

Call to Order

The March 14, 2023, Virginia Board of Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions (DHP), Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2nd Floor, Board Room 3, Henrico, Virginia 23233.

Presiding Officer

Melissa A. McNichol, Au.D., CCA-A

Members Present

Corliss V. Booker, Ph.D., APRN, FNP-BC, Citizen Member

Kyttra Burge, Citizen Member

Jennifer R. Gay, MS, CCC-SLP

Bradley W. Kesser, MD

Bethany Rose, Au.D.

Laura H. Vencill, MS, CCC-SLP

Staff Present

Arne W. Owens, Agency Director

Leslie L. Knachel, Executive Director

Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director

Erin Barrett, Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs

Matt Novak, Policy & Economic Analyst DHP

Laura Booberg, Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel

Laura Paasch, Senior Licensing Specialist

Yetty Shobo, Director, Healthcare Workforce Data Center DHP

Barbara Hodgdon, Deputy Director, Healthcare Workforce Data Center DHP

Tamara Farmer, Senior Licensing Specialist

Establishment of Quorum

With seven board members present, a quorum was established.

Introductions

Dr. McNichol provided the following announcements:

- The appointment of three new board members, Jennifer R. Gay, Bethany Rose and Laura Vencill
- Her reappointment to another 4-year term
- As of November 1, 2022, Arne W. Owens is the newly appointed Agency Director

- Matt Novak, Policy & Economic Analyst for DHP working under Ms. Barrett.
- Ms. Barrett's title has changed to Director of Legislative & Regulatory Affairs.
- Laura Booberg is the new Assistant Attorney General assigned to represent the Board.

Mission Statement

Dr. McNichol read the Department of Health Professions' mission statement.

Ordering of Agenda

Dr. McNichol opened the floor to any edits or corrections regarding the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was accepted as presented.

Public Comment

There were no requests to provide public comment.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. McNichol opened the floor to any edits or corrections regarding the draft minutes of the full board meeting held on March 8, 2022, and the formal hearing held on March 8, 2022. With no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

Agency Director's Report

Mr. Owens told the Board about the new upgrades that the conference center will be getting this year.

Legislative/Regulatory Report

Ms. Barrett provided the following:

- Updates on 2023 General Assembly. She stated that the regulatory actions related to the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (ASLP) Interstate Licensure Compact legislation will begin after the legislation becomes effective on July 1, 2023.
- Updates to Guidance Document 30-3, Board guidance on the use of confidential consent agreements.

Dr. Booker moved to adopt Guidance Document 30-3, board Guidance on the use of confidential consent agreements as presented. Dr. Kesser seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- Updates to Guidance Document 30-5, Equivalent body for accreditation of audiology programs.

Ms. Burge moved to adopt Guidance Document 30-5, Equivalent body for accreditation of audiology programs as presented. Dr. Booker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- Updates to Guidance Document 30-10, Disposition of disciplinary cases for audiologists and speech-language pathologists practicing on an expired license.
Ms. Burge moved to adopt Guidance Document 30-10, Disposition of disciplinary cases for audiologists and speech-language pathologists practicing on an expired license as presented. Dr. Booker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- Information on the Dailey Petition for Rulemaking.

Dr. Kesser moved to reject the Dailey Petition for Rulemaking due to the recent passage of the legislation entering Virginia into the ASLP Interstate Licensure Compact. Dr. McNichol seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items

Dr. Shobo and Dr. Hodgdon provided the report on the 2022 Healthcare Workforce Data Reports for audiologists and speech-language pathologists. In addition, Dr. Shobo and Ms. Knachel provided information on the addition of a question to the upcoming renewal survey regarding usage of speech-language pathology assistants. Two questions will be added to the survey that will be deployed in May when the licensure renewal period begins.

Ms. Knachel discussed the need for two Virginia representatives, one audiologist and one speech-language pathologist, to serve on the ASLP Licensure Compact Commission. Ms. Gay and Dr. Rose volunteered.

Board Counsel's Report

Ms. Booberg had no information to report to the Board.

Chair's Report

Dr. McNichol had no information to report to the Board.

Board of Health Professions' Report

Ms. Knachel notified the Board that Ms. Vencill has been appointed as the Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology representative on the Board of Health Professions (BHP). The BHP has not met since Ms. Vencill's appointment. The next BHP meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2023.

New Business

Dr. McNichol provided information from the bylaws regarding officer elections.

Dr. Kesser moved to elect Dr. McNichol to the Chair position. Ms. Burge seconded the motion. No further nominations were received. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Vencill moved to elect Dr. Kesser to the Vice-Chair position. Dr. Booker seconded the motion. No further nominations were received. The motion carried unanimously.

The terms for the Chair and Vice-Chair begin immediately after the meeting adjournment.

Staff Reports

Ms. Knachel provided information on board statistics, outreach activities and the 2023 calendar. Ms. Knachel stated the upcoming board meetings will start at 9:00 a.m.

Ms. Moss provided an update on open and closed discipline cases.

Next Meeting

The next full board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 8, 2023.

Adjournment

With no objection, Dr. McNichol adjourned the meeting at 10:54 a.m.