

The regular session meeting of the Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists was held on October 18, 2018, in Room 110 of the MDH Metro Executive Building, 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Mertes called the meeting to order at 4:26 p.m. Present for the quorum were Dr. Stacey Samuels Cole, Mr. John Cummins, Ms. Jillian DeLuca, Dr. Tinita Kearney, Dr. Tam Nhu Nguyen, Dr. Carrie Nieman via conference call, Dr. Candace Robinson, Mr. John Rouse, Mr. Sheckells and Ms. Ellen Stein.

Staff Present

Christopher Kelter, Executive Director
Carla Boyd, AAG, Board Counsel
Lillian Reese, Legislation Specialist
Zoann Mouzone, Administrative Specialist III

Absent Members

Mr. Kim Keller
Ms. Carolyn Stine

Visitors

Kim Lang, Director of Health Occupations Boards and Commissions
Billie Jo O'Donovan, Hearing Aid Dispenser

Agenda Review and Approval for October, 2018

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

Minutes Review and Approval for September, 2018

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

Legislative Committee

Regulatory Review and Evaluation Act

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that the Speech-Language Pathology Assistant and the Telehealth documents has been given to the committee for review. Mr. Kelter reported that he had learned that there were delays in approving the proposed telehealth regulations submitted by other boards. Ms. Reese gave the Board a brief summary of the cause for the delay. Mr. Kelter and Ms. Reese assured the Board that the Board can continue to work on the regulations that they are currently reviewing. Ms. Reese also informed the Board that the Board of Physician's version of the telehealth regulations had been approved.

Executive Director Report

Yolanda B. Campbell

Mr. Kelter acknowledged the passing of Ms. Campbell on October 8, 2018 and her dedication and contributions to the Board for the twelve years she was employed with the Board.

New Board Member Orientation – October 15, 2018 at UMBC Tech Center

The Board members who attended briefly shared their experience and what caught their attention at the Orientation.

@maryland.gov Email Update

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that he attempted to set up and use the Email. Mr. Kelter also inquired if the Board members were successful in setting up their @maryland.gov email account. Some of the Board members were successful in setting up their Email account and some were unsuccessful.

Electronic Transcripts.

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that he will continue to check into the process of the Board receiving electronic transcripts for applications.

Electronic Verification Letters

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that he and Ms. Mouzone are learning more about the process and he will continue to research the process.

Online Continuing Education Tools and Resources: a) CE Broker and b) State Reporting

Mr. Kelter informed the Board the CE Broker has given him a packet and he will share it with members of the continuing education committee. State Reporting does not have packets to share for review. Mr. Kelter also informed the Board that CE Broker and State Reporter are willing to do a presentation for the Board in the near future.

Treasurer's Report

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

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

Dr. Mertes informed the Board that there is nothing to report for this month.

Per Diem

The Board members had the opportunity to review the information on Board Meeting per diems. Mr. Kelter will include this item on the November 2018 Regular Session Agenda.

Audiology Assistants

Dr. Robinson gave a brief summary speaking on behalf of audiology assistants and if the Board is open to putting documentation in the legislation committee for review and if the Board can establish language for the audiology assistants. A discussion arose with the Board. Mr. Kelter suggested a dialogue coming from the professional associations and that he would reach out to them. Board Counsel Boyd informed the Board that at this time there is not an audiology assistant license type in the Board's statute, but that does not mean that one cannot be established. Another discussion arose with the Board. Mr. Kelter informed the Board of the two times that the audiology assistant topic had been mentioned in the past with the Board. Mr. Kelter will reach out to Mr. Webster Ye, Deputy Chief of Staff, to see what needs to be researched. The topic of audiology assistants will be placed on next month's agenda. Board Counsel Boyd informed the Board that it is easier to change the Board's regulations than the statute.

Correspondence & FYI

None

Next Board Meeting – November 15, 2018

Adjournment

Ms. DeLuca 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 5:11 p.m.