

Tennessee Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences

DATE: February 12, 2008

TIME 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Ground Floor, Iris Room
227 French Landing
Nashville, TN 37243

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Dr. Melinda Richards, Speech Pathologist, Chair
Dr. Brian Burkey, Physician
Dr. William Dickinson, Audiologist
Dr. Herbert Gould, Audiologist
Ms. Paulette Dobbins, Speech Pathologist

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT: Nakeda Kirby, Citizen Member
Dr. Mary FinoSzumski, Audiologist

STAFF PRESENT: Stacy Lannan, Board Administrator
Lexie Whittemore, Advisory Attorney
Barbara S. Maxwell, Administrative Director

Dr. Richards, chair, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. A sufficient number of Board members were present to constitute a quorum.

Ms. Whittemore introduced herself to the Board stating she is their advisory and litigating attorney.

Order of Compliance for Barbara Buell, Speech Pathologist

Ms. Whittemore introduced herself to the Board stating she is the Board's advisory and litigating attorney.

Ms. Whittemore distributed a consent order for Barbara Buell, Speech Pathologist, and list of continuing education classes Ms. Buell attended. Ms. Whittemore said Ms. Buell has complied with the stipulations of the order and is petitioning the Board to lift her probation.

Ms. Whittemore stated the Board's consultant reviewed the required continuing education courses regarding documentation and client billing Ms. Buell was required to complete and found them to be in order.

Ms. Whittemore stated Ms. Buell petitioned the Board to lift her probation and is at the Board meeting if any Board member has any questions.

Ms. Dobbins stated she knows Ms. Buell and asked if she should recuse herself from the proceedings. Ms. Whittemore asked Ms. Dobbins if she can make an unbiased fair decision in the proceedings. Ms. Dobbins stated yes that she and Ms. Buell are not personal friends.

Dr. Dickinson stated he had the same issue as his wife, a speech pathologist, is a colleague of Ms. Buell's. Ms. Whittemore asked Dr. Dickinson if he can make an unbiased fair decision in the proceedings. Dr. Dickson stated absolutely.

Dr. Dickinson asked Ms. Buell if she felt the continuing education course she took gave her good guidance.

Ms. Buell said the continuing education course she took from ASHA enacted every area of patient billing and that she will not make the same mistakes again.

Upon review of the continuing education courses, Ms. Dobbins made a motion, seconded by Dr. Williams, to accept the order of compliance. The motion carried.

Ms. Whittemore prepared an order of compliance which she presented to Dr. Richards for her signature.

Review/Ratify November 20, 2007 Board Meeting Minutes

Upon review of the November 20, 2007 Board meeting minutes, Dr. Gould made a motion, seconded Ms. Dobbins, to approve the minutes as written. The motion carried.

The Board reviewed the minutes of the September 20, 2007 Hearing Instrument specialists Board meeting which Dr. Richards stated was for the Board's information only and does not require a motion.

Dr. Williams said the discussion on audioprosthology intrigued him as he didn't realize there was such a class.

Dr. Gould said audioprosthology has come up in several states.

Ms. Whittemore stated she did some research on audioprosthology and as defined by the trade association in Tennessee you would have to be licensed as an audiologist.

Ms. Whittemore said she presented this to the HIS Board at their last meeting and would present her findings to this Board at the next meeting.

Conflict of Interest Policy Statement

Ms. Whittemore reviewed the Conflict of Interest Policy Statement with the Board asking any member who may have a potential conflict of interest on any proceedings brought before the Board to discuss the matter with her to determine if that board member should recuse him/herself from the proceedings and leave the meeting room.

Office of General Counsel Report

Ms. Whittemore reviewed the Office of General Counsel Report stating there are currently no open cases pertaining to the Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences.

Ms. Whittemore stated she amended Rules 1370-1-.01, .02, .03, .04, .05, .10 and .15, per the Board's request, pertaining to clinical fellowship; requiring supervising speech audiologists to submit letters to the Board; and, changing the wording colleges and universities to accredited institutions.

Upon discussion and review of the rule amendments required by the Board, Ms. Whittemore stated she would make the recommended changes for review and vote by the Board at the next meeting.

Investigative Report

Ms. Stone reviewed the Investigative Report stating there are no open complaints in Investigations for the Board. Ms. Stone stated one complaint against an audiologist was closed in December with a letter of warning.

Ms. Stone stated she was currently supervising two audiologists for compliance.

Ms. Stone said her office is in contact with the Attorney General to determine if something can be done to collect fees incurred through a hearing or agreed order.

Financial Report

Ms. Lannan stated the Board has a cumulative carryover of \$66,046.19, as of June 30, 2007.

Dr. Richards asked if the Board was still paying for the move to Metro Center.

Ms. Maxwell stated no, the costs for the move have been paid. Ms. Maxwell said the move was not as costly as originally contemplated.

Administrative Report

Ms. Lannan reviewed the administrative report with the board stating there are 311 licensed audiologists, 1558 licensed speech pathologists and 54 licensed Speech Language Pathology Assistants.

Ms. Lannan said of the 48 audiologists who renewed their licenses within the last four months, 12 renewed on line. Ms. Lannan said of the 184 speech pathologists that renewed their licenses within the last four months, 61 renewed online.

Ms. Lannan asked all Board members to submit travel requests 120 days prior to the meeting/conference date.

Ms. Lannan stated the audit process has changed to conduct a five (5) percent audit of monthly renewals. Ms. Lannan stated the audit period is for 2005-2006.

Discuss and Consider Authorizing a Grant Proposal

Ms. Lannan stated that the Board discussed a grant proposal with Ms. Tittle at the last meeting which was initially proposed by Dr. Burkey.

As Dr. Burkey is not at today's meeting, Dr. Gould made a motion, seconded by Dr. Williams, to table the discussion until the next meeting. The motion carried.

New Licensees

Upon review, Ms. Dobbins made a motion, seconded by Dr. Gould, to ratify the following newly licensed audiologists, speech pathologists and speech language pathologist assistants for licensure:

Audiologists

James Martin
Margaret H. McRedmond
Kenneth W. Rubenacker
Nancy H. Shapiro

Speech Pathologists

Heidi J. Baschnagel
Julie A. Bruce
Jada W. Chiochanyont
Martha W. Eubanks
Amanda L. Gosnell
Chad L. Higgs
Sarah B. Jolley
Ashley A. Lowe
Alysen M. McElveen
Erin B. Owens
Lynn R. Rider
Rebecca L. Sinclair

Melinda L. Stokes
Crystal L. Thomas
Mary E. Turner
Joy Harvey
Jodie Eilerman
Misty Lindsey
Ashley McCrary

Speech Language Pathology Assistants

Anastacia Cavin
Laura Steiner

The motion carried.

Reinstatements

Upon review, Ms. Dobbins made a motion, seconded by Dr. Gould, to ratify the following reinstated audiologists and speech pathologists:

Audiologists

Megan Johnson
Jill Gresham

Speech Pathologists

Holly Baumgartner
Charles Hausman
Wendy McCarter
Kari De Riesthal
Helen Henderson
Carol Jancowicz
Tawni Ballinger
Regina Hinson
Meridith Benhayon
Stacy Sanders

The motion carried.

Review Application Files

Upon review of the application file for **Maryellen Cherry** for licensure as an audiologist, Dr. Gould made a motion, seconded by Dr. Williams, to ratify Ms. Cherry for licensure. The motion carried.

Review Correspondence

Upon review of the letter from **Catherine S. DeBakker** requesting a waiver of her 2007 continuing education requirements due to long term care from an accident, Dr. Gould made a motion, seconded by Dr. Williams to waive her 2007 continuing education requirements. The motion carried.

Dr. Richards stated that at the last meeting she was requested to write a letter to the HIS board regarding a practical exam.

Ms. Whittemore said pursuant to T.C.A. §63-17-203 the HIS Board is charged with the duty of determining what tests are to be used and, therefore, the Board cannot require them to use the simulator. Ms. Whittemore said Dr. Richards could send them a letter expressing the Board's concerns.

Dr. Williams asked this to be tabled until Dr. Burkey's return and stated the Board could give them a grant to purchase the simulator.

The Board discussed the accuracy of the simulator which simulates the patient.

Ms. Whittemore stated she would inform the HIS Board chair of the Board's concerns and schedule a teleconference with members of the Board who are audiologists and the HIS Board members.

With no other Board business to conduct, Dr. Gould made a motion, seconded by Dr. Williams to adjourn at 12:40 p.m. The motion carried.

Ratified by the Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences at the August 19, 2008 board meeting.