

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.oregon.gov/bspa

# Meeting Minutes May 2, 2025 Meeting held via Zoom

PRESENT: Ilia Fong, Au.D. - Chair

Amy Costanza-Smith, CCC-SLP Vice-

Chair

Kristy Cousineau, SLPA Christopher Hargunani, M.D.,

Amy Martin, CCC-SLP Carrie Slough, Au.D.

Jazzmen Manning, Public Member

Erin Haag, Executive Director David Linn, Administrative

Assistant

Ryan Fahlman-Katler, Investigator Catriona McCracken, Sr. AAG

#### CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m. by Chair Fong under the authority of ORS 681.400, ORS 681.420, ORS 681.430, and ORS 192.610 to ORS 192.705. Fong stated that the meeting was being held in accordance with ORS 192.630(1), and that the Public Meeting Public Session opened to the public, and a roll call quorum was called: Martin – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough – Aye. The meeting was held via Zoom.

**PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Martin moved to approve the minutes of the January 31, 2025 meeting. Second: Costanza-Smith.

Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough – Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:**

Director Haag reported that revenue and expenses are on target. The 2025-27 biennium budget process is set for a work session in the legislature. Director Haag gave a licensing update of new licensees from the past year and noted that  $\sim$ 92% of new licenses have addresses that are not in Oregon. The proposed budget is only going up for typical inflationary costs. There is currently no need for any fee increases.

The legislative session has had several proposals that the agency is following. A compact bill has not moved forward. The Board will be working with state professional associations, licensees and the public for potential legislative concepts for the next legislative session. HB2423

regarding a task force about speech-language pathology in the school system, has been moving through the legislative process.

The governor has directed agencies to meet 11 "Agency Expectations" that are directed towards transparency, information and rulemaking procedure uniformity, and employee trainings. Rule review is statutorily required, and board staff will be reviewing sections to create a rule review schedule. The agency is prioritizing sections regarding conditional licenses, tele-practice, and SLPA supervision rules because those parts of the profession have seen the most updates in recent years.

Director Haag gave an update on the Oregon Sanctuary Promise Act and the agency's compliance with policies, procedures, and employee training.

Board member Manning joined at 9:06 a.m. Board member Hargunani joined at 9:18 a.m.

Fong moved to accept the Executive Director's Report. Seconded: Slough.

Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None submitted.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

AAG, McCracken informed the Board of a new requirement of the Oregon Government Ethics Commission that any Board member, who has a real or perceived conflict of interest on any matter before the Board, must announce it in public session and denote a case number if applicable. Constanza-Smith recused from case #2024-24. Cousineau recused from case #2024-07.

The Board, prior to recessing the Public Meeting Public Session, announced that the Board would be entering into Executive Session. The Executive Session was called under the authority of ORS 192.610 to 192.705, OAR 199-040-0015 to 199-040-0060; ORS 681.440; ORS 676.165(5) and (6); ORS 696.175(1) and (8); ORS 192.660(2)(L) and (9) (for this health professional regulatory board to consider information obtained during an investigation into a licensee or applicant), and 192.660(2)(f)(records that are exempt by law from public inspection). The specific authority under which this Executive Session is being called, and purpose of this Executive Session, is as follows: ORS 681.440(4); ORS 192.660(2)(f) to consider investigatory information records that are exempt by law from public inspection; ORS 192.660(2)(f); ORS 192.355(9); and ORS 40.225 to receive written advice of counsel.

Chair Fong recessed the public session and called the Executive Session to order at 9:40 a.m.

The executive session ended and the public session was called to back into order at 2:22 p.m. by Chair Fong under the authority of ORS 681.400, ORS 681.420, ORS 681.430, and ORS 192.610 to ORS 192.705 and ORS 192.630)(1). In accordance with ORS 192.630(1), this Public Meeting Public Session was open to the public and a roll call quorum was called: Martin – present; Manning – present; Cousineau – present; Fong – present; Hargunani – present; Costanza-Smith – present; Slough – Aye.

## MOTIONS FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Case No. 2024-32: Moved by Fong to issue a notice and consent agreement imposing a civil penalty for violations in the amount of \$1,000 at \$250 per violation for record keeping (OAR 335-005-0015(9); 335-005-0015(16); 335-010-0060(1); 335-010-0070). Second: Costanza-Smith.

Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

Case No. 2024-33: Moved by Fong to issue a notice and consent agreement imposing a civil penalty for violations in the amount of \$600 at \$150 per violation for 4 months of unlicensed practice a violation of ORS 681.250(2). Second: Slough.

Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

Case No. 2024-37: Moved by Fong to close the case with no action. Second: Costanza-Smith. Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

Case No. 2024-38: Moved by Fong to close the case with no action. Second: Manning. Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

Case No. 2024-24: Moved by Fong to close the case with no action. Second: Slough. Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

Case No. 2020-11: Moved by Fong to close the case with no action. Second: Costanza-Smith. Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

**Case No. 2024-47:** Moved by Fong to close the case with no action. Second: Costanza-Smith. Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

**Case No. 2025-01:** Moved by Fong to close the case with no action. Second: Costanza-Smith. Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

**Case No. 2025-02:** Moved by Fong to close the case with no action. Second: Costanza-Smith. Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

Case No. 2025-04: Moved by Fong to close the case with no action. Second: Costanza-Smith. Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

Case No. 2025-05: Moved by Fong to close the case with no action. Second: Slough.

Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

Case No. 2025-06: Moved by Fong to close the case with no action. Second: Costanza-Smith. Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

Case No. 2025-07: Moved by Fong to issue a notice and consent agreement imposing a civil penalty for violations in the amount of \$75 for 1 month of unlicensed practice a violation of ORS 681.250(2). Second: Costanza-Smith.

Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

Case No. 2025-13: Moved by Fong to issue a notice and consent agreement imposing a civil penalty for violations in the amount of \$150 for 1 month of unprofessional conduct a violation of OAR 335-005-0010(2)(g). Second: Costanza-Smith.

Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

Case No. 2025-10: Moved by Fong to close the case with no action and ratify the issuance of the license. Second: Costanza-Smith.

Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

Case No. 2025-08: Moved by Fong to close the case with no action and ratify the issuance of the license. Second: Costanza-Smith.

Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

Case No. 2025-14: Moved by Fong to close the case with no action. Second: Costanza-Smith. Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

Case No. 2025-15: Moved by Fong to close the case with no action. Second: Costanza-Smith. Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

Case No. 2024-26: Moved by Fong to close the case with no action. Second: Costanza-Smith. Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

Case No. 2025-16: Moved by Fong to close the case with no action. Second: Costanza-Smith. Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

# **Continuing Investigations:**

It was moved by Fong to extend the time to investigate all open cases. The motion was seconded by Costanza-Smith.

Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion to Ratify Licenses Issued Between January 28, 2025 – April 18, 2025: Moved by Fong to ratify licenses. Second: Costanza-Smith.

Roll call vote: Manning – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

Motion to approve draft policy document for public meeting grievances:

Fong moved to approve the draft policy. Second: Martin

Roll call vote: Martin – Aye; Manning – Aye; Cousineau – Aye; Fong – Aye; Hargunani – Aye; Costanza-Smith – Aye; Slough - Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

Cousineau made a comment regarding upcoming cuts to school special education programs, the caseloads growing beyond the ability to safely manage, and the potential harm that could be caused to patients and families.

The next meeting will be held on August 8, 2025.

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Fong at 2:38 P.M.