

**Board of Registration for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology**  
**Meeting Held by Video Conference and Phone**  
**DATE: April 6, 2021 TIME: 9:30 a.m.**

**Public Session Minutes**

**A public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (“the Board”) was held via Videoconference and Conference Call due to the Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, § 20.**

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

Nicole Laffan  
Sarah Young-Hong  
Donna Noonan (arrived at 10:00 am)  
Gabrielle Simone  
Kristin Bresnahan

**Members of the Public:**

None

**Staff Present by video or phone:**

Thomas Burke, Associate Executive Director  
Jennifer Romeo-Porcaro, Board Counsel

**Meeting called to order at 9:39 am. The Associate Director noted that Board will continue to meet remotely via Microsoft Teams until further notice.**

**Board Business:**

- Approve Public Session Minutes
  - Minutes of 2/2/21 meeting  
The Board reviewed the draft of the public session minutes of the February board meeting.  
**Dr. Laffan moved to approve the minutes as amended. Ms. Bresnahan seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Laffan – “Yes”; Ms. Young-Hong – “Yes”; Ms. Bresnahan – “Yes”; Ms. Noonan – “Yes” and Dr. Simone – “Yes.”**
- Report from Associate Executive Director, Thomas Burke
  - Mr. Burke reported that Ms. Casey Yebba began working with the unit in March as a new administrative assistant.

**Compliance Monitoring.**

- F.M. The Board received required documents associated with the consent agreement for case number 2019-000634-IT-ENF.  
**Dr. Laffan moved to accept the reports. Dr. Simone seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Laffan – “Yes”; Ms. Young-Hong – “Yes”; Ms. Bresnahan – “Yes”; Ms. Noonan – “Yes” and Dr. Simone – “Yes.”**

**Discussion**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Updated Temporary Telepractice Policy
  - Attorney Romero-Porcaro reviewed revisions to the temporary policy. After review and discussion, the Board requested that language in section ii requiring in-person assessment not less than nine months after termination of emergency order be amended to read “90 working days”.

**Dr. Laffan moved to approve changes to section 2 and 3. . Ms. Young-Hong seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Laffan – “Yes”; Ms. Young-Hong – “Yes”; Ms. Bresnahan – “Yes”; Ms. Noonan – “Yes” and Dr. Simone – “Yes.”**

**Dr. Laffan moved to delegate Ms. Young-Hong to work with Board counsel on further review of temporary policy and report back to the Board at the June meeting. Dr. Simone seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Laffan – “Yes”; Ms. Young-Hong – “Yes”; Ms. Bresnahan – “Yes”; Ms. Noonan – “Yes” and Dr. Simone – “Yes.”**

- Draft Audiogram Policy – **After brief discussion, Dr. Laffan moved to table and delegate Dr. Simone to review the policy in light of standards and practices published by the American Audiology Academy and to work with Board Counsel with the language. . Ms. Young-Hong seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Laffan – “Yes”; Ms. Young-Hong – “Yes”; Ms. Bresnahan – “Yes”; Ms. Noonan – “Yes” and Dr. Simone – “Yes.”**
- Academy of Doctors of Audiology – **The Board reviewed a letter from the professional organization regarding specific treatments that fall within the scope of practice of SLPAs in Massachusetts. After discussion, the Board agreed that Ms. Bresnahan should investigate the scope of practice and report back to Board staff so that Counsel may respond. The matter was tabled. No vote was taken.**
- American Academy of Audiology Annual Convention – Mr. Burke reported that the convention will be held virtually on April 14-16, 2021.

### **Executive Session:**

At 10:36 a.m., Dr. Laffan moved to exit open session and enter executive session under G. L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7), to comply with the provisions of the public record law, G. L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7), ¶ 26(a) and to preserve the confidentiality of criminal record information pursuant to G. L. c. 6, § 172, and then and enter into closed session to conduct investigatory conferences, pursuant to G.L. c. 112, §65C, not return to the public meeting. Ms. Young-Hong seconded the motion. **The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Laffan – “Yes”; Ms. Young-Hong – “Yes”; Ms. Bresnahan – “Yes”; Ms. Noonan – “Yes” and Dr. Simone – “Yes.”**

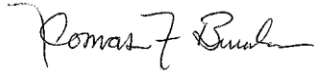
### **Closed Session: Investigatory Conferences, pursuant to G.L. c. 112, §65C.**

During the closed session, the Board took the following actions:

- BE 19-026 Wilde – ASHA Final Decision Speech Board – Open Investigative Intake

**At 11:18 am, Dr. Laffan moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Young-Hong seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Laffan – “Yes”; Ms. Young-Hong – “Yes”; Ms. Bresnahan – “Yes”; Ms. Noonan – “Yes” and Dr. Simone – “Yes.”**

Respectfully Submitted,



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Thomas F. Burke  
Associate Executive Director

Documents Used in the Open Meeting:

- Agenda
- Minutes of 2/2/2021 board meeting
- FM compliance monitoring
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Updated Temporary Telepractice Policy
- Draft Audiogram Policy
- Academy of Doctors of Audiology