

The regular session meeting of the Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists was held on March 17, 2016 in Room 110 of the DHMH Metro Executive Building, 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. Mr. John Sloan called the meeting to order at 4:26 p.m. Present for the quorum were Ms. Lisa Melody, Mr. John Rouse, Mr. George Sheckells, Ms. Billie Jo O'Donovan, Ms. Ellen Stein, Ms. Joan Dawson, and Dr. Charlotte Godfrey.

#### **Staff Present**

Anthony DaFranco, AAG, Board Counsel  
Christopher Kelter, Executive Director  
Danielle Vallone, Board Investigator  
Yolanda Campbell, Office Secretary III

#### **Absent Members**

Dr. Scott London  
Mr. Kirk Payne  
Dr. Stacey Samuels Cole

#### **Agenda Approval**

Ms. O'Donovan made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Sheckells seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

#### **Minutes Review and Approval for February 18, 2016**

Minutes amended to include Ms. Lisa Melody as being present for the quorum. Ms. Stein made a motion to approve the amended minutes. Mr. Sheckells seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

#### **Regulatory Review**

##### **Official Transcript and Name/Address/E-mail Change Notification Requirements**

Mr. Kelter reported that the proposal has been sent to the Department. Mr. Kelter reported that the Governor's Office had issued a notice regarding a moratorium of sorts on laws and regulations imposing new fees. Mr. Kelter reported that a fine is not a fee and would continue to monitor the progress of the proposal.

## **2016 Legislative Session**

### **SB 109- Health Occupation Boards/ Criminal History Record Checks – Required**

Mr. Kelter reported that the bill had been voted out of the Committee and the Full Senate and was assigned to House Health & Government Operations Committee which will hear the bill on March 24, 2016.

### ***Dr. Ronald Kaplan arrived and resumed Chair***

### **SB 1083 – Secretaries of Principal Departments – Supervision and Review of Decisions and Actions by Units within Department**

Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee – March 16, 2016 and there had not been a vote on the bill yet.

## **Executive Director's Report**

### **2016 AUD, SLP, and SLP-A Renewal – Update**

Mr. Kelter reported that nearly all tasks were completed to ensure an efficient and trouble-free renewal process for all eligible renewal candidates. Mr. Kelter advised that March 25, 2016 was the estimated opening of the online renewal system.

### **SLP Continuing Education Audit – a) Random b) Voluntary**

Mr. Kelter reported that 179 of the 210 random audits had been completed and that 8 individuals indicated that they were electing the non-renew/inactive status and would not be submitted continuing education documentation. Mr. Kelter reported that 64 of the 93 Voluntary Audits had been completed with a number of the incomplete Voluntary Audits from individuals making a second or greater request for an extension of time to complete the continuing education requirements to renew a license that expires on May 31, 2016.

### **Office of Legislative Audits – Review**

Mr. Kelter reported that the information technology component of the audit had concluded, but that the fiscal audit portion was on-going.

### **Mid-Atlantic Expo – March 17-18, 2016**

Mr. Kelter reported that he would attend the Mid-Atlantic Expo and attend the Friday session.

### **2015 Financial Disclosure Filings – State Ethics Commission**

Mr. Kelter reported that 2015 financial disclosures would be due by May 15, 2016.

### **Board Membership Update**

Mr. Kelter reported that there was no new news regarding ENT, audiology and speech appointments. Mr. Kelter reported that Kim Bennardi was allowing The Hearing Society of Maryland, Washington DC and Delaware extra time past the deadline to put a list of nominees together.

### **Telehealth/Telepractice Subcommittee – Update**

Mr. Kelter reported that he was working on collecting materials for a review of the Board's current telehealth/telepractice regulations. Mr. Kelter reported that other boards were conducting the same review of existing regulations or promulgation of new regulations concerning telehealth/telepractice.

### **Newsletter – Draft**

Mr. Kelter reported that he was making progress on a newsletter that would cover topics for all individuals licensed by the Board.

### **July 2016 Board Meeting**

Mr. Kelter indicated that he would not be able to attend a scheduled board meeting on July 21, 2016. Mr. Kelter proposed scheduling a meeting in August 2016. After discussion it was determined that everyone was available for a meeting on August 18, 2016 and a meeting would be held on that day.

### **Treasurer's Report – John Sloan**

Mr. Sloan reported that for the month of February the Board has available funds in the amount of \$142,813.00.

### **Statistical Report Ending February 29, 2016**

The Board reviewed the Statistical Report in the Board packet.

### **Required PQRS Measures for Audiology**

Mr. Kelter presented language concerning the federally required PQRS measures for audiology to be posted to the Board's website and to be e-mailed to all licensed audiologists. The language makes it clear that the PQRS measures and the screenings required by the measures are not a scope of practice issue.

### **Reinstatement Requirements**

Mr. Kelter reported that he would be revising the form utilized for reinstatement and that the form would include a declaration that the reinstatement candidate was/was not practicing without a valid license.

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**Adjournment**

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the regular session meeting pursuant to Maryland State Government Article, 10-508(a) Annotated Code of Maryland. The regular session meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Kaplan, Au.D.  
Chair