

BOARD OF AUDIOLOGY & SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

October 6, 2020

3:30pm-6:00pm

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Virtual Meeting Notice

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all board meetings were held virtually during the declared public health emergency.

Information on how to access the public portion of the meeting is listed below:

This meeting is available by Web

Board of Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology - Open Session

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m30c62265393619c5b668e89c317e6a98>

Meeting Number: 471 887 216

Password: GiX27bFSkv4

This meeting is available by Phone

Call in Number: 1-650-479-3208

Access Code: 471 887 216

BOARD OF AUDIOLOGY & SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

OCTOBER 6, 2020

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

OS-1006-01	<p><u>INTRODUCTIONS</u></p> <p>The meeting was called to order at 3:34 PM and a quorum was established.</p> <p>A. Board Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kristen Spivey- Present • Dr. Angela Grice- Present • Stephanie Marshall- Present <p>B. Board Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aisha Nixon, Executive Director- Present • Ajay Gohil, Board Attorney- Present • Panavee Vongjaroenrat, Board Attorney- Present • Rebecca Odrick, Board Investigator- Present • Ashley Balma, Health Licensing Specialist- Present • Fatima Abby, Health Licensing Specialist- Present
OS-1006-02	<p><u>APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA</u></p> <p>Board Action: Acceptance of the October 6, 2020 Open Session Agenda.</p> <p>Motion: Motion made by Dr. Angela Grice to accept the Open Session Agenda for October 6, 2020. Seconded by Ms. Kristen Spivey.</p> <p>Ms. Kristen Spivey, Dr. Angela Grice, and Ms. Stephanie Marshall voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>

MINUTES AND STAFF REPORTS

OS-1006-03	<p><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DC Health remains closed to the public and staff continues to work remotely, and the office is still closed to the public. • The Health Regulation and Licensing Administration (HRLA) has
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	<p>recently undergone a realignment. Three offices were created with an Associate Director overseeing each office and a new Executive Director position was established.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ms. Ericka Walker has been hired as the Executive Director for several of the Allied and Behavioral Health Boards (ABHB) and will be responsible for 6 of the 13 boards. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Nixon will remain the Executive Director for the Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology. ▪ Ms. Balma will no longer be the Health Licensing Specialist (HLS) for this Board. ▪ Ms. Abby will be the interim HLS and will be assisting with the Board of Audiology and Speech-language Pathology until a new HLS is selected. ● HRLA is working on launching an online application system for initial applications, reinstatement and reactivation in the upcoming weeks. It's currently under User Acceptance Testing (UAT). ● The renewals for SLPs, AUDs, AUDAs and SLPAs will start next week. The licensees will start their renewal using the enhanced online system. Some Board members are currently testing the renewal portal. ● The Board Announcement has been drafted and Ms. Nixon has requested the Board's feedback prior to send it to the licensees. ● The PRAXIS National Exam for audiologists has been updated. ● Licensure Census: There are 1068 licensees [131 audiologists (AUD), 4 audiology assistants (AUDA), 865 speech-language pathologists (SLPs), 20 SLP-assistants and 40 clinical fellows (CFs)] ● Mr. Trainer has resigned from the Board as the consumer member. Ms. Nixon encourages the public to contact MOTA to apply to serve on a board. 	
OS-1006-04	<p><u>BOARD ATTORNEY'S REPORT:</u> AAG Gohil reported on the ongoing Health Occupations Revision Act (HORA) updates and the need for the Board to look at revising its regulations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Updating audiology assistants 	
OS-1006-05	<p><u>BOARD CHAIRS'S REPORT:</u> There was no report from the Board Chair.</p>	
OS-1006-06	<p><u>OPEN SESSION MINUTES:</u></p>	

	<p>Board Action: Consideration of the Open Session minutes from the June 15, 2020 meeting.</p> <p>Motion: Motion made by Ms. Stephanie Marshall to accept the Open Session minutes for June 15, 2020. Seconded by Dr. Angela Grice.</p> <p>Ms. Kristen Spivey, Dr. Angela Grice, and Ms. Stephanie Marshall voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
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DISCUSSION ITEMS

OS-1006-07	<p><u>POLICY REVISION</u></p> <p>Board Action: To review the current telehealth guidelines as it relates to scope of practice and supervision of students, interns, audiology assistants, speech-language pathology assistants, and speech-language clinical fellows and determine if to adopt as emergency and proposed rule-making.</p> <p>Background: In March of 2020, The Mayor and Director of the Health Department issued a Telehealth Waiver for Health Care Professionals in good standing with another state or jurisdiction permission to provide telehealth services to residents residing in the District of Columbia due to the current COVID-19 Pandemic social distancing efforts of reducing the spread of the virus.</p> <p>During the June meeting, the Board voted to have the Board attorney draft a policy statement regarding the tele-supervision and to reduce the amount of continuing education that would be required during the upcoming renewals.</p> <p>Senior leadership has requested that all policies that make changes to the current regulations be done through emergency/proposed rulemaking.</p> <p>The Board’s possible options are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take out the in-person requirements entirely. • Not take out the in-person requirements but leave room for them to suspend the in-person requirement under certain circumstances (limiting emergency situations or allowing the Board to use their discretion).
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Motion#1:

Motion made by Dr. Angela Grice to allow the board to add verbiage that would allow them to suspend in person continuing education (CE) and/or reduce the number of required CEs due to certain circumstances. Seconded by Ms. Kristen Spivey.

Ms. Kristen Spivey, Dr. Angela Grice, and Ms. Stephanie Marshall voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion#2:

Motion made by Ms. Stephanie Marshall to revise the board policy to include graduate student to receive tele-supervision. Seconded by Dr. Angela Grice.

Ms. Kristen Spivey, Dr. Angela Grice, and Ms. Stephanie Marshall voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion#3:

Motion made by Ms. Stephanie Marshall to strike the language that requires the initiation of tele-health session by the supervisor. Seconded by Dr. Angela Grice.

Ms. Kristen Spivey, Dr. Angela Grice, and Ms. Stephanie Marshall voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion#4:

Motion made by Ms. Stephanie Marshall to accept policy on tele-supervision and to include a language that would allow synchronous communicate as the direct supervision. Seconded by Dr. Angela Grice.

Ms. Kristen Spivey, Dr. Angela Grice, and Ms. Stephanie Marshall voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Motions#5:

Motion made by Ms. Stephanie Marshall to approve the policy and move it to emergency/proposed rulemaking regarding reduction and suspension of continuing education and approve the use of tele-supervision. Seconded by Dr. Angela Grice.

Ms. Kristen Spivey, Dr. Angela Grice, and Ms. Stephanie Marshall voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION TO ADJORN	
OS-1006-08	<p><u>MOTION TO CLOSE</u></p> <p>Board Action: To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b).</p> <p>Background: Upon conclusion of the open session meeting and pursuant to the DC Official Code 2-575(b) and for the purposes set forth therein, the Board will move into the closed executive session portion of the meeting to consult with the Board attorney, discuss disciplinary matters and hear reports concerning violations of the law or regulations.</p> <p>Motion: Motion made by Dr. Angela Grice to close the open session meeting at 5:20 PM. Seconded by Ms. Stephanie Marshall.</p> <p>Ms. Kristen Spivey, Dr. Angela Grice, and Ms. Stephanie Marshall voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>
OS-1006-09	<p><u>MOTION TO ADJOURN</u></p> <p>Board Action: To adjourn the meeting.</p> <p>Background: At the end of every meeting, a motion to adjourn must be made in open session to close out the business of the Board.</p>

This ends the Open Session Minutes, next meeting is scheduled for [December 21, 2020](#)

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.