



State of Nevada

**Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board**

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**MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING**

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

**February 12, 2020**

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**Members Present:** Tami Brancamp, Timothy Hunsaker, Bonnie Lamping, Thomas Rainford

**Members Absent:** Nighat Abdulla, Michael Hodes, Andrea Menicucci

**Staff Present:** Jennifer Pierce, Executive Director  
Stacey Whittaker, Executive Assistant/Licensing Coordinator  
Henna Rasul, Sr. Deputy Attorney General, Board Counsel  
Sarah Adler, Silver State Government Relations, Board Lobbyist  
Alex Tanchek, Silver State Government Relations, Board Lobbyist

**Public Present:** Kim Reddig, Jessenia Villanueva

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**Call to Order, Confirmation of Quorum**

Tami Brancamp, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:33pm. A roll call confirmed a quorum was present.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**License Reinstatement Application: Jessenia Villanueva, SLP License # SP-2384**

Tami Brancamp called on Jennifer Pierce who explained the circumstances of Ms. Villanueva's Reinstatement Application and admission that she has continued to practice in Nevada since her license expired. The Board reviewed Ms. Villanueva's application and supporting documents and heard from Ms. Villanueva who explained the circumstances surrounding the license lapse. The Board considered the serious nature of the six (6) months of unlicensed practice but acknowledged that Ms. Villanueva is a newly licensed practitioner and has no history of disciplinary issues. The Board recalled a similar case heard in January 2020 where the unlicensed practice occurred over a four (4) month period, and the license was reinstated with a \$200 fine. It was suggested that the Board also reinstate Ms. Villanueva's license with no restrictions and impose a \$300 fine as the unlicensed practice had occurred for six (6) months in this case.

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

Tami Brancamp called for a motion. Bonnie Lamping made a motion to impose an administrative fine of \$300 for unlicensed practice and approve the reinstatement application with no conditions imposed on the license. Thomas Rainford seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Legislative Subcommittee for Bill Draft on Licensing Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Assistants in Nevada and Other Relevant Legislative Matters**

This proposed new legislation would define and create authority and criteria for licensing Speech-Language Pathology Assistants and Audiology Assistants in the State of Nevada. During the Board's most recent meeting on January 22, 2020 the Board voted to move forward to draft legislation to license SLP and Audiology Assistants and set this meeting to consider establishing subcommittees to work on each licensing type.

The initial discussion centered on the number of Board members that should/could serve on a subcommittee. As of the date of this meeting, four (4) of seven (7) Board members have volunteered to serve. DAG Henna Rasul advised that a subcommittee of four (4) or more members is discouraged as it would essentially constitute a regular Board meeting. Thomas Rainford indicated that he had not previously volunteered but would also like to be involved in the discussions. The Board discussed the logistics of working on the legislation as a large group with clarification that the matter could be an agenda item on a regular Board meeting agenda. There were multiple comments proposing that whichever method is used, there should be ample feedback and input sought from licensees, stakeholders, and the public during the process to ensure the work is done collaboratively.

There was consensus that no action should be taken to establish a subcommittee, and the Board will continue to work on this item as a larger group.

The Board then discussed next steps, including identifying stakeholders, convening stakeholder meetings in both Northern and Southern Nevada, and putting together a survey of licensees and Stakeholders. Board lobbyist, Sarah Adler advised that the Board may consider using a professional, neutral facilitator to run the meetings. Ms. Adler also advised that while it would be ideal to have a bill draft ready by June 2020, there is additional time beyond that prior to the start of the Legislative Session if the Board needs more time to hear from the public and draft language. Tami Brancamp asked Board members to send the names of potential stakeholders to Jennifer Pierce.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Adjournment**

Tami Brancamp adjourned the meeting at 5:12pm.