



**Washington State  
Board of Hearing and Speech  
Meeting Minutes**

**May 7, 2021**

A meeting of the Washington State Board of Hearing and Speech was called to order at 9:07 a.m. on Friday, May 7, 2021, by Chair Roberta Jackson. The meeting was held by webinar. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the meeting agenda was emailed to the Hearing and Speech listserv and posted on the Hearing and Speech website.

**Board Members Present:**

Roberta Jackson, Chair; Brenda Litke, Vice Chair; Lisa Illich, Paula Benson; Connie Fury; Kelly Siebecke; David Horn; Ray Parker; and Brian Shute

**Board Members Absent:**

Nichole Kingham

**Staff Present:**

Brad Burnham, Executive Director; Kim-Boi Shadduck, Program Manager; Sandie Pearson, Health Services Consultant 1; Joyce Roper, Assistant Attorney General (AAG) Jeff Wise, Policy Analyst; Sara Kirschenman, Staff Attorney; Micael Carnahan, Management Analyst

**Others Present:**

Diana Thompson, Hearing Loss Association of Washington (HLAW)  
Melissa Johnson, Washington Speech-Language-Hearing Association (WSLHA)  
Chantal Hammers, Spokane Falls Community College  
Susan Adams, ASHA  
Rick Giles Hearing Aid Specialist  
Alison Vega, Audiologist  
Tom Putaansuu, Audiologist  
Daniel Lodgson  
Melissa Butterfield  
Jenn, CART Services  
Bethan, CART Services

**OPEN SESSION – 9:00 a.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER – Roberta Jackson, Chair**

Roberta Jackson called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

### **1.1 Approval of the draft agenda**

Roberta Jackson, Chair, asked if there were any additions or corrections to the meeting agenda. No additions or corrections were made. The agenda was approved as presented.

### **1.2 Approval of the February 5, 2021, meeting minutes**

Roberta Jackson, chair, asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the February 5, 2021 board meeting. There were no corrections. The minutes were approved.

## **Program Reports – Joyce Roper AAG, Brad Burnham, executive director; Tanya Mills, credentialing supervisor; and Kim-Boi Shadduck, program manager**

### **2. Update from AAG**

At the February 7, 2021 meeting the board discussed what the term ‘reasonable cause’ refers to. Joyce Roper, AAG shared information regarding the term ‘reasonable cause’ that is referred to in WAC 246-828-290 (2)(3). Ms. Roper explained that the term has never been defined by this board. Board members discussed whether to define the term ‘reasonable cause’. Ms. Jackson suggested the item be placed on the agenda for the July meeting for further discussion.

### **3. Credentialing statistics**

Kim-Boi Shadduck shared the following licensure statistics with the board:

- Hearing Aid Specialist – 337
- Audiologists – 484
- Speech Language Specialist – 3,489
- Speech Language Pathology Assistant – 250

### **4. Current Budget Report**

Mr. Burnham provided a budget report to the board. The 2019 – 2021 biennium budget ends on June 30, 2021. The report shows the currently revenue continues to exceed expenditures. There has been a slight increase in spending, this is because the board has begun to use captioning services for the board meetings. This cost will be included in the development of the 2021 – 2023 biennium budget. Some costs are down, this includes AG and travel.

### **5. Program and legislative update 5229 ESB requirements for health equity.**

Mr. Burnham provided the board a legislative update. The legislature session has ended for 2021. He shared that the one bill that concerns the board is Engrossed Senate Bill (ESB) 5229 – Concerning health equity continuing education for health care professionals. This bill requires that by January 2023 the department and board provide information about existing courses that meet the continuing education requirements outlined in the bill. The board will be working with the department and will be posting information to the website. By 2024 rules must be in place to provide details about continuing education and health equity. The department has been given the task of adopting model roles that will establish the minimum standards for the training. This is similar to the suicide prevention training.

With the suicide prevention training the department created minimum standards and produced a list of trainings that met the standards. Then the licensing boards adopted rules that were associated with those standards.

**6. Presentation of a SLP-Compact** – Susan Adams from ASHA and Daniel Logsdon of the Council of State Governments

Susan Adams from ASHA provided an update to the board. The interstate compact has now reached its threshold to begin operations. There is a ten-state threshold to begin the compact to begin operations. The following states have signed onto the compact; Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Nebraska, North Carolina, West Virginia, and Wyoming, and we have two additional states that are waiting to be signed; Georgia and Maryland. The next step is to create the compact commission. The commission will be comprised of two representatives, one SLP and one audiologist from every state that have passed the compact. Representatives from each state will meet this fall to draft the commission rules and bylaws by which the commission will operate under. They will also create the database so that when we start issuing privileges to practice everything will be ready to go. It is expected to take 12 to 16 months to complete that work.

There will be another legislative summit this year. We will be inviting state legislatures, state licensing board members, and state association members to a virtual summit like last year's virtual summit. Attendees will learn about the compact. They will also get feedback from states that have passed the compact, get input from practitioners, and why they support the compact being passed.

**7. Request to update WAC 246-828-615** – **Roberta Jackson, Chair** – The board reviewed and discussed the request to update WAC 246-828-615 from the Hearing Loss Association of America with requested language changes.

Board members reviewed and discussed the request by the Hearing Loss Association of America to update WAC 246-828-615 – Standards for hearing aid specialist programs. Dianna Thompson from the Hearing Loss Association of Washington explained the requested language change. The requested language change pertains to training on assistive listening devices. A motion was made, seconded and approved to open the rule-making process for WAC 246-828-615.

**8. Review request for audiology services** – **Roberta Jackson, Chair**

The board reviewed and discussed the request from Academy of Doctors of Audiology on determination request for audiology services in Washington.

The request from the Academy of Doctors of Audiology requests the board to provide a written determination regarding certain procedures and whether they are within the scope of practice of audiologists. Board members discussed the request and determined that Ms. Shadduck work with the audiologists on the board and report back to the full board at the next board meeting.

**OPEN FORUM** – The board accepted comments from the audience on issues of significance to the profession.

## **9. Committee Work**

**9.1 Rules Committee:** Connie Furry, hearing aid specialist; Dr. Nicole Kingham, audiologist; Roberta Jackson, Speech-Language Pathologist; and Paula Benson, public member.

**9.1.1** There were no additional agenda items referred for committee review.

**9.2 Education / Exam Committee:** Roberta Jackson, Speech-Language Pathologist; Ray Parker, public member; Nicole Kingham, audiologist; David Horn, MD; Kelly Siebecke, Speech-Language Pathology Assistant, and Connie Fury, hearing aid specialist.

**9.2.1** There were no additional agenda items referred for committee review

**9.3 Disciplinary Committee:** Brenda Litke, hearing aid specialist; Nicole Kingham, Audiologist, Ray Parker, public member, and Brian Shute, speech-language pathologist.

**9.3.1** There were no additional agenda items referred for committee review.

**9.4 Public Relations:** Brian Shute, Speech-Language Pathologist; Lisa Illich, audiologist, David Horn, M.D.; and Kelly Siebecke, Speech-Language Pathology Assistant.

**9.4.1** Committee members reviewed and discussed requests for lists and labels requests from:

- Kindred at Home
- WSHLA
- Motivations

**9.5 Site Review Committee for Hearing Aid Specialist Programs:** Brenda Litke, hearing aid specialist; Connie Fury, hearing aid specialist; Ray Parker, public member; Lisa Illich, audiologist.

**9.5.1** There were no additional agenda items referred for committee review.

**10. Committee Reports** – Committee members reported their discussions and presented committee recommendations for board action.

### **Rules Committee**

- The committee did not meet and did not provide a report.

### **Education/Exam Committee**

- The committee did not meet and did not provide a report.

### **Disciplinary Committee**

- The committee did not meet and did not provide a report.

### **Public Relations Committee**

- The committee reviewed, discussed, and recommended the board approve a lists and labels request from Kindred at Home. The board voted to approve the lists and labels request from Kindred at Home.

- The committee reviewed, discussed, and recommended the board approve a lists and labels request from WSHLA. The board voted to approve the lists and labels request from WSHLA.
- The committee reviewed, discussed, and recommended the board approve a lists and labels request from Motivations. The board voted to approve the lists and labels request from Motivations.

**Site-Review Committee for Hearing Aid Specialist Programs**

- The committee did not meet and did not provide a report

**11. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR – Roberta Jackson, Chair (discussion/action)**

The board designated a chair and vice chair for the July 31, 2021- July 31, 2022 period. Per RCW 18.35.150(4): *The chair shall rotate annually among the hearing aid specialists, speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and public members serving on the board.*

The next rotation for board chair is a hearing aid specialist. Board chair order is as follows:

- Hearing aid specialist: 2021 to 2022
- Public member: 2022 to 2023
- Audiologist: 2023 to 2024
- Speech-language pathologist: 2024 to 2025

A motion was made to approve Brenda Litke as chair for the coming year. The motion was seconded and the board voted in favor of the motion.

A motion was made to nominate Ray Parker as vice chair for the coming year. The motion was seconded and the board voted in favor of the motion.

**12. Agenda-building - Roberta Jackson, Chair**

The board discussed possible agenda items for the next meeting.

- Rules update
- Information on health equity
- Review audiologist scope of practice

**13. Meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.**

Next meeting scheduled for July 30, 2021 and will be held by webinar.