



Board of Examiners
For Speech-Language
Pathology & Audiology
(971) 673-0220
(971) 673-0226 fax
800 NE Oregon St
Ste 407
Portland OR 97232
www.bspa.state.or.us

Meeting Minutes November 13, 2020 Via Zoom Meeting

PRESENT: Victoria Edwards, CCC-SLP, Chair
Dustin Ooley, Au.D., Vice-Chair
Amy Martin, CCC-SLP
Carrie Slough, Au.D.
Clarence Williams, Public Member
Jane Woodward, Public Member

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

EXCUSED: n/a

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Chair Edwards after a roll call quorum was established. Due to the COVID-19 epidemic, the meeting was held via Zoom.

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

There was a correction – case #2010-42 should be 2019-42. Martin moved that the August minutes be approved with the correction. The motion was seconded by Woodward and passed unanimously.

BUDGET & LEGISLATIVE REPORTS:

Haag reviewed the financial reports showing revenue and expenses for the 2019-21 biennium through September, 2020. Total revenue exceeds budget, and expenses are under budget. Two cash flow projections were shared, one with no fee increase and the other including the proposed fee increase. A schedule of proposed fee increase was distributed, and if enacted will enable the Board to maintain 5-7 months of cash flow a fee increase is needed. The last fee increase was in 2013, and since then the Board has added a full time investigator and absorbed inflationary increases.

In addition to the budget, the Governor has approved the Board's legislative concept, suggested by OSHA, to add a speech-language pathology assistant (SLPA) position to the Board.

OTHER:

Director Haag reviewed the SLPA audit timeline. This annual audit is mandated by the legislature and is usually conducted in the Spring. Due to the pandemic it was delayed and expected completion date is the end of January, 2021.

The Board discussed the challenge of recruiting Board members and discussed whether the M.D. position should be opened to additional specialties beyond otolaryngology. It was agreed that the Board appreciates having a physician among its membership and that a pediatrician could also be helpful.

Haag updated the Board on the Agency Affirmative Action Policy. SB 855 was passed last session and requires Boards to identify barriers to licensure by recent immigrants and refugees. Linn gave the Board an update on the agency's efforts to reach out to stakeholders and university programs. The issue often rests on documentation of equivalency of their training programs to US standards, which should be done in cooperation between the state and university programs.

Haag updated the Board on a petition to the Oregon Advisory Council on Hearing Aids to challenge their rules regarding the adjusting of tinnitus maskers by hearing aid dealers. The petition was denied by the director of HLO. Ooley expressed that tinnitus management should be done in a careful way. He suggested that we put together a work group to work through issues. One idea could include a checklist for physician concerns prior to the hearing aid dealer adjusting the masker. Haag said the staff would research nearby states' approach to the issue.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

The public session ended at 10:30 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Edwards called the Executive Session to order at 10:45 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 2:43 p.m. and the Board returned to public session.

MOTIONS FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

2019-21: Ooley moved to close the case with no action. Martin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

2019-47: Martin moved to close the case with no action. Ooley seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

2019-74: Slough moved to close the case with no action. Martin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

2020-36: Ooley moved to ratify the license. Slough seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

2020-37: Woodward moved to ratify the license. Ooley seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

2020-42: Martin moved to close the case with action. Ooley seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

2020-43: Ooley moved to close the case with no action. Martin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

2020-44: Martin moved to close the case with no action. Ooley seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

2020-47: Woodward moved to close the case with no action and ratify issuance of the license. Ooley seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

2020-49: Martin moved to close the case with no action. Slough seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

2020-46: Slough moved to close the case with action. Ooley seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

2020-54: Martin moved to close the case with no action and ratify issuance of the license. Ooley seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m. A special board meeting will be held on Tuesday December 1st, via teleconference.