

Board of Registration of Hearing Instrument Specialists  
Meeting Held by Video/Telephone Conference  
Date: October 16, 2020 Time: 10:00 am

Public Session Meeting Minutes

**Board Members Present by video or phone:**

Eugene Antonell, Chair (EA)  
Stanley Zoll (SZ)  
Loleata Wigall, Secretary (LW)  
Camille Catalano (CC)

**Staff Present by video or phone:**

Michael Hawley, Executive Director  
Kristina Gasson, Board Counsel  
Thomas Burke, Associate Executive Director

**Members of the Public Present by video or phone:**

Eileen Buttrick  
Sarina Dasilva

**Called To Order:**

- The meeting was called to order at 10:09 a.m. by EA.

**Apprenticeship Extension Requests**

- **Eileen Buttrick**- Ms. Buttrick appeared before the board (by video conference) to request an extension of her apprenticeship. This is her first request for an extension. **A MOTION was made by LW to grant an 18 month extension of Ms. Buttrick's apprenticeship. SZ seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: CC – "Yes"; EA – "Yes"; SZ – "Yes"; LW – "Yes".**
- **Sarina Dasilva**- Ms. Dasilva appeared before the board (by phone) to request an extension of her apprenticeship. This is her first request for an extension. **A MOTION was made by LW to grant an 18 month extension of Ms. Dasilva's apprenticeship. SZ seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: CC – "Yes"; EA – "Yes"; SZ – "Yes"; LW – "Yes".**

**Board Business:**

- Review of Minutes:
  - July 31, 2020  
**A MOTION was made by CC to approve the minutes of the July 31, 2020 board meeting as written. LW seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: CC – "Yes"; EA – "Yes"; SZ – "Yes"; LW – "Yes".**
- Report from Executive Director, Michael Hawley
  - Mr. Hawley reported that board staff continues working mostly from home with some staff members going into the office several times a week. There has been very little activity regarding Hearing Instrument specialists.
- Report from Legal Counsel Kristina Gasson
  - Progress of federal regulations – Over the Counter Hearing Aids. Attorney Gasson reported that she has no updates to the progress of the federal regulations. The FDA has not yet implemented new regulations regarding sales of over-the-counter hearing aids.

- Ms. Gasson also reported that the policy, enacted by the Board at its July meeting, extending the period allowed for an audiogram retest has been drafted and is going through the agency approval process.

**Discussion:**

- **Impacts of COVID-19**  
No Discussion.
- **Review of Board Regulations, 265 CMR 2.00 – 10.00-**  
Tabled.

**Open Session for Topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting:**

The Board inquired about the status of efforts to recruit new members for the Board. Mr. Hawley reported that two positions remain open one for a licensed Hearing Instrument Specialist and the other for public member. He is not aware of any new applications for the positions.

**At 10:24 a.m., a MOTION was made by CC to adjourn the open meeting. LW seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: CC – “Yes”; EA – “Yes”; SZ – “Yes”; LW – “Yes”.**

Respectfully Submitted,



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Michael Hawley  
Executive Director

**Documents used in Public Session:**

- Agenda for October, 2020 Board meeting
- Minutes of July 31, 2020 Board meeting
- Apprenticeship Extension request from Eileen Buttrick
- Apprenticeship Extension request from Sarina Dasilva