



Board of Examiners
For Speech-Language
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Meeting Minutes August 7, 2020 Via Zoom Meeting

PRESENT: Gail Swanstrom, Audiologist, Chair
Victoria Edwards, Speech-Language
Pathologist, Vice-Chair
Amy Martin, Speech-Language
Pathologist
Dustin Ooley, Audiologist
Clarence Williams, Public Member
Jane Woodward, Public Member

Erin Haag, Executive Director
David Linn, Administrative
Assistant
Leslea Smith, Staff Investigator
Tyler Anderson, AAG

EXCUSED: n/a

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m. by Chair Swanstrom, after a roll call quorum was established. Due to the COVID-19 epidemic, the meeting was held via Zoom. New public member Jane Woodward was introduced.

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: Edwards moved that the February, May and June minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Williams and passed unanimously.

Swanstrom nominated Vicky Edwards to serve as Chair, and Dustin Ooley to serve as Vice Chair. Martin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Edwards thanked Swanstrom for her hard work and said that she is honored to assume this role.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Sharon Scheuer asked the Board to consider various scenarios as to how the proposed temporary rules regarding executive orders and COVID-19 might create potential ethical dilemmas. For example, what if masks are required but in order to properly examine and treat a patient the clinician might need to see inside the mouth. Edwards noted that where she works they do temporarily remove the patient's mask. AAG Anderson said that if licensees are doing the best they can and working in good faith our board would obviously be responsive to the fact pattern of any particular case. He described the complaint and investigation process and said that each situation is looked at individually.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Haag distributed the annual “delegation of authority” statement. Swanstrom moved that it be adopted and Williams seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Martin moved to adopt the temporary rules regarding Governor’s executive orders. The motion was seconded by Williams. The motion passed unanimously.

OSHA has asked whether, due to COVID-19, the Board will allow clinical fellows to begin learning computer systems and participating in non-clinical orientation while their license is being processed. The Board agreed to provide Director Haag with some flexibility if the applicant asks Haag in writing and can make certain assurances to the Board.

BUDGET REPORT:

Haag reviewed the financial statement through June, 2020, or one year of the 2019-21 biennium. The Board is on track to end the biennium with a fund balance of about 5 to 7 months of operating cash (recommended is 9 months). The Agency Request Budget, approved in May, was distributed. The next step is for the Governor to review it and possibly make other adjustments and then put out her official Governor’s Balanced Budget for consideration by the legislature at their 2021 session.

The public session ended at 10:08 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Swanstrom called the Executive Session to order at 10:08 a.m. to consider information obtained as part of investigations of licensee or applicant conduct as provided in ORS 192.660(2)(k), consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection as provided in ORS 192.660(2)(f), and to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed as provided in ORS 192.660(2)(h).

The executive session ended at 11:47 a.m. and the Board returned to public session. Williams was unable to attend the final public session.

MOTIONS FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

2017-73: Swanstrom moved to close this case with no action. Edwards seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously except for Ooley, who recused.

2019-42: Martin moved to close the case with no action. Edwards seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

2020-13: Edwards moved to close the case with no action. Swanstrom seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

2020-19: Martin moved to ratify the license. Ooley seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

2020-26: Ooley moved to close the case with no action. Martin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

2020-33: Swanstrom moved to ratify the license. Edwards seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

2020-34: Edwards moved to ratify the license. Ooley seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

2020-35: Martin moved to ratify the license. Swanstrom seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ooley moved to extend the time to investigate open cases. The motion was seconded by Edwards and passed unanimously.

Martin moved to give staff the ability to extend the time to for SLPA candidates to complete their 100 hours of fieldwork due to COVID-19 upon request until 12/31/20. The motion was seconded by Swanstrom and passed unanimously.

The list of new licenses issued since the last meeting was distributed. Swanstrom moved to ratify the licenses and Ooley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Edwards moved to authorize staff to draft and post a proposed rule that would raise the Board member daily stipend to \$50. Ooley seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m. The next regular Board meeting will be held on Friday, November 13th, via teleconference.