



State of Nevada
Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

February 12, 2020

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

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.

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.