

**BOARD FOR HEARING AID SPECIALISTS AND OPTICIANS
HEARING AID SPECIALISTS TRAINING COMMITTEE**

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Board for Hearing Aid Specialists and Opticians Hearing Aid Specialists Training Committee met on Wednesday, February 27, 2019, at 9:00 a.m., at the Offices of the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, 9960 Mayland Drive, Training Room 1, Richmond, Virginia. The following Board members were present:

ReBecca Bennett
Judith Canty
Pamela Chavis, MD
Beth Lynn Connors, AuD
Mark Grohler
Lakshminarayanan Krishnan
Debra Ogilvie, AuD
Bruce Wagner

DPOR staff present for the meeting included:

Stephen Kirschner, Regulatory Operations Administrator
Tamika Rodriguez, Licensing Operations Administrator
Cathy Clark, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Wagner called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Call To Order

Alissa Parady, Director of Government Affairs for The International Hearing Society (IHS), addressed the committee on the ways that the membership association advocates and provides support for accreditation, education, and training of hearing aid specialists. Ms. Parady also remained available throughout the meeting to contribute additional information and to respond to committee members questions.

Public Comment

Theresa Irving, a licensed hearing aid specialist with Miracle Ear and a former Hearing Aid Specialist Board member, addressed the committee on the subject of temporary permit extensions and the need for remedial training for applicants who do not pass the examination on their first attempt.

Mr. Kirschner provided the committee with a copy of Regulation 18 VAC 80-20-80.2, which addresses the requirements for re-examination when a candidate fails to pass in three successive attempts. After reviewing the Regulation, the committee deferred further discussion until after the committee's discussion of training.

NEW BUSINESS
**Re-examination
Requirements**

The committee discussed current training methods and possible options for improvement; including incorporating theory training, a minimum training period under the temporary permit method of training, and apprenticeship. Mr. Kirschner provided the members with copies of the Department of Labor and Industry's apprenticeship documents for their review, including the Standards of Apprenticeship; Work Process Schedule and Related Instruction Guideline; Apprenticeship Agreement; and Qualification and Selection Procedures. Mr. Kirschner also advised the Board that he will meet with representatives of the Department of Labor and Industry to discuss the potential for implementing a hearing aid specialist apprenticeship program.

**Standardizing
Hearing Aid
Specialists
Training**

Mr. Kirschner provided the members with the current Regulation (18 VAC 80-20-40) that addresses temporary permits. The committee discussed the topic of extensions to the usual 12-month term for hearing aid specialist temporary permits when it is determined that the applicant requires additional training. Mr. Kirschner advised the committee that the Code of Virginia specifically addresses the function of a temporary permit to provide for training. The Board discussed the possibility of changing the term of a temporary permit to 18 months to ensure adequate training time prior to the examination.

**Temporary Permit
Extensions**

The committee agreed to meet again, immediately following the April 10, 2019 meeting of the full Board. Topics to be further addressed include, (1) extending the temporary permit period; (2) expanding training; and (3) the number of re-examination attempts allowed to achieve a passing score. Staff will provide a statistical report of temporary permit holders, including a time-frame of when the candidate obtained his/her temporary permit; when the candidate passed the examination; and when the candidate obtained a license. Staff will also provide information on implementing a hearing aid specialist apprenticeship, either as a training option or as a requirement.


**Next Committee
Meeting**

There being no other discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Adjourn



Bruce R. Wagner, Board Chair



Mary Broz-Waughan, Acting Board Secretary

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

1. Name: ReBecca Bennett
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Hearing Aid Specialists and Opticians
4. Meeting/IFF Date: February 27, 2019 - COMMITTEE MEETING
5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction: _____

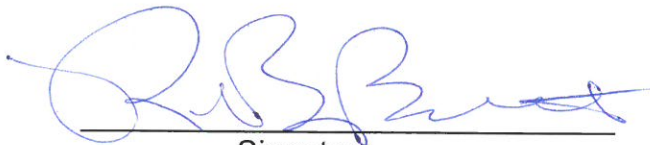
I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I **do not** have a personal interested in any transactions taken at this meeting.



Signature



Date

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

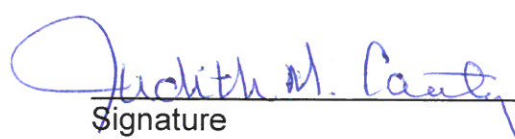
1. Name: Judith M. Canty
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Hearing Aid Specialists and Opticians
4. Meeting/IFF Date: February 27, 2019 - COMMITTEE MEETING
5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction: _____

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

- I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.
- or
- I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I do not have a personal interested in any transactions taken at this meeting.



Signature

2-27-19

Date

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

1. Name: Pamela S. Chavis, MD
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Hearing Aid Specialists and Opticians
4. Meeting/IFF Date: February 27, 2019 - COMMITTEE MEETING
5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

_____ DNA _____

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction: _____

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

- I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.
- or
- I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I do not have a personal interested in any transactions taken at this meeting.

Pamela S. Chavis, MD
Signature

2/27/19
Date

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

1. Name: Beth Lynn Connors, AuD
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Hearing Aid Specialists and Opticians
4. Meeting/IFF Date: February 27, 2019 - COMMITTEE MEETING
5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction: _____

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I **do not** have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

Beth Connors

Signature

2-27-2019

Date

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

1. Name: Mark Grohler
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Hearing Aid Specialists and Opticians
4. Meeting/IFF Date: February 27, 2019 - COMMITTEE MEETING
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Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction: _____

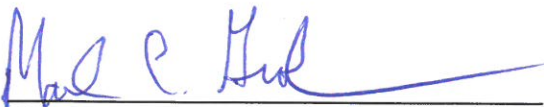
I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

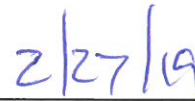
or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I do not have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.



Signature



Date

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

1. Name: Lakshminarayanan (Alan) Krishnan
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Hearing Aid Specialists and Opticians
4. Meeting/IFF Date: February 27, 2019 - COMMITTEE MEETING
5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

NONE


Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction: _____

N/A

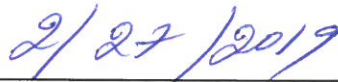
I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

NONE

- I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.
- or
- I did not participate in the transaction.
6. I do not have a personal interested in any transactions taken at this meeting.



Signature



Date

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

1. Name: Debra Ogilvie, AuD
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Hearing Aid Specialists and Opticians
4. Meeting/IFF Date: February 27, 2019 - COMMITTEE MEETING
5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction: _____

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I do not have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

Debra Ogilvie
Signature

2-27-19
Date

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

1. Name: Bruce R. Wagner
2. Title: Board Chair
3. Agency: Board for Hearing Aid Specialists and Opticians
4. Meeting/IFF Date: February 27, 2019 - COMMITTEE MEETING
5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction: _____

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- _____
- I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.
- or
- I did not participate in the transaction.
6. I **do not** have a personal interested in any transactions taken at this meeting.

Bruce R. Wagner

Signature

2-27-19

Date