

Board of Registration for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology
1000 Washington Street 1st Floor Room 1C, Boston, MA 02118
DATE: April 5, 2019 TIME: 9:30 a.m.

Public Session Minutes

Board Members Present:

Nicole Laffan (NL)
Lauren Woller Mummolo (LWM)
Donna Noonan (DN)

Staff Present:

Michael Hawley, Executive Director
Lynn Read, Board Counsel
Anne Driscoll, Investigator Supervisor

Housekeeping

- Meeting Called to Order: At 9:30 a.m., NL called meeting to order.
- Facility Briefing (fire drill instructions & location of exits and restrooms): Procedures reviewed by Michael, Executive Director

Board Business

- Approve Minutes
 - Minutes of 10/5/2018 meeting. **NL moved to accept the minutes of the 10/5/2018. DN seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- Report from Executive Director, Michael Hawley
 - Mr. Hawley gave a brief report on the licensing process. The system appears to working properly.
- Report from Board Counsel, Lynn Read
 - CORI Policy – Attorney Read presented the Board with proposed amendments to the policy on Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) for review. After discussion the Board asked that the policy be amended.
DN moved to approve the policy as amended. NL seconded. The motion passed unanimously
 - Tele-practice Policy – Attorney Read reported that the draft policy, previously approved by the Board is being reviewed by the agency's senior staff, prior to posting.

Discussion

- Correspondence – Supervision of Assistants
The Board discussed Board Counsel's responses to a series of questions submitted to the Board regarding the supervision of speech-language pathology assistants ("SLPAs"). Much of the discussion related to the assistants' attendance and participation in I.E.P. meetings. The Board generally agreed with Board Counsel's responses and suggested that she include a link to the Board's regulation regarding supervision of SLPAs. The Board also discussed and expressed agreement with Board Counsel's response to an email requesting guidance on the supervision of SLPAs by more than one speech-language pathologist.

- **Legislation – Provisional Licensure**
The Board discussed H304/S105-An Act Providing for the Provisional Licensure of Speech Pathologists. Representatives of Massachusetts Speech and Hearing Association presented the Board with a fact sheet regarding the proposed legislation. The Board discussed the legislation briefly and agreed that the addition of provisional licensure would help remedy the shortage of licensed speech-language pathologists by allowing organizations employing clinical fellows to bill insurance for their services. The Board's Executive discussed some of the administrative changes that would be required for the implementation of a new class of licensure.
- **Legislation – Potential Statutory Changes**
Board Counsel discussed the discrepancy between the statutory and regulatory definition of audiology as well as the provisional licensure bill discussed above. She advised the Board on the usual process for legislative changes and at what point in the process the Board and Board staff may be asked to comment.

Correspondence

- ASHA State Affairs Notification: Read and filed.

Open session for topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting:

- None.

Investigative Session - Closed Session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 112, Section 65C:

At 11:30 am, NL moved to enter investigative session [Closed Session pursuant M.G.L. c. 112, § 65C] to discuss the following new cases: SP 2018-000203-IT-ENF, SP 2018-001017-IT-ENF and SP 2018-001059-IT-ENF. DN seconded. Motion passed unanimously

At the end of the closed session, the open meeting resumed.

During the closed session, the Board voted to take the following actions:

- 2018-000203-IT-ENF – Dismiss.
- 2018-001017-IT-ENF – Forward to the office of prosecutions.
- 2018-001059-IT-ENF – Forward to the office of prosecutions.

Motion to adjourn. At 11:30, DN moved to adjourn the meeting. LWM seconded. Motion passed unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Hawley
Executive Director

Documents Used in the Open Meeting:

- Agenda
- Draft of Public Meeting Minutes from October 5, 2018 meeting
- Criminal Justice Act document regarding language to be inserted in Board CORI policy
- Information Sheet Definition of Audiology
- MSHA Fact Sheet - Provisional Licensure
- S105.pdf (text of a senate version of the bill providing for provisional licensure)
- S117.pdf (text of a second senate version of the bill providing for provisional licensure)
- H304.pdf (text of the House version of the bill providing for provisional licensure)
- SP SLPA Supervision Question Redacted (email question regarding SLPAs with more than one supervising SLP along with Board Counsel response)
- SP SLPA Supervision Question and Response Redacted (email questions regarding SLPA participation in IEP meetings and other supervision and scope of practice issues along with Board Counsel response)
- ASHA State Affairs Notification