

Draft Meeting Minutes
Board of Audiology &
Speech-Language Pathology
Full Board Meeting
April 21, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Call to Order

The April 21, 2026, Virginia Board of Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology full board meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions (DHP), Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2nd Floor, Board Room 3, Henrico, Virginia 23233.

Presiding Officer

Lisa G. Wallace-Davis, OD

Members Present

Melissa A. McNichol, AuD, CCA-A
Jennifer Radford Gay, MS, CCC-SLP
Bethany Rose, AuD
Wayne Shaia, MD (joined at 9:25 a.m.)
Laura H. Vencill, MS, CCC-SLP
James Wells, RPh

Staff Present

David E. Brown, DC, Director, DHP
Kelli G. Moss, Executive Director
Claire C. Foley, JD, Deputy Executive Director
Matt Novak, Agency Regulatory Coordinator
M. Brent Saunders, JD, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel
Laura L. Jackson, MSHSA, Board Administrator
Laura D. Paasch, Senior Licensing & Operations Specialist

Public Present

No member of the public were present.

Establishment of Quorum

Six out of seven board members were present in the Richmond office during the entire meeting and the seventh board member joined during the meeting, constituting a quorum for conducting business.

Ordering of Agenda

Dr. Wallace-Davis opened the floor to any changes to the agenda. Hearing none the agenda was accepted as presented.

Public Comment

Ms. Moss reported there was no public comment provided.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Wallace-Davis opened the floor to any additions or corrections to the draft minutes from the December 9, 2025, full board meeting. Hearing no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

Agency Director's Report

Dr. Brown provided an overview of the roles and responsibilities of Board members, emphasizing that, while changes in administration and political leadership occur, the Board's role remains the same: to protect the public. He explained that Board members are part of the executive branch and that the Governor's position on legislation represents the Board's position.

Drawing on his prior experience as a member of the Board of Medicine, Dr. Brown acknowledged the significant effort required to serve on the Board and stressed that the value of the experience depends on the commitment invested. He reminded members that their primary goal is public protection and cautioned against conflicts of interest when serving in leadership roles within professional associations. He reiterated that individual members cannot speak on behalf of the Board and should avoid providing unofficial guidance on practice matters. Dr. Brown encouraged members to rely on staff for support, noting that active engagement in board organizations is beneficial for networking and knowledge sharing. He concluded by expressing appreciation for the Board's executive staff and their efforts to make the Board members' experience productive and positive.

Legislative/Regulatory Report

Mr. Novak reported that there was no legislation from the 2026 General Assembly directly affecting the Board and shared the board's regulatory activity update for proposed regulations to implement the ASLP Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC) and for exempt regulatory action to correct references not changed during a previous action.

Consideration of Petition for Rulemaking

Mr. Novak provided a summary of the public comment received from the American Academy of Audiology and public comments from TownHall regarding the Petition for Rulemaking based on 18VAC30-21-60, Qualifications for initial Licensure, Section A.

A **MOTION** was made by Dr. Rose to adopt the petition and initiate rulemaking. The motion was seconded by Dr. McNichol and carried unanimously.

Board Counsel's Report

Mr. Saunders did not provide a report.

Chair's Report

Dr. Wallace-Davis did not provide a report.

Staff Reports

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Moss provided an update on the ASLP-IC, noting that Ms. Gay and Dr. Rose are Virginia's delegates. She stated that 37 jurisdictions have enacted legislation to join the ASLP-IC and that Compact Connect is operational as of October 28, 2025. She stated four additional states have active legislation, and three states are currently issuing and accepting privileges - Louisiana, Ohio and West Virginia. She reported that board staff will continue to post ASLP-IC updates and information on its website as it becomes available, and that Virginia will begin accepting and issuing privileges after its regulations are finalized and effective. She noted staff are currently working on resolving the issue with the FBI accepting the agency's statutory authority to request criminal background checks, which are required by the ASLP-IC, and that it has amended its rules to allow participation by jurisdictions that demonstrate a good-faith effort to comply with this requirement.

Ms. Moss provided information on educational outreach, reporting that she had conducted four virtual presentations in the last six months, which included presentations to students at Shenandoah University, Old Dominion University and the University of Virginia. She reported that she also presented at the March 2026 annual meeting of Speech-Language Hearing Association of Virginia (SHAV). Ms. Moss expressed appreciation for the opportunities provided to board staff to connect with licensees, applicants and the public.

Ms. Moss is working with board staff on a board newsletter to be disseminated biannually in the Spring and Fall of the year. The first newsletter will be prepared to post to the Board's webpage in May.

Licensing report and statistics

Ms. Jackson provided an update to the February 2026 snapshot of the board's licensing statistics:

- 15 Audiologist licenses, 17 Provisional SLP licenses, 17 School SLP licenses and 188 SLP licenses for a total of 234 licenses issued.

Ms. Jackson also reported that Senior Licensing and Operations Specialist Laura Paasch attained 100% customer satisfaction for the previous period with no complaints.

Discipline report and statistics

Ms. Foley provided an update to the February 2026 snapshot of open and closed discipline cases:

- 18 open cases as of April 17, 2026.

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New Business

Ms. Moss presented Dr. McNichol with a plaque recognizing her eight years of service on the board. She noted that during each of those years, Dr. McNichol also served as an officer, either as board chair or vice chair. The Board expressed its appreciation of Dr. McNichol's leadership.

Next Meeting

Ms. Moss announced the next full board meeting is scheduled for July 7, 2026, and reviewed the meeting calendar for the remainder of the calendar year.

Adjournment

With no objection, Dr. Wallace-Davis adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Kelli G. Moss
Executive Director

DRAFT