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Board of Hearing and Speech

Meeting Minutes

July 26, 2024

111 Israel Rd SE, Tumwater, WA 98501 Room 166

Members Present:

Connie Furry, Hearing Aid Specialist

Nichole Kingham, Audiologist,

Amberkiah Pomeroy, Audiologist

Taylor Adkins, Speech-Language Pathologist

Sonja Braddford, Speech-Language Pathologist, Chairperson

Robert Richardson, Public Member, Vice-Chairperson

Cristy Pellegrini, Speech-Language Pathology Assistant

Ray Parker, Public Member

Members Absent:

Brenda Litke, Hearing Aid Specialist

Staff Present:

Kim-Boi Shadduck, Program Manager

Jennifer Santiago, Executive Director

Madissen Schatz, Assistant Program Manager

Na'Taya Harris, Administrative Assistant

Marianne Richter, Policy Analyst

Luke Eaton, Assistant Attorney General

Dominque Crisp, Staff Attorney

Guests and Other Participants:

Melissa Johnson, Washington Speech Language and Hearing Association Representative

Chantal Hammers, Spokane Falls Community College Hearing Instrument Specialist Program

9 a.m. Open Session

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Bradford, called the public meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

1.1 Introduction of Board, Staff, and Guests.

Chairperson Bradford welcomed board members, staff, and guests, expressing gratitude for their dedication and preparation.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

Motion: Approval of July 26, 2024 agenda.

Motion/Second: Ms. Adkins/Dr. Pomeroy. The motion was approved unanimously by the board.

1.3 Approval of Minutes – May 3, 2024 Business Meeting

Motion: Approval of the minutes.

Motion/Second: Ms. Adkins/Dr. Pomeroy. The motion was approved unanimously by the board.

2. Open Forum

Chairperson Bradford opened the floor for an open forum, but no comments were received.

3. Program Reports

Jennifer Santiago, Executive Director; and Kim-Boi Shadduck, Program Manager. Ms. Shadduck shared the credentialing report, budget, and program report.

3.1 Credentialing statistics report

Ms. Shadduck provided the credential statistical report to the board. Ms. Shadduck shared the number of professionals with the hearing and speech profession. Three candidates took the hearing aid specialist exam on June 28, 2024 and all three passed. Dr. Pomeroy and Ms. Furry volunteered as proctors for the September 27th exam.

3.2 Current budget report

Ms. Santiago provided the current budget report for the board. She stated that the budget is looking good, disciplinary expenses are very minimal, she indicated there is an error in the report showing a decline in revenue for the month of May. The next report should correct that error and the board will review at the next meeting for verification of correction.

3.3 Program and legislative update

The National Council of State Boards of Examiners (NCSB) national conference is September 26th through the 28th and will be held in San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Kingham, Chairperson Ms.

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Bradford, and Ms. Adkins are to attend. Ms. Furry and Ms. Litke will be traveling on behalf of the board of the International Hearing Society (HIS) conference from September 12th through 14th in Louisville, Kentucky. Ms. Santiago shared with the board their discipline statistics for July 2022 through June 2024. The number for all professions is minimal. The board has had about 48 cases within the last two years, averaging about two cases per month for the four different professions.

4. Second Substitute House Bill (2SHB) 1724 Update and Rules Workshop

4.1 Consideration of subcommittee approval of states considered equivalent in updates matrix

The Board received an update of how 2SHB 1724 has affected the Board's work with reciprocity/endorsement licensure from Ms. Shaddock and Ms. Santiago.

The Board reviewed and considered approval of a list of states for speech language pathology assistants to be considered for substantial equivalency in licensure requirements.

Dr. Kingham reviewed and recommended 13 states that were substantially equivalent to WA licensure: CA, IL, IN, KY, LA, NC, ND, OK, OR, SC, SD, TN, WY. Ms. Pellegrini suggested that Idaho should also be considered since applicants must pass the ASHA SLPA examination for certification. The board members discuss which states they thought met equivalency.

Motion: Chairperson Bradford motioned for approval of the 14 states.

Motion/Second: Mr. Richardson/Ms. Adkins; The motion was approved unanimously by the board.

4.2 The Board held a rules workshop to discuss implementation of 2SHB 1724 to WAC 246-828-020, 246-828-510, and 246-828-617.

Ms. Richter and Ms. Shaddock discussed the rule amendments and updates to the board. Ms. Richter shared the draft rule language of removing the jurisprudence examination requirement out of WAC 246-828-020 -Examinations, which will be added to WAC 246-828-510 – Continuing education. Draft language was shared for the New Section WAC 246-828-035 – Licensure by endorsement to implement 2SHB 1724. WAC 246-828-617 – Requirements for speech-language pathology assistant certification was amended for clarification on education requirements.

Motion: Chairperson Bradford motioned for approval of amendments to the rules.

Motion/Second: Ms. Adkins/Mr. Richardson; The motion was approved unanimously by the board.

Break from 10:20am – 10:32am

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5. Boards, Committee, and Commissions (BCC) Leadership Meeting

On June 18, 2024 the Department of Health held the annual BCC conference. Ms. Santiago explained the background of the BCC conference and its intent. She shared the history of why it was created for the boards, committees, and commissions. This conference is a way for members of boards, committees, and commissions to network and share their experience and ideas across healthcare regulation. This is also an opportunity to share what other boards, committees, and commissions are doing as far as laws and rules are concerned. Chairperson Bradford and Dr. Kingham attended the leadership conference and shared that it was very helpful, the conference reviewed some training and requirements about how to be a board member. Chairperson Bradford found it beneficial to network with other BCC members, her takeaway was the HELMS updates and changes on how credentialing and licensure will be managed and streamlined to make the process more efficient.

6. American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) 2024 Convention

Ms. Shadduck discussed the price quote for a table to have at the (ASHA) convention. Ms. Shadduck shared the infographic flyer that would be handed out at the convention. Dr. Kingham expressed her concern about the price and stated regardless the board should be present at the convention. Ms. Shadduck also shared that the practical exam will be held that same weekend and therefore 2 proctors are needed for that exam. Chairperson, Bradford suggested that several board members attend the conference to ensure that everyone can learn and share about the board with those attending the conference. Dr. Pomeroy, Ms. Adkins, Dr. Kingham, and Ms. Pellegrini have all volunteered to take a shift manning at the booth along with staff, some board members are already attending the conference not associated with board activities.

Motion: Chairperson Bradford motioned for approval of

Motion/Second: Mr. Richardson /Ms. Adkins; The motion was approved unanimously by the board.

7. Newsletter with Washington Speech-Language-Hearing-Association

7.1 Decision to initiate newsletter

The board discussed the idea of having a newsletter for the board. Chairperson, Bradford discussed that she could see the newsletter would be another way to share and provide important information out to providers but understands the time commitment. A few board members agree to help write articles for the newsletter and the Public Relations Subcommittee members would also take the lead.

Motion: Chairperson Bradford motioned for approval of a bi-yearly newsletter.

Motion/Second: Ms. Adkins /Dr. Pomeroy; The motion was approved unanimously by the board.

7.2 Determining the frequency of publication

The board has agreed to implement and update the newsletter twice a year.

7.3 Securing commitments from board members to help write articles

Dr. Kingham, Dr. Pomeroy, and Ms. Adkins volunteered to help contribute to the newsletter.

7.4 Washington Speech-Language-Hearing-Association (WSLHA) suggested featuring articles similar to those of Podiatric Board newsletter.

8. Board Meeting & Practical Examination Dates 2025

Ms. Shadduck proposed the following meeting and examination dates:

Board Meetings 2025	HAS Practical Exams 2025
February 7, 2025 Tacoma	March 28, 2025 Tumwater
May 2, 2025 TBD Vancouver	June 27, 2025 Tumwater
July 25, 2025 Webinar	September 26, 2025 Tumwater
November 7, 2025 Tumwater	December 5, 2025 Tumwater

Motion: Chairperson Bradford motioned for approval of the 2025 meeting dates.

Motion/Second: Dr. Kingham/Dr. Pomeroy; The motion was approved unanimously by the board.

Motion: Chairperson Bradford motioned for approval of the 2025 practical exam dates.

Motion/Second: Dr. Kingham/Dr. Pomeroy; The motion was approved unanimously by the board.

9. Agenda Building

The Board reviewed its board business and discussed priority items for the November 1, 2024, meeting.

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- NCSB report out
- HELMS presentation
- Credentialing presentation of updates
- New Board Members/Nominee
- Roberts Rules overview
- Site review for the Washington Hearing Society
- Newsletter update
- ASHA follow up status/cost review/staffing-scheduling
- Tentative: Rules Hearing

Adjournment of Open Session

Chairperson Bradford adjourned the meeting at 11:25 p.m.

Motion: Chairperson Bradford motioned for approval of adjournment.

Motion/Second: Ms. Adkins/Dr. Pomeroy; The motion was approved unanimously by the board.

Washington State Board of Hearing and Speech

On File

Sonja Bradford, Chairperson

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