one-time issuance of a license permit in an effort to improve agency efficiency, reduce costs and curtail mailed licenses falling into unintended hands. She requested the Board's input regarding how the issuance of a one-time licensure permit may affect them. It was the consensus of the board that some form of tangible evidence of licensure was a necessity. The Board inquired into the option of licensees being able to print their own paper license and the option to request additional permits with associated fees.

**Board Reports**

Ms. Knachel informed the Board that she was available to prepare reports for Board members who are requested to speak at professional speech and hearing association meetings. The Board reports typically include topics such as board statistics, regulatory changes, CE audit information, responses to contemporary issues and questions and continued competence.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Recognition for an Accomplishment by Dr. Gleason**

Dr. Beahm recognized Dr. Gleason for her contribution as guest editor of the publication, "Dizziness and Vertigo Across the Life Span" by the Otolaryngologic Clinics of North America.

**Ms. Cantú Hinojosa Address to the Board**

Ms. Cantú Hinojosa informed the Board that today's meeting could be her last meeting due to the expiration of her board term on June 30, 2011. She thanked the Board and staff for their support and hard work.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With the conclusion of board business, Dr. Gleason adjourned the meeting at 2:08 p.m.

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

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

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Date

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Date