

**Board of Registration for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology**

**1000 Washington Street 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Room 1C, Boston, MA 02118**

**DATE: October 4, 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

Thomas F. Burke, Assoc. Exec. Director

Lynn Read, Board Counsel

Anne Driscoll, Investigator Supervisor

**Housekeeping**

- Meeting Called to Order: At 9:37 a.m., NL called meeting to order.
- Facility Briefing (fire drill instructions & location of exits and restrooms): Procedures reviewed by Michael Hawley, Executive Director

**Board Business**

- Approve Minutes
  - Minutes of 4/5/2019 meeting.  
**Ms. Noonan moved to approve the minutes of the 4/5/2019 meeting as amended. Dr. Laffan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**
  - Minutes of 8/2/2019 meeting.  
**Ms. Noonan moved to approve the minutes of the 8/2/2019 meeting as amended. Dr. Laffan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**
- Approved 2020 Board Meeting Schedule.  
The Board discussed potential meeting dates for the 2020 meeting calendar and agreed that Tuesdays would be better than Fridays. The meetings for 2020 will therefore be held on the first Tuesday of even numbered months from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Staff will have the room reserved and update the online calendar, when it is posted.
- Report from Executive Director, Michael Hawley
  - Mr. Hawley reviewed plans to go paperless with the renewal and licensing process. He also discussed the creation of a Board-specific email address that can be accessed by all members of the administrative team. This will allow for a quicker response time to emailed questions when the regular administrative support staff member is not available. The new email address has been created and the Board web site has been updated to incorporate the new address.
- Report from Board Counsel, Lynn Read
  - Attorney Read discussed an initiative to review and recommend possible changes to the Board's governing statutes. She explained the relationship between statutes, regulations and policies. Attorney Read indicated that the Board's statute indicates that speech-language pathologists and audiologists are to receive licenses but assistants are to receive certificates. She noted that it might be good to refer to both as licenses. Also discussed was the definition of audiology in the

statute. The Board agreed that it might benefit from an update. There was more discussion of potential changes.

## Discussion

- Review of Board's Regulations to Solicit Ideas for Potential Changes: The Board discussed several sections of the regulations which may be good subjects for changes. The Board agreed that further discussion is needed and will address the topic further at a future meeting.
- Delegations of Authority- The Board considered the following delegations of authority:
  - **Authority to Execute Orders, Decisions and Agreements** to the Board's Executive Director, Associate Executive Director, and the Deputy Commissioner for Policy and Boards of the Division of Professional Licensure, the authority to sign on behalf of the Board Orders to Show Cause, Consent Agreements, and Final Decisions, consistent with terms established by the Board, and to sign off on case closings. This delegation of authority shall remain in effect and force unless and until overridden by a subsequent vote of the Board. **A MOTION was made by Ms. Noonan, seconded by Dr. Laffan to approve this delegation. The Motion passed unanimously.**
  - To delegate the **authority to act as a Presiding Officer** to a Division of Professional Licensure Hearings Counsel for all adjudicatory proceedings conducted pursuant to 801 Code Mass. Regs. §§ 1.00 et seq., in all cases where the Board has voted to issue an order to Show Cause, Summary Suspension Order, Denial of License or other adjudicatory matter or where an Order to Show Cause will be issued, and to instruct the Board staff to invite a Board member to every adjudicatory hearing. This delegation of authority shall remain in effect and force unless and until overridden by a subsequent vote of the Board. **A MOTION was made by Dr. Laffan, seconded by Ms. Woller Mummolo to approve this delegation. The Motion passed unanimously.**
  - To delegate the authority to the Executive Director and the Deputy Commissioner for Policy and Boards, in consultation with the Chair, to issue a written **Order of Summary Suspension**, pending a 10-day hearing pursuant to G.L. c. 112, § 65B, after determining, based on sworn affidavits and documentary evidence, that a licensee's continued practice poses an immediate and serious threat to the public health, safety or welfare. This delegation of authority shall remain in effect and force unless and until overridden by a subsequent vote of the Board. **A MOTION was made by Dr. Laffan, seconded by Ms. Noonan to approve this delegation. The Motion passed unanimously.**
  - To delegate authority to execute **Default Final Decisions** on behalf of the Board, revoke current licenses and revoke the right to renew licenses that are lapsed or expired, consistent with terms established by the Board, to its Executive Director, Associate Executive Director or the Deputy Commissioner for Policy and Boards of the Division of Professional Licensure. This delegation of authority shall

remain in effect and force unless and until overridden by a subsequent vote of the Board. **This delegation was tabled for further consideration.**

**Correspondence**

- Scope of Practice for Audiology Assistants and SLP Assistants: After a brief discussion this topic was tabled for further discussion at a future meeting.

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

- There were no unanticipated topics discussed.

**Quasi-Judicial Deliberative Session - Closed Session pursuant to G.L. c. 30A § 18(d)**

**At 11:18 am, Dr. Laffan moved to enter Quasi-Judicial Deliberative Session [Closed Session pursuant to G.L. c. 30A § 18(d)]: to discuss the following case: SP 2018-001017-IT-ENF. Ms. Noonan 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:

- 2018-001017-IT-ENF – Issued final order.

**Motion to adjourn. At 11:54, NL moved to adjourn the meeting. DN seconded. Motion passed unanimously**

Respectfully Submitted,



Michael Hawley  
Executive Director

Documents Used in the Open Meeting:

- Agenda
- Draft minutes for 4/5/2019 meeting
- Draft minutes for 8/2/2019 meeting
- Email regarding School Based Supervision of SLPAs
- Email questions and response regarding Assistants' scope of practice
- Copy of Regulations 260 CMR 1 - 10
- Draft of Board Delegations of Authority to DPL staff