

# COUNCIL FOR HEARING INSTRUMENT SPECIALISTS

## MINUTES

**Date:** March 8, 2007

**Time:** 9:00a.m.

**Location:** Health Related Boards  
227 French Landing, Poplar Room  
Heritage Place Metro Center  
Nashville, TN 37243

### **Members Present**

**Mr. Thomas A. Stewart, Chairman**  
**Mr. Jackie L. Miller, Secretary**  
**Mr. Craig Haltom, Council Member**  
**Mr. James D. Alderman, Citizen Member**

### **Staff Absent**

**Dr. Robert E. Bowers, Physician**

### **Staff Present**

**Ms. Bonnie Ferrell, Administrator**  
**Ms. Marva Swann, Unit Director**  
**Ms. Juanita Presley, Advisory Attorney**  
**Mr. Jerry Kosten, Rules Coordinator**

### **Visitors Present**

**Courtney Cross, Court Reporter**

The Council Chair, Mr. Thomas Stewart determined that a sufficient number of Council members were in attendance to constitute a quorum and called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

### **Conflict of Interest**

**Ms. Juanita Presley reviewed the Conflict of Interest Policy with the Council members.**

### **Travel**

**Ms. Presley reviewed the rules of travel regulations relevant to per diem expenses, reimbursement of such expenses, and submission of appropriate forms to the administrative staff to process.**

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### **O.G.C. Report**

Ms. Presley informed the Council of the following:

There were no contested cases scheduled for this meeting.

### **Rules:**

Mr. Jerry Kosten informed the Council that there were no new rules at this time. He stated that there was a new bill going to the Legislator allowing Speech Pathologists to perform endoscopies.

Mr. Kosten asked if there was any new information on purchasing a simulator for giving the practical examination? Ms. Bonnie Ferrell said she was still waiting to hear from the state of North Carolina. Mr. Jackie Miller and Mr. Graig Haltom had nothing to report regarding the simulator.

### **Financial Report**

The Council reviewed the financial report.

### **Disciplinary Report**

The Council reviewed the disciplinary report. There were no new disciplinary actions to report at this time.

### **Investigative Report**

There were no new penalties assessed since December 14, 2006. Mr. Stewart asked Ms. Ferrell to check on the civil penalties and report the findings at the next Council meeting.

### **Minutes**

After reviewing the December 14, 2006 minutes, Mr. Miller made the motion to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Haltom and the motion carried.

### **Discussion**

Mr. Stewart presented a newspaper ad selling hearing aids by mail without any testing or fitting. Ms. Presley took the ad and said she would write a letter to the newspaper requesting them to cease printing said advertisement.

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Mr. Miller brought up the subject of having a training permit for applicants prior to applying for their apprentice license. Ms. Ferrell said she would prefer to change the rules by deleting the requirement for apprentice applicants to take the practical. All they need to take is the jurisprudence and the written. The apprentice license is a training license. When they complete their training period they could apply for full licensure and take the practical at that time. Mr. Miller stated that having a training permit prior to the apprentice license would bring in more revenue for the Council. The subject was deferred to the next meeting, giving the Council time to consider all options.

#### **Administrator's Report**

Ms. Ferrell reviewed the Administrator's Report with the Council. She reported the number of active licensees, retired licensees and failed to renew licensees. She also reported the number of new applications received since the December meeting.

The Council recessed at 9:45am and the meeting was called back to order at 10:00am.

#### **Examinations**

Mr. Miller made a motion to issue the following applicants a license due to passing the examination on December 14, 2006. Mr. Haltom seconded the motion and the motion carried.

1. Cole, Gary L. – Full Licensure
2. Falconbury, Thomas D. – Apprentice License

Mr. Miller made a motion to deny licensure to the following applicants due to failure of the examination on December 14, 2006. The motion was seconded by Mr. Halton and the motion carried.

1. Dixon, Gary Sherman – Full Licensure
2. Dyke, Sandra R. – Full Licensure
3. Qureshi, Saima - Full Licensure

**The Council adjourned the meeting at 10:30am to administer exams to the following applicants at 11:30 am:**

- 1. Ball, Mirinda R. - Apprentice**
- 2. Williams, Clayton A. - Apprentice**
- 3. Dixon, Gary Sherman – Full Licensure**
- 4. Dyke, Sandra R. – Full Licensure**
- 5. Qureshi, Saima – Full Licensure**
- 6. Rigg, David M. – Full Licensure**

**These minutes were ratified at the June 14, 2007 Council Meeting.**