

Board of Registration for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology
Meeting Held by Video Conference and Phone
DATE: June 3, 2024 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 pursuant to section 40 of chapter 2 of the acts of 2023, signed into law on March 29, 2023.

Board Members Present by video or phone:

Sarah Young-Hong
Kristin Bresnahan
Gabrielle Simone
Donna Noonan

Staff Present by video or phone:

Thomas Burke, Executive Director
Sheila York, Board Counsel
Monique Brown, Board Staff
Margaret McKenna, Board Staff
Christian Carl, Intern

Board Members Not Present:

Nicole Laffan

Housekeeping

- Board secretary called meeting to order at 9:36 am.
- Roll Call Vote for Attendance
Board secretary, Kristin Bresnahan, established a quorum via calling attendance: Kristin Bresnahan, Sarah Young-Hong, Donna Noonan, and Gabrielle Simone. All members present participated remotely via Cisco Webex.

Board Business

- Review of Public Session Agenda: June 3, 2024
Dr. Bresnahan moved to accept the public session agenda as written. Ms. Noonan seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Laffan – “Not Present”; Ms. Young-Hong – “Yes”; Dr. Bresnahan – “Yes”; Dr. Simone – “Yes”; Ms. Noonan – “Yes.”
- Review of Public Session Minutes: April 1, 2024
Ms. Young-Hong moved to accept the public session minutes as written. Dr. Bresnahan seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Laffan – “Not Present”; Ms. Young-Hong – “Yes”; Dr. Bresnahan – “Yes”; Dr. Simone – “Yes”; Ms. Noonan – “Yes.”
- **Report from Executive Director, Thomas Burke**
No report.
- **Report from Board Counsel**
No report.

Correspondence

- **Query from program director at MGH Institute of Health Professions on assistant audiology certificate programs**

The Board reviewed a letter from the MGH Institute of Health Professions requesting guidance on a proposed certificate program for audiology assistants. Dr. Andrea Pittman

addressed the Board about the current IHP curriculum and degree program. She stated that the proposed certificate program would be based on IHP graduate courses and would meet regulatory requirements for audiology assistant licensure per 260 CMR 2.03 (3). The Board requested that Dr. Pittman submit a draft proposal of the program for further review.

Board Discussion

- **Update on status of proposed changes to 260 CMR and 801 CMR 4.02 (260)**

Ms. York informed the Board of changes to 260 CMR 2.03(4) that more closely align with the statutory language in Chapter 263 of the acts of 2022. The changes eliminate the renewal fee and limit the length of provisional licensure to the period of supervised practice. Provisionally licensed SLPs may request an extension if the period of supervised practice is extended. Extension requests will be reviewed by the Director and/or brought to the Board for review. Board Counsel reported that the proposed regulations are now pending agency and Secretariat approval. Following approval, she and the Board members will set a date for the public hearing and comment on the proposed regulations.

- **Update on electronic application for the speech-language pathologist provisional license**

Mr. Burke informed the Board that, considering the changes to 260 CMR 2.03 (4), the renewal option will be removed from the provisional license application. Applicants will complete separate applications and fees for the provisional license and full license. They must submit the Form 1 and Form 2 with their applications.

Settlement Offers, Cases – Investigative Conference [Closed session pursuant to G.L. c. 112, §65C]:

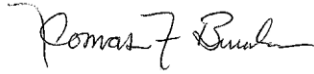
At 10:14 a.m. Dr. Bresnahan made a motion, seconded by Dr. Simone to adjourn the public meeting and enter into closed session to conduct investigatory conferences pursuant to G.L. c. 112, §65C, and at the conclusion of the closed session, not return to the public meeting. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Laffan – “Not Present”; Ms. Young-Hong – “Yes”; Dr. Bresnahan – “Yes”; Dr. Simone – “Yes”; Ms. Noonan – “Yes.”

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

- CASE-2023-0245/SPA-2023-0004 – Forwarded to prosecutions.
- CASE-2023-0228/SPA-2023-0003 – Forwarded to prosecutions.
- CASE-2023-0027/SPA-2023-0002 – Forwarded to prosecutions.

At 11:12 a.m., Dr. Bresnahan moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Simone seconded the motion. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Laffan – “Not Present”; Ms. Young-Hong – “Yes”; Dr. Bresnahan – “Not Present”; Dr. Simone – “Yes”; Ms. Noonan – “Yes.”

Respectfully Submitted,



Thomas F. Burke
Executive Director

Documents used in the open meeting:

- Agenda for 6/3/2024 board meeting
- Public session minutes for 4/1/2024 board meeting
- Correspondence from the MGH Institute regarding audiology assistants