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## **Board of Hearing and Speech Special Meeting Minutes March 14, 2025**

111 Israel Rd SE, Tumwater, WA 98501 Room 139

**Members Present:** Nichole Kingham, Audiologist; Amberkiah Pomeroy, Audiologist; Taylor Adkins, Speech-Language Pathologist; Sonja Braddford, Speech-Language Pathologist, Chairperson; Robert Richardson, Public Member, Vice-Chairperson; Ray Parker, Public Member; Cristy Pellegrini, Speech-Language Pathology Assistant

**Members Absent:** Connie Furry, Hearing Aid Specialist; Brenda Litke, Hearing Aid Specialist; Ryota Kashiwazaki, Licensed Medical Physician

**Staff Present:** Jennifer Santiago, Executive Director; Kim-Boi Shadduck, Program Manager; Madissen Schatz, Assistant Program Manager; Na'Taya Harris, Administrative Assistant; Marianne Richter, Policy Analyst; Haylie Kang, Policy Analyst; Kristi Knieps, Assistant Attorney General

### **Guests and Other Participants:**

Melissa Butterfield, Spokane Falls Community College Hearing Instrument Program Instructor  
Alexandra Alfieri, WA State Member At Large for Northwest Academy of Audiology

## **1. Call to Order**

Chairperson Bradford called the public meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

### **1.1 Introduction of Board, Staff, and Guests.**

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

### **1.2 Approval of agenda**

**Motion:** Approval of March 14, 2025 agenda.

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

### **1.3 Approval of Minutes - July 26, 2024 Business Meeting**

Dr. Kingham pointed out that item seven from July 26, 2024 board meeting minutes did not have the proper title listed and suggested the correction of the title. Dr. Pomeroy moved to accept the changes, Ms. Furry seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by the board.

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**Motion:** Approval of the minutes.

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

## **2. Rules Hearing from February 7th Voting**

Ms. Shadduck provided the board with a brief review of the rules hearing from February 7, 2025. The rules hearing was regarding the implementation of second substitute house bill 1724, implementing legislation on reducing licensure barriers for hearing and speech professions and clarifying requirements for speech-language pathology assistants. There were two comments received on the amendments; one comment was regarding which statute is taking priority. Both statutes are being utilized. Implementation of the statute second substitute house bill 1724. The second statute RCW 18.35.040 also remains in effect. The comment asked if a hearing aid specialist who was allowed to receive national board certification in hearing instrument scientists and they have been practicing for at least two years in a substantially equivalent state to Washington, could apply for Washington without having to show proof of education and other requirements. But if the hearing aid specialist was not board certified then they could still apply through RCW 18.35.040. Lastly, a comment was received regarding whether the jurisprudence examination was still required. The proposed rules do remove the jurisprudence examination from the initial licensure requirements and move it to a continuing education requirement. Practitioners will be required to take and pass the jurisprudence examination once every three years.

**Motion:** Approval of rule amendments of second substitute house bill 1724.

**Motion/Second:** Vice Chairperson Richardson/ Ms. Adkins.

**Vote:** 5 Members were in favor of approving the amendments, 1 member was opposed to the amendments. The motion was passed and approved by the board.

## **3. Adjournment of Open Session**

Chairperson Bradford adjourned the meeting at 9:22 a.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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## **Contact Information:**

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