



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR AUDIOLOGISTS, HEARING AID DISPENSERS, SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS & MUSIC THERAPISTS

The regular session meeting of the Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists and Music Therapist was held January 20, 2022, Via Teleconference. The Regular Session Board meeting came to order at 4:04 p.m.

Staff Present

Ms. Oluremi Dean, Executive Director
Mr. Joshua Frazer, AAG Board Counsel
Ms. Monica Wright, Office Secretary III
Ms. Andria Keller, Licensing Coordinator
Mr. Ari Elbaum, Interim AAG

Present Members

Dr. Tinita Kearney, SLP, Vice Chair
Dr. Arifa Qureshi, AUD
Dr. Tam Nguyen, MD
Ms. Jill Silverman, SLP
Dr. Barbara McLendon, AUD
Mr. James Sciabarrasi, HAD
Mr. Richard Brisbane, HAD
Ms. Ellen Stein, CON
Ms. Valerie Hooper, CON
Ms. Niki Runge, MT
Ms. Alicia Barksdale, MT

Visitors

Ms. Jenny Sanders, MT-BC
Ms. Kayla Lyles, MT-BC
Ms. Kerry Devlin, MMT, MT-BC
Ms. Amy Bliss Tenney, J.D., MAMT, MT-BC

Absent Members

Ms. Carolyn Stine SLP, Board Chair
Dr. Stacey Samuels-Cole, AUD
Mr. Kim Keller, HAD
Dr. Carrie Nieman, MD

Agenda Review and Approval

Ms. Jill Silverman made a motion to approve the agenda with the amendment for Mr. Joshua Frazer as our new Board Counsel. Mr. James Sciabarrasi seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Minutes Review and Approval for November 18, 2021

Dr. Barbara McLendon made a motion to approve the November 18, 2021 minutes. Ms. Jill Silverman seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Legislation - Ms. Oluremi Dean, Executive Director

- **HB 155/SB 103 - State Board of Examiners for AUD/HAD/SLP and MT Revisions:**
Purpose: To alter certain requirements for the licensing and regulation of audiologists, hearing aid dispensers, speech–language pathologists, and music therapists, including clarifying quorum requirements for the State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech–Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists, license reciprocity, professional disciplinary grounds, and delegation authority for audiologists; and generally relating to the State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech–Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists. A letter of support was submitted to the House and the Senate. The House hearing is 1/20/22. Ms. Stine will be providing oral testimony.

- **SB77- Health Occupations Boards – Investigation – Right to Counsel:**
Purpose: To authorize a licensee or certificate holder to be represented by counsel during an investigation by a health occupations board that may result in charges or sanctions; and generally relating to investigations by health occupations boards and the right to counsel. The legislative committee voted to join a letter of concern in conjunction with various boards. Ms. Niki Runge made a motion to approve a letter of concern. Dr. Arifa Qureshi seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

- **SB 11- Occupational Licenses or Certificates – Pre-application Determinations – Criminal Convictions:**
Purpose: To establish a process for potential applicants for an occupational license or certificate to obtain a determination from a department as to whether certain criminal convictions would be the basis for the denial of an application for a certain occupational license or certificate; and generally relating to pre–application determinations for criminal convictions and occupational licenses or certificates. The legislative committee voted to join a letter of concern in conjunction with various boards. Dr. Arifa Qureshi made a motion to approve a letter of concern. Ms. Jill Silverman seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Maryland Music Therapy Overview Presentation-

Ms. Niki Runge, Ms. Alicia Barksdale and visiting Music Therapists gave a brief overview of the Music Therapist Training and Scope of Practice:

1. What is Music Therapy
2. Education and Clinical Training Requirements
3. Music Therapy Professional Competencies
4. Music Therapy Board Certification, Licensure and Continuing Education in MD
5. Advanced Level Training
6. Populations Served by Music Therapists

Board Chair Report- NONE

Board Counsel report- Dr. Tinita Kearney welcomed Mr. Joshua Frazer our new board counsel and thanked Mr. Ari Elbaum, AAG our Interim Board Counsel.

Executive Director Report – Ms. Oluremi Dean-

Ms. Dean welcomed our new licensing coordinator Ms. Andria Keller who came from MSDE. MDH Data Breach- Mrs. Dean Informed the board that at the beginning of December MDH experienced an IT incident which caused our network to completely shut down. MDH has confirmed and promised that no sensitive data has not been leaked. We are now in the process of creating a new green network. However, our connection services are limited. We are currently using hotspots for network access which slows us down daily processes. IT was able to get our licensing system up and running. However, we still cannot make any changes to our website because of the data breach. Finally, Mrs. Dean also reported that our Music Therapist applications are up and running.

Budget Report – Mrs. Oluremi Dean

As of the end of December the board's current balance is \$332,706.91

Licensee Update - Ms. Andria Keller

As of January 2022, our licensee count per discipline is a total of 4,977, which includes 4265 SLP, 55 SLPA, 521 AUD, 108 HAD and 28 HAD-LL. Our application count for board approval is 116, which includes 4 AUD, 3 HAD, 35 MT Full, 7 SLPA-LL, 11 SLP-LL, 37 SLP Full, 10 reinstatements consisting of 1 AUD and 9 SLP Full and 3 SLP inactive status requests.

License applications for Board Approval

Dr. Arifa Qureshi made a motion to approve all applications for licensure. Ms. Ellen Stein seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Review for Committee List of CEU'S for Board Approval

Ms. Jill Silverman made a motion to approve or deny all CEU courses as recommended by the CEU committee. Dr. Barbara McLendon seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Correspondence & F.Y.I

Ms. Dean, the Executive Director, stated our two delegate members Dr. Arifa Qureshi and Ms. Jill Silverman attended our first committee meeting for the ASLP-IC for two days.

Closing Statement- Dr. Tinita Kearney, SLP, Vice Chair

Next Board Meeting- February 17, 2022

Adjournment

Ms. Ellen Stein made a motion to adjourn the regular session of the Board meeting. Dr. Arifa Qureshi seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The regular session meeting ended at 5:19 p.m.

Regular Session Minutes
January 20, 2022
Page 4

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Tinita Kearney SLP,
Vice Chair