

Minutes have not yet been approved and are subject to revision at the next meeting.

**STATE OF NEVADA
SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY, AUDIOLOGY
AND HEARING AID DISPENSING BOARD**

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

April 20, 2018

Members Present:	Rebecca Bailey-Torres, Tami Brancamp, Jane McEvoy, Thomas Rainford, Nighat Abdulla, Bonnie Lamping
Members Absent:	Michael Hodes
Staff Present:	Loretta L. Ponton, Executive Director Stacey Whittaker, Licensing Specialist Henna Rasul, Sr. Deputy Attorney General
Public Present:	None

Public Hearing - LCB File No. R140-17

Loretta Ponton, Executive Director opened the Public Hearing on LCB File No. R140-17 at 4:30 p.m.

There were no individuals present for the public hearing. There were no comments from Board members. Ms. Ponton stated the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association submitted a written comment expressing opposition to Audiologists taking dispensing examinations in order to obtain a temporary license.

Loretta Ponton closed the Public Hearing at 4:32 p.m.

Call to Order, Confirmation of Quorum -Rebecca Bailey-Torres, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. A roll call confirmed a quorum was present.

Public Comment - There were no individuals from the public present.

Approval of Minutes - Rebecca Bailey-Torres asked if there were any corrections or revisions to the minutes of the meeting of January 27, 2018. Rebecca Bailey-Torres requested clarification and rewording of the second sentence on page 2. Hearing no further comments, called for a motion.

Jane McEvoy made a motion to approve the minutes of January 27, 2018, with clarifications as discussed. Bonnie Lamping seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Consideration of Public Comments - LCB File No. R140-17 - Loretta Ponton stated the written comments from ASHA objected to dispensing examinations for Audiologists. Ms. Ponton reported that NRS 637B.250 requires examinations to be identical for Audiologists and

Minutes have not yet been approved and are subject to revision at the next meeting.

Hearing Aid Specialists. The Board does not have the statutory authority to establish different requirements for Audiologists. The Board members concurred.

Adoption of LCB File No. R140-17 - Rebecca Bailey-Torres called for a motion for adoption of LCB File No. R140-17, with no revisions.

Tom Rainford made the motion, seconded by Nighat Abdulla to adopt LCB File No. R140 -17 as presented. The motion passed.

Presentation of Board Service Award - Ms. Ponton presented Rebecca Bailey-Torres with a Board Service Award. Ms. Ponton summarized Rebecca's achievements over the past 8 years, stating she has served as Chair of the Board for 7 years. Each Board member commented and expressed appreciation for Rebecca's service.

Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids - Rebecca Bailey-Torres called on Ms. Ponton to present. Ms. Ponton presented and explained the recommended revisions to Board Policy 02, Advisory Member Appointments. Rebecca Bailey-Torres asked for Board comments. Tom Rainford suggested the composition in paragraph 2 be revised to replace the word "shall" be nominated by the Nevada Hearing Society to "may" be nominated to allow for additional applicants. Members concurred with the revision.

Rebecca Bailey-Torres called for a motion. Tom Rainford made the motion, seconded by Jane McEvoy to approve Board Policy 02, Advisory Member Appointments as revised. The motion passed.

Executive Director's Report – Rebecca Bailey-Torres called on Loretta Ponton.

Licensure Statistics - Ms. Ponton reported on the 3rd Quarter licensure statistics reporting 1095 total licensees as of March 31, 2018; an increase of 64 licensees since the same period of the previous year. The Board has issued 133 new licenses, with 111 licenses expiring during the fiscal year through the 3rd quarter.

Financial Statements - Ms. Ponton summarized the 3rd Quarter, Fiscal Year 2018 financial reports, reporting Revenue of \$105,479, 46% of budget, expenses at \$140,913, and 48% of budget. Cash assets total \$169,595 with deferred revenue of \$73,868.

Ms. Ponton reported on the meeting with auditors from the Governor's Finance Office, the Sunset Subcommittee of the Legislative Commission review of Boards and Commissions and the new licensing system implementation.

Contracts - Ms. Ponton reported that Numbers Inc., the Board bookkeeper, has requested an increase in fees for financial and payroll service, necessitating a formal contract be executed as the amount would exceed the \$2,000 cap per fiscal year. The contract term would be 4 years at \$4,000 per year for a total not to exceed \$16,000.00. The contract would be effective July 1, 2018.

Minutes have not yet been approved and are subject to revision at the next meeting.

Ms. Ponton she issued a solicitation for legislative services with two responses. Paula Berkley submitted a proposal to continue as the Board's lobbyist for one more session and would be representing the Board and the Board of Occupational Therapy exclusively. Neena Laxalt also submitted a proposal; Ms. Laxalt represents five (5) other regulatory Boards; the cost was lower.

Ms. Ponton stated Paula Berkley has a proven track record and understanding of the Board and she recommends approval of a contract with Ms. Berkley. The contract would be at a fixed fee of \$2,000 per month for 15 months for the period July 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019 for a total of \$30,000.

Tom Rainford made the motion, seconded by Nighat Abdulla to approve a contract with Paula Berkley for \$30,000 as presented. The motion passed.

Tami Brancamp made the motion, seconded by Tom Rainford to approve the contract with Numbers Inc. for \$16,000 as presented. The motion passed.

Ms. Ponton reported she did not issue a solicitation for legal services. Informal inquiries with other licensing boards who recently solicited for legal services revealed the cost of private counsel ranged from \$150 - \$295 per hour. The Board has few complaints and disciplinary actions. Ms. Ponton recommended retention of services of the Attorney General's office for both Board and Conflict counsel.

Report from Legal Counsel – Henna Rasul stated she had no report.

Report from Board Chair – Rebecca Bailey-Torres stated the next meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2018, in Reno. Ms. Ponton requested changing the meeting date to Friday, July 20, 2018 by teleconference. The members concurred in revising the date and having the meeting by teleconference.

Rebecca Bailey-Torres stated future agenda items are election of Chair and Vice Chair, approval of the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget and Appointments to the Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids.

Public Comment – Tom Rainford informed the Board that long-time licensee, Mary Carpi passed away. Mary held licenses as a Speech-Language Pathologist, Audiologist and Hearing Aid Specialist.

Adjournment – Rebecca Bailey-Torres called for a motion to adjourn.

Tom Rainford made the motion, seconded by Jane McEvoy, to adjourn. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.