

Call to Order

The Virginia Board of Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology's July 9, 2024, meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions (DHP), Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2nd Floor, Board Room 4, Henrico, Virginia 23233.

Presiding Officer

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

Members Present

James Wells, RPh

Lisa G. Wallace-Davis, OD

Bradley W. Kesser, MD

Jennifer Radford Gay, MS, CCC-SLP

Bethany Rose, Au.D.

Member Not Present

Laura H. Vencill, MS, CCC-SLP

Staff Present

Arne W. Owens, Agency Director

James L. Jenkins, Jr., Chief Deputy Director

Kelli G. Moss, Executive Director

Heather Pote, Acting 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 L. Jackson, Board Administrator

Laura D. Paasch, Senior Licensing & Operations Specialist

Tamara Farmer, Senior Licensing Specialist

Establishment of Quorum

With six out of the seven board members present, a quorum was established.

Ordering of Agenda

Dr. McNichol opened the floor to any edits or corrections to the agenda.

Ms. Moss suggested re-ordering the agenda to allow Director Owens to provide his report later in the meeting due to a scheduling conflict. Ms. Moss also requested that the Petition for Rulemaking to remove CCCs as a requirement for initial licensure be stricken from the agenda, as this item is incorporated with the proposed regulatory amendments to be presented by Ms. Barrett.

Dr. Wallace-Davis moved to accept the agenda with the proposed changes. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kesser and carried unanimously.

Public Comment

There were no requests to provide public comment.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. McNichol opened the floor to any edits or corrections to the draft minutes of the full board meeting held on December 12, 2023. With no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

Legislative/Regulatory Report

Ms. Barrett provided information on the adoption of proposed regulatory amendments for regulatory reduction and to allow for alternative pathways to initial licensure.

Dr. Rose moved to adopt proposed regulatory amendments by fast-track action as amended by the Board. The motion was seconded by Dr. Wallace-Davis. The motion carried unanimously.

Agency Director's Report

Mr. Owens provided an update on the agency's activities.

Discussion Items

Ms. Moss provided an update on the ASLP-IC Licensure Compact Commission special meeting held on July 1, 2024. Ms. Gay attended as Virginia's delegate and Ms. Moss attended as the alternate delegate. Board staff are collecting information needed to implement criminal background checks required for applicants upon enactment of the Compact. The annual meeting will be held on September 28, 2024.

Board Counsel's Report

Ms. Booberg presented information to the Board regarding protocols of the disciplinary processes.

Chair's Report

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

Board of Health Professions' Report

Ms. Moss stated that no new appointments have been announced for the Board of Health Professions, and this board does not have a quorum to hold the required annual meeting.

Staff Reports

Outreach:

Ms. Moss reported she provided board updates to the Speech-Language Hearing Association of Virginia's Lead SLP Group meeting and made board presentations to speech-language pathology students at Old Dominion University and Longwood University.

Staffing Updates:

Ms. Moss reported that Heather Pote was named Acting Deputy Executive Director, assuming primary responsibilities for discipline cases. Recruitment is ongoing to fill this position and others within the unit.

Statistics:

Licensing statistics were provided.

Ms. Pote provided an update on the open and closed discipline cases.

Board Calendar:

Ms. Moss provided the draft calendar of meeting dates for 2025.

New Business

Elections:

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

Dr. Kesser made a motion to nominate Dr. McNichol to serve as Chair of the Board. The motion was seconded by Dr. Wallace-Davis. No other nominations were received. The motion carried unanimously for Dr. McNichol to serve a one-year term as Chair of the Board with an effective date of January 1, 2025.

Dr. Kesser made a motion to nominate Dr. Wallace-Davis to serve as Vice-Chair of the Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wells. No other nominations were received. The motion carried unanimously for Dr. Wallace-Davis to serve a one-year term as Vice-Chair of the Board with an effective date of January 1, 2025.

Service Recognition:

Ms. Moss thanked Dr. Kesser for eight years of service to the Board and to the Commonwealth.

Next Meeting

The next full board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 10, 2024.

Adjournment

With no objection, Dr. McNichol adjourned the meeting at 11:07 a.m.

Kelli G. Moss
Executive Director

DRAFT