

The regular session meeting of the Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists was held on June 18 2020, via teleconference. The regular session Board meeting came to order at 4:06 p.m.

Staff Present

Dr. Candace G. Robinson, Executive Director
Bethan Haaga, AAG Board Counsel
Zoann Mouzone, Administrative Specialist III

Absent Staff

Monica Wright, Office Secretary

Visitors

Kim Link, Liaison, Boards & Commissions
Lillian Reese, Legislative Coordinator

Present Members

Dr. Jennifer Mertes, Chair
Dr. Tinita Kearney, SLP
Dr. Tam Nguyen, ENT
Mr. John Rouse, CON
Mr. George Sheckells, HAD
Dr. Carrie Nieman, ENT
Dr. Barbara McLendon, AUD
Ms. Ellen Stein, CON

Absent Members

Dr. Stacey Samuels Cole, Vice Chair
Mr. Kim Keller, HAD
Ms. Carolyn Stine, SLP
Ms. Jillian DeLuca, SLP

Agenda Review and Approval for June, 2020

Ms. Ellen Stein made a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Tinita Kearney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Minutes Review and Approval for May 21, 2020

Ms. Ellen Stein made a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Barbara McLendon seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Regulatory Review

Dr. Mertes and Dr. Robinson reviewed the proposed regulation changes with the Board. Discussion took place regarding revising the current proposed changes including defining the number of continuing education hours to be awarded for various types of publications, e.g., book chapters, peer-reviewed journals, etc., whether or not to define specific guidelines regarding the definition of an asymmetry between ears to refer for physician review prior to the fitting of a hearing device, how many cycles from the original criminal records history check (CHRC) should be between requiring licensees to undergo a repeated CHRC, and where to implement it in the regulations; Bethan Haaga, Board Counsel, recommended perhaps 10.41.03 in its own sub chapter.

Executive Director's Report - - Dr. Candace G. Robinson

Dr. Robinson informed the Board that Ms. Jillian Deluca has finished her term with the Board. A new speech-language pathologist (SLP) is due to be appointed and will hopefully be able to be sworn in to be present for the Board meeting in July. A hearing aid dispenser (HAD) Board member is still being reviewed for appointment. Dr. Robinson informed the Board that the building might reopen on July

16th so HAD exams can take place. Mr. Sheckells offered his place of business to conduct the practical exams if the building is not open yet. Board Counsel, Bethan Haaga suggested that this would need to be cleared with the Ethics Committee. Mr. Rouse made a motion to permit alternative testing site for the HAD practical exam during the pandemic pending approval from the Ethics Commission. Dr. Barbara McLendon seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report - Dr. Candace Robinson

Dr. Robinson reported that as of the end May our budget is 374,207.50.

Chair Report- Dr. Jennifer Mertes

Dr. Mertes reviewed the regulations (see "Regulatory Review" above), which will be revised to present and vote on at the next Board meeting in July.

Review for Committee List of CEU'S and Licensees

Mr. George Sheckells made a motion to approve all licensees approved by Board staff. Dr. Tinita Kearney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. George Sheckells made a motion to approve all CEU's approved by the CEU committee. Ms. Ellen Stein seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Correspondence & F.Y.I

NONE

Next Board Meeting – July 16, 2020

Dr. Mertes will be on vacation and Dr. Stacey Samuels Cole will serve as Chair

Adjournment

Mr. George Sheckells made a motion to adjourn the regular session of the Board meeting. Dr. Tinita Kearney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The regular session meeting ended at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Mertes, Au.D.

Chair