

The regular session meeting of the Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists was held on June 20, 2019, in Room 110 of the MDH Metro Executive Building, 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Candace Robinson, who was sitting in for Dr. Jennifer Mertes called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. Present for the quorum were Dr. Stacey Samuels Cole, John Cummins, Ms. Jillian DeLuca (via conference call), Mr. Kim Keller, Dr. Carrie Nieman, Dr. Candace Robinson, Mr. John Rouse, Mr. George Sheckells, Ms. Carolyn Stine and Ms. Ellen Stein:

**Staff Present**

Etzion Brand, Executive Director  
Carla Boyd, AAG, Board Counsel  
Zoann Mouzone, Administrative Specialist III

**Absent Members**

Dr. Tinita Kearney  
Dr. Jennifer Mertes  
Dr. Tam Nguyen

**Visitors**

Kim Lang, Director of Health Occupations Boards and Commissions

**Agenda Review and Approval for June 2019**

Mr. Cummins made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Keller seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**Minutes Review and Approval for May 2019**

Mr. Sheckells made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Cummins seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Brand informed the Board that the renewal period for audiologists and speech-language pathologists ended May 31, 2019. Questions arose with the Board regarding a blanket extension being granted to certain licensee with extenuating circumstances. Mr. Brand also informed the Board that there is a 30-day grace period for the licensees to renew their license with a late fee. Attorney Boyd suggested that the Board's regulations need to be updated to include that an extension will be granted for extraordinary circumstance. The Board had a discussion as to whether hiring additional staff would help with the workload. Ms. Mouzone gave the Board a brief scenario of the reason why there was such a backlog with the workload. Mr. Cummins will communicate with Mr. Brand to discuss when the Legislation committee will meet. Mr. Brand also informed the Board that new computers, printers and a scanners has been purchased for the office.

**Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Brand informed the Board that the Board has a balance of \$

**Regulatory Review**

Mr. Brand explained to the Board that several licensees were confused as to when they continuing

education credit were due. Attorney Boyd suggested that statutory duties would be done by staff not the Board; the Board does not have the authority to delegate some duties to staff. The Board should look at the regulations from another Board on their process of delegating duties to the Executive Director. Attorney Boyd also explained that Lillian Reese, Legislation Analyst would work closely with the Legislation Committee. Mr. Brand will review the website and suggest what needs to be done to the Board.

**Chair Report – Dr. Candace Robinson, Au.D.**

Dr. Robinson asked for volunteers to proctor the July 18, 2019 hearing aid practical exam. A discussion arose in reference to hiring additional staff temporarily at the time of renewals when the work load is increased.

Mr. Sheckells inquired as to whether the Board has list of approved organizations that provide continuing education to licensees. A discussion arose with the Board. Attorney Boyd suggested that the Board include in the regulations a list of organizations that are Board approved. Attorney Boyd suggested that the Board form a continuing education committee.

**Correspondence & FYI**

None

**Next Board Meeting – July 18, 2019**

**Adjournment**

Ms. Stine made a motion to adjourn the regular session of the Board meeting. Ms. Stein seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The regular session meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Mertes, Au.D.  
Chair