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## **Board of Hearing and Speech**

### **Regular Meeting Minutes**

**July 28, 2023**

#### **Board Members in Attendance:**

Brenda Litke, Fitter/Dispenser  
Connie Furry, Fitter/Dispenser  
Nichole Kingham Furness, Audiologist,  
Chairperson  
Amberkiah Pomeroy, Audiologist  
Sonja Bradford, Speech-Language  
Pathologist, Vice-chairperson  
Ray Parker, Public Member  
Paula Benson, Public Member  
David Horn, Licensed Medical Physician

#### **Staff Members in Attendance:**

Kim-Boi Shadduck, Program Manager  
Jennifer Santiago, Executive Director  
Kristi Knieps, Assistant Attorney General  
  
Margaret Pagel, Staff Attorney  
Madissen Schatz, Administrative  
Assistant

### **Open Session - Nichole Kingham Furness, Audiologist, Chairperson**

#### **1. Call to Order – Nichole Kingham Furness, Audiologist, Chairperson**

The regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Hearing and Speech was called to order by the chairperson, Nichole Kingham Furness, at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, July 28, 2023, via Microsoft Teams. There were in-person attendees at the Olympia-Tumwater, Labor & Industries Office.

#### **1.1 Introduction of Board, Staff, and Guests.**

Board members, Department of Health staff, and guests introduced themselves.

#### **1.2 Approval of Agenda**

Amberkiah Pomeroy moved to approve the agenda of the July 28, 2023, meeting. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

#### **1.3 Approval of Minutes – May 05, 2023, Business Meeting**

Brenda Litke moved to approve the minutes of the May 05, 2023, meeting. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

**2. Open Forum – Nichole Kingham Furness, Audiologist, Chairperson**

The Board accepted comments from the audience on issues of significance to the professions.

**Board Business**

**3. Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC) – Nichole Kingham Furness, Audiologist, Chairperson**

- a. Vice-chairperson Bradford moved to establish Kim-Boi Shadduck as a second delegate to serve on the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Compact Commission. Vice-chairperson Bradford will serve as a third delegate as needed. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.
- b. Vice-chairperson Bradford moved to approve addition of the ASLP-IC Commission webpage link, <https://aslpcompact.com/commission/>, to the Department of Health's webpage. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

**4. American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Teletherapy and Supervision for Clinical Fellowship (CF) – Nichole Kingham Furness, Audiologist, Chairperson**

Vice-chairperson Bradford moved that graduate student clinicians fellows cannot be supervised via telesupervision or provide telepractice to obtain 100% of the required supervised postgraduate professional work experience. The Board will refer to ASHA's certification standards. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

**5. Clarification on Ear Cleaning for Hearing Aid Specialists – Nichole Kingham Furness, Audiologist, Chairperson**

Dr. Pomeroy moved that the any new technology in regards to cerumen removal is not within the scope of practice for hearing aid specialists. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

**6. Speech-Language Pathology Assistants (SLPA) Core Courses – Nichole Kingham Furness, Audiologist, Chairperson**

Vice-chairperson Bradford moved that the Education/Exam Committee discuss a matrix of acceptable SLPA core courses and present their recommendations at the next regular meeting. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

**7. Site Review Committee – Nichole Kingham Furness, Audiologist, Chairperson**

Connie Furry moved that the Site Review Committee create a policy or guideline regarding site reviews. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

**8. Board Meeting Dates and Practical Exam Dates for 2024 – Nichole Kingham Furness, Audiologist, Chairperson**

Ms. Litke moved to approve the following 2024 meeting and exam dates and locations. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

Regular Board Meetings:

Date	Location
February 02, 2024	Tacoma
May 03, 2024	Tumwater
July 26, 2024	Vancouver
November 01, 2024	Tumwater

Hearing Aid Specialist Practical Exams:

Date	Location
March 29, 2024	Tumwater
June 28, 2024	Tumwater
September 27, 2024	Tumwater
December 06, 2024	Tumwater

**9. Program Reports – Kristi Knieps, Assistant Attorney General; Jennifer Santiago, Executive Director; Kim-Boi Shadduck, Program Manager**

a. Ms. Shadduck presented License Counts by County and Status.

	AUD	HIFD	SLP	SLPI	SLPA	Total
Total	530	330	3,820	144	290	5,115

b. Ms. Santiago presented the 2021-23 Biennium Budget Status Report for the Period of July 01, 2021, through May 31, 2023.

Beginning Fund Balance on July 01, 2021	1,116,884
Revenue to Date	997,951
21-23 HELMS Assessment to Date	101,430
Expenses to Date	787,515
Ending Balance as of May 31, 2023	1,225,891

c. Ms. Shadduck reported that the program has recommended the appointment of a speech-language pathologist, a public member and speech-language pathology assistant to the Governor. As program waits for official

appointments, Ms. Shadduck will consider appointing pro tem members in the interim to address any quorum issues.

Ms. Santiago reported that House Bill (HB) 1724 has passed. Sec. 8. (1) establishes that disciplining authorities shall waive education, training, experience, and exam requirements for applicants who have been credentialed in another state or states with substantially equivalent standards for at least two years immediately preceding their application with no interruption in licensure last longer than 90 days. (2) Disciplining authorities may waive education, training, experience, or exam requirements for applicants who have achieved a national certification for the profession as determined by the disciplining authority in rule. A dedicated staff member from the Office of Health Professions is reviewing the effect of HB 1724 on each profession.

**10. Business Plan 2023 – 2025 – Nichole Kingham Furness, Audiologist, Chairperson**

Ms. Shadduck presented the Business Plan. Chairperson Kingham expressed the plan lacked outcomes. Ms. Shadduck and Ms. Santiago will present a revised Business Plan at the next regular Board meeting.

**11. National Council of State Boards of Examiners (NCSB) 2023 – Nichole Kingham Furness, Audiologist, Chairperson**

Ms. Furry moved that Chairperson Kingham Furness, Vice-chairperson Bradford, and Ms. Shadduck attend the 36th Annual NCSB Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina from October 5-7, 2023. The members will also attend the ASLP-IC 2023 Annual Meeting of the Commission on Saturday, October 07, 2023. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

**12. Agenda Building – Nichole Kingham Furness, Audiologist Chairperson**

The Board established agenda items for the November 03, 2023, regular meeting

- Education/Exam Committee recommendation regarding building a matrix of acceptable SLPA core courses.
- Site Review committee's guideline regarding site reviews.
- Health Equity Continuing Education public rulemaking hearing.
- Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids public rulemaking hearing.
- Rules workshop on fees connected to the ASLP-IC.
- Presentation of business plan revisions.
- Report from members that attended the NCSB.

**Adjournment of Open Session**

Chairperson Kingham Furness announced that the next meeting would be November 05, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., and declared the meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.