



MARYLAND

Department of Health

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists

The regular session meeting of the Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists was held on August 16, 2018, in Room 110 of the MDH Metro Executive Building, 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Mertes called the meeting to order at 4:28 p.m. Present for the quorum were Mr. John Cummins, Ms. Jillian DeLuca, Mr. Kim Keller, Dr. Tam Nhu Nguyen, Dr. Carrie Nieman, Dr. Candace Robinson, Mr. John Rouse, Mr. Sheckells, Ms. Ellen Stein and Ms. Carolyn Stine.

Staff Present

Christopher Kelter, Executive Director
Carla Boyd, AAG, Board Counsel
Zoann Mouzone, Administrative Specialist III
Lillian Reese, Legislative & Regulations Coordinator

Absent Members

Dr. Stacey Samuels Cole
Dr. Tinita Kearney

Visitors

Ruth Boyd-Okogun, M.S., Au.D., SLP
Leslie Grant, Ph.D., SLP
Kim Lang, Ph.D., Director of Health Occupations Boards and Commissions
Richard Okogun

Dr. Mertes informed the Board that a sound system was being used at this Board meeting and asked the Board to consider if they would like to purchase a sound system for future Board meetings. The sound system would be purchased with Board funds.

Introduction of New Board Members

Carolyn Stine, Kim Keller and Dr. Tam Nguyen were introduced to the Board.

Agenda Review and Approval for August 2018

Ms. Stein made a motion to approve the agenda with amendments. Mr. Cummins seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Minutes Review and Approval for April, May & June, 2018

Mr. Cummins made a motion to approve the April 2018, May 2018 and June 2018 minutes with amendments. Mr. Sheckells seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Board of AUD, HAD & SLP, 4201 Patterson Avenue, 3rd Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Board Phone Number – 410-764-4725 Board Fax Number – 410-358-0273

Board Web Site: <http://www.dhmh.maryland.gov/boardsahs>

Regulatory Review and Evaluation Act – Report and Work Plan

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that the Board was tasked to review certain regulations that were not amended or substantively amended within the previous eight years. The Report and Work Plan identifies the speech-language pathology assistant regulations and telehealth regulations that require additional review and possible amendments. Board Counsel Boyd informed the Board that Mr. Kelter prepared the Report and Work Plan and that she sent those documents to the Board members. Mr. Kelter reported he sent the forms to the newly appointed Board members. Dr. Robinson inquired if there was an amendment process for the Work Plan. Ms. Reese informed the Board that changes can be made to a submitted Work Plan. Board Counsel Boyd informed the Board members that if there are legal questions the Regular Session meeting can be closed to obtain advice of counsel in Closed Session and then re-convene the Regular Session meeting.

Mr. Keller made a motion to close the Regular Session meeting to obtain advice of Counsel. The Board closed the Regular Session meeting under the Open Meeting Act, §3-305 (b)(7) at 4:35 p.m. to obtain advice of Counsel. Dr. Robinson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The regular session meeting reconvened at 4:54 p.m.

Ms. DeLuca made a motion to approve the Reports and Work Plan under the Regulatory Review & Evaluation Act. Mr. Sheckells seconded the motion. Dr. Robinson abstained from the vote. The vote passed. Dr. Mertes suggested reviewing the regulations more thoroughly in the future.

Executive Director's Report

2018 Renewal – AUD, SLP and SLP-A – Final Report

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that there are four renewal candidates left in the renewal database queue who must provide documentation of having met the continuing education requirements.

2018 Renewal – AUD and SLP Continuing Education (CEU) Audit - Update

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that he will follow-up with individuals to make sure that continuing education documents are submitted by the licensee.

Criminal History Records Check (CHRC) Update

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that Dr. Kim Lang, Director of Health Occupations Boards and Commissions, met with the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Director and staff. Mr. Kelter reported that Dr. Lang was informed that CJIS was experiencing challenges with the CHRC process due to an average of 22 employment vacancies at CJIS during this calendar year.

Online Continuing Education (CE) Tools and Resources: A) CE Broker and B) State Reporting

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that he has explored various online continuing education tools and resources. Mr. Kelter reported that CE Broker was initially reviewed about two-and-a-half

years ago. Mr. Kelter gave a brief summary of the CE Broker and State Reporting online tools to the Board. Mr. Kelter reported that licensees who are not certified with the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association (ASHA) or ASHA members that opt not to use the ASHA Registry could use either CE Broker or State Reporting to keep track of their CEUs. Mr. Kelter advised that only one provider would be utilized. Mr. Kelter indicated that he will conduct additional review of the two providers. Mr. Kelter advised the Board that both providers are willing to demonstrate their products to the full Board at a future meeting.

Electronic Transcripts

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that applicants have inquired if the Board accepts electronic transcripts from educational institutions. Mr. Kelter advised the Board that many applicants simply assume the Board will accept electronic transcripts. Mr. Kelter will continue to research acceptance of electronic transcripts in lieu of hardcopy transcripts.

Upcoming Presentations to the Board

- a. Linda Beyer – Budget Presentation: September 20, 2018
Mr. Kelter informed the Board that Ms. Beyer has agreed to make a brief presentation to the Board about the Board's budget and finances.
- b. Deborah Donahue, OAG – Boards & Antitrust Decisions (Supreme Court's NC Dental Decision) – Tentative Date: September 20, 2018
Mr. Kelter will send the Board members an email once confirmed with Ms. Donohue.

Board Membership Update

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that all positions for the Board have been filled.

Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) – Open House: Information Technology (IT) and Process Improvement – August 20, 2018

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that he will be attending the Open House with other colleagues from the boards and commissions.

Howard County Public Schools Presentation – December 20, 2018

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that he will be presenting at the Howard County Public Schools and that the county has approximately one hundred SLPs on staff.

New Board Member Orientation – October 15, 2018 at University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) Tech Center

Mr. Kelter encouraged Board members to attend the orientation if they have not attended previously. Ms. Lang informed the Board that there are 40 slots and 31 of those slots have been filled. Dr. Mertes suggested that if members of the Board are interested in attending the Orientation to email Mr. Kelter their interest and he will create a list and forward to Dr. Lang.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Kelter will have the Treasurer's Report available at the September 2018 meeting.

Chair Report – Dr. Jennifer Mertes, Au.D.

Vision for the Future

Dr. Mertes gave a brief summary of where she would like the Board to go and what goals to establish. Dr. Mertes advised the Board that the Board should examine everything it does.

Executive Committee Development

Dr. Mertes stated that the statute provides that the Board can appoint officers and committees. Dr. Mertes suggested the following officers:

Assistant Chair – to handle the meeting if the Board Chair is unable to attend the meeting.
Secretary – to make sure the website is updated in timely manner, to make sure minutes are correct.
Treasurer – to make sure the Board has what it needs to operate efficiently.

Working Group Committees

Board members will respond to an email from Mr. Kelter of which committee they would like to be a part of. The Board will possibly look into creating the following committees:

- Licensing
- Complaint/Disciplinary
- Continuing Education
- Legislative
- Human Resources

Accessibility

Advanced Notice and Materials – documents should be sent and received well in advance.
Amplification System – if the Board is in agreement further research into purchasing will be done.

Correspondence & FYI

Mr. Kelter will have notable correspondence and other information available at the September 2018 meeting

Next Board Meeting – September 20, 2018

Dr. Mertes thanked the visitors for attending the Regular Session meeting and asked them to introduce themselves and asked if anyone had any questions for the Board.

Dr. Leslie Grant, SLP, thanked the Board for the opportunity to obtain CEUs when attending the Board's Regular Session meeting. Dr. Grant wanted to know if there were by-laws on the Board's website and, if so, does it specify the committees for the Board. Board Counsel Boyd explained that the Board does not have by-laws. Board Counsel Boyd stated that the Board's

statute or regulations do not address by-laws.

Dr. Ruth Boyd-Okogun thanked the Board also for the opportunity to receive CEUs when attending the regular session Board meeting. Dr. Boyd-Okogun informed the Board that she had a concern and asked if she could share her concern with the Board. Dr. Boyd-Okogun informed the Board that she is dually certified in audiology and speech-language pathology in the District of Columbia and the State of Virginia. Dr. Boyd-Okogun asked the Board to consider approving her for an audiologist license. The Board agreed to discuss Dr. Boyd-Okogun's case at the September 2018 Board meeting.

Adjournment

Mr. Cummins 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 5:47 p.m.