

**Louisiana Board of Examiners for
Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology**

October 16, 2015

Attending:

**Stephen J. Harris, L-AUD/SLP, Chairperson
Glenn M. Waguespack, L-AUD, Vice Chairperson
Daphne Washington, L-SLP, Secretary/Treasurer
Tammy Crawford, L-SLP, Board Member
Theresa H. Rodgers, L-SLP, Board Member
Laura H. Gresham, Public Member**

Absent:

Anita Jeyakumar, MD, Medical Advisor

The meeting was called to order by Steve Harris at 8:18 a.m. in the conference room at the Board office located at 18550 Highland Road, Suite B, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Jolie Jones, Executive Director, was present for the entirety of the meeting. Tammy Crawford and Laura Gresham joined the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No one was present to provide public comment.

AGENDA:

Motion was made by Daphne Washington, seconded by Glenn Waguespack and unanimously carried, to adopt the agenda as amended to add 5. Letter from Christie Rowzee re: Medicaid provider and reimbursement to Correspondence and 9. Deaf Education Alliance proposed communication plan under Administrative Review.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the meeting of August 8, 2015 were tabled until the board's next meeting, on Saturday, October 17, 2015.

Motion was made by Theresa Rodgers, seconded by Daphne Washington and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of the meeting held August 14-15, 2015, as presented.

FINANCIAL:

1. Financial Statement for the period ended June 30, 2015
Board members were provided a copy of the Financial Statement prepared by Susan Sevario, CPA, for the period ended June 30, 2015.
2. Financial Statement for the period ended July 31, 2015
Board members were provided a copy of the Financial Statement prepared by Susan Sevario, CPA, for the period ended July 31, 2015.

3. Financial Statement for the period ended August 31, 2015

Board members were provided a copy of the Financial Statement prepared by Susan Sevario, CPA, for the period ended August 31, 2015.

Board members inquired if the state allows financial planning/counseling services. Jolie Jones will find out if the board is able to invest in a low risk portfolio or obtain financial planning/counseling services.

4. Auditor's Report

Jolie Jones presented the Board with the Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures prepared by Robert Furman of Griffin & Furman, LLC. There were no findings noted in the board's annual audit.

5. Tablet Purchases

Jolie Jones informed the Board that the Office of State Procurement put the Microsoft Surface Pro tablets out for bid once and received no bids. Another bid request is in process and will close on October 20, 2015.

COMPLIANCE HEARING:

Brianna Buford, along with her speech-language pathology supervisor, Michelle Kramer, requested and appeared for a compliance hearing to appeal the Board's decision to deny upgrade of Ms. Buford's provisional speech-language pathology assistant license. The Board denied Ms. Buford's request to upgrade her license based on the supervision documentation submitted.

Ms. Buford and Ms. Kramer testified that when Brianna Buford increased to 21 hours of work as a provisional speech-language pathology assistant, they noted that the work hours doubled but failed to increase to weekly supervision by mistake.

Motion was made by Laura Gresham, seconded by Daphne Washington and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 10:40 p.m. for the following reasons:

to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person, provided that such person is notified in writing at least twenty-four hours before the meeting, and

for investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct or any other matter now provided for or as may be provided for by the legislature.

Votes for going into Executive Session: Daphne Washington, yes; Laura Gresham, yes; Glenn Waguespack, yes; Theresa Rodgers, yes; Tammy Crawford, yes.

Motion was made by Tammy Crawford, seconded by Laura Gresham and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 11:20 a.m. and to offer Brianna Buford a Consent Agreement and Order for failure to obtain appropriate supervision. The Consent Agreement and Order will include successful completion of the Board's open book examination within 90 days, double the minimum amount of on-site, in-view and alternative supervision for a Provisional Speech-Language Pathology Assistant for five months, with the Supervision Form 200s being

submitted to the Board monthly, notification to American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), Louisiana Department of Education, Louisiana Speech-Language-Hearing Association (LSHA), Speech Pathologists and Audiologists in Louisiana Schools (SPALS), and reporting to the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB). At the end of the five month period of additional supervision, if the requirements are met, Ms. Buford may apply for upgrade of her Provisional Speech-Language Pathology Assistant license.

Motion was made by Daphne Washington, seconded by Theresa Rodgers and unanimously carried, to send a letter of concern to Michelle Kramer regarding appropriate supervision and supervisor responsibilities.

Board members discussed the need for supervisor training, possibly by webinar or video for continuing education credit on the board's website. Jolie Jones will gather information and present the information at the December board meeting. Additionally, the board would like to consider requiring an hour of supervision training in the next revision of the Rules, Regulations and Procedures.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW:

1. Executive Director Update

Jolie Jones reported that she has been working closely with Covalent Logic to develop the board's new website and content management system. Mrs. Jones also provided the board with information obtained regarding criminal background checks at the state and federal level. Board members requested more information related to depth of information encompassed at the federal level. The Board would like to wait until statutory authority is established in the Practice Act before requiring criminal background checks for new applicants.

Motion was made by Theresa Rodgers, seconded by Daphne Washington, and unanimously carried that effective January 2016, all initial applications for licensure and reinstatement must be queried through the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) and a statement to that effect should be added to the board's applications.

Mrs. Jones reported to the board that she has sent three sets of boxes for scanning by C.F. Biggs. The first set of boxes were thirteen boxes of lapsed licenses from 2009-2014, at the cost of \$3,085.81. The second set included 27 boxes of renewals, financials, accounts payable and payroll. The third set of boxes included two boxes of no follow through applications and six boxes of LBESPA and LBEDN financials, accounts payable, online renewals and deposit slips. The board has budgeted \$50,000 for this scanning project and would like to continue with the plan to scan all active files as previously discussed.

Jolie Jones discussed with the Board that the temporary worker that was hired through Westaff to assist with renewals, Jordyn Russo, is continuing to work for the board around her university schedule.

2. Update on Renewals and Audits/LBESPA Processing

Board members reviewed a report indicating that 29 initial applications and nine upgrade requests have been received since the August 7, 2015 board meeting. One application was denied and one required additional information.

27 licensees renewed online and 10 renewed by mail since the August 7, 2015 board meeting, for a total renewed online of 2,695, a total renewed by mail of 852 for a total of 3,547 renewed as of October 15, 2015. 187 individuals remain eligible for renewal.

233 audits were completed as of October 15, 2015, with 8 remaining to be submitted.

Emails submitted by licensees to board members since the August 7, 2015 board meeting: 3 were licensure related, 1 was practice specific, 1 was an ethical scenario, and 1 was related to access to services due to billing/coding.

One complaint was received since the August 7, 2015 board meeting.

3. LBESPA Newsletter

LBESPA Newsletters were distributed to attendees at the Speech Pathologists and Audiologists in Louisiana Schools (SPALS) Conference held October 8-9, 2015.

4. Limited Cerumen Management

During the presentation at the Louisiana Academy of Audiology (LAA) Conference, an Audiologist inquired about the possibility of including limited cerumen management in the board's revisions to the Practice Act. Limited cerumen management refers to the first third of the ear canal. Certain specifications would need to be included, such as if unable to visualize the tympanic membrane, a referral must be made. Glenn Waguespack will discuss this further with Dr. Anita Jeyakumar, the Board's Medical Advisor.

5. Technology Policy

Motion was made by Glenn Waguespack, seconded by Theresa Rodgers and unanimously carried to adopt the Policy for Utilization of Board-Owned Technology presented by Jolie Jones. Mrs. Jones must confirm with the I.T. company that information being sent is encrypted. Additionally, Mrs. Jones will gather information about Computrace in the event that a tablet is lost.

6. Inquiries from Licensees to Board Members

Motion was made by Glenn Waguespack, seconded by Laura Gresham and unanimously carried, to add a policy to the Policy Manual that states that responses to licensee's electronic communication will be sent to the Executive Director for official response to licensee. The Executive Director will add all licensee email inquiries and replies that require response by a board member to the Agenda.

7. Voluntary Services
Jolie Jones discussed a situation in which a Provisional Speech-Language Pathology Assistant inquired about obtaining hours for upgrade on a volunteer basis. The Board does not allow volunteer service to obtain hours to upgrade a license. The board would like to clarify the rules regarding volunteer service in the future.
8. Schedule 2016 Board Meeting Dates
2016 board meeting dates were scheduled for the following dates, all beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the board office in Baton Rouge, except where noted:

Friday, February 12
Friday, April 29
Thursday, June 9 in Lafayette
Saturday, August 13
Friday, October 14
Friday, December 2 in New Orleans
9. Deaf Education Alliance Proposed Communication Plan
Laura Gresham informed board members that the Deaf Education Alliance is working to develop a tool to implement better communication plans. The school board cannot force schools to use the tool but they will encourage it.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Letter from ASHA re: ASHA CE Registry Changes
Board members reviewed a letter from ASHA regarding a change in paper for CE registry transcripts, as well as revised subject codes.
2. Email dated August 28, 2015, from NPDB re: licensure actions against impaired practitioners
Board members reviewed an email from the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) regarding what is reportable for impaired practitioners.
3. Email dated August 31, 2015, from the International Hearing Society (IHS) re: hearing aid dispenser apprenticeship program
Board members reviewed an email from the International Hearing Society (IHS) regarding an apprenticeship program for hearing aid dispensers. The board will write a letter to The International Hearing Society and also recommend that the National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (NCSB) send a letter as well.
4. Email dated October 9, 2015, from Leigh Anne Baker re: licensure presentation and continuing education event
Leigh Anne Baker requested that a sixty minute presentation be given to her university students at Southern University on November 10, 2015. Theresa Rodgers was asked to give the presentation, but is not available due to ASHA Convention dates. Steve Harris agreed to present on November 10 and will check with Leigh

Anne to see if more time can be allotted for the presentation. Tammy Crawford will also attend and participate in the board's university presentation with Mr. Harris. Any continuing education activity that is sponsored by a university is considered acceptable by the board. The board is unable to provide funding/sponsorship for students as per board policy.

5. Letter from Christie Rowzee re: Medicaid provider and reimbursement
Board members reviewed a letter from Christie Rowzee regarding Medicaid reimbursement. While this is not in the purview of the board, the board would suggest that she contact Commissioner of Insurance Jim Donelon's office or the Louisiana Medicaid office. If this individual is an ASHA member, the board also suggests that Laurie Alban Havens, who is in charge of Medicaid at ASHA, be contacted (reimbursement@asha.org).

CONFERENCES:

Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB)

1. 40th Annual FARB Forum, January 28-31, 2016, Clearwater Beach, FL
Motion was made by Glenn Waguespack, seconded by Laura Gresham, and unanimously carried, to pay travel and related expenses to send Jolie Jones to the FARB Forum in Clearwater Beach, Florida.

Louisiana Academy of Audiology (LAA)

1. Report from the 2015 LAA Conference
Steve Harris provided the board with an oral and written report regarding the LAA Conference. Steve believes that LAA will be supportive of Audiology Assistants if is added to the Board's Practice Act.

National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (NCSB)

1. Report from 28th Annual NCSB Conference
Tammy Crawford and Daphne Washington both gave written and oral reports regarding their attendance at the NCSB Training for Board Members and the 28th Annual Conference. Both enjoyed the conference and believed it was beneficial to their role on the board.
2. Non-attendance by Contracted Employee
Motion was made by Laura Gresham, seconded by Theresa Rodgers, and unanimously carried to excuse Ayn Stehr's responsibility of reimbursement for non-attendance at the 28th Annual NCSB Conference because of extenuating circumstances.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by Glenn Waguespack, seconded by Daphne Washington and unanimously carried, to go in to Executive Session at 3:45 p.m. for the following reasons:

to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person, provided that such person is notified in writing at least twenty-four hours before the meeting, and

for investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct or any other matter now provided for or as may be provided for by the legislature.

Votes for going into Executive Session: Laura Gresham, yes; Daphne Washington, yes; Glenn Waguespack, yes; Tammy Crawford, yes; Theresa Rodgers, yes.

Motion was made by Laura Gresham, seconded by Daphne Washington and unanimously carried, to come out of Executive Session at 4:51 p.m. to take the following actions:

1. Review of Pending Complaints

a. Complaint #2014-03

Respondent signed Consent Agreement and Order.

b. Complaint #2014-04

Motion was made by Laura Gresham, seconded by Tammy Crawford and unanimously carried, to pre-approve the following continuing education courses: ASHA's Effectively Using SLP Assistants to Support Quality Service Delivery for two hours, ASHA's Special Interest Group 16 Perspectives Volume 15, Number 3, October 2014 for one hour, SpeechPathology.com Course #6556 Supervision and Conflict Resolution for 1 hour, Speechpathology.com Course #5644 Professional Ethics in a Changing Professional Landscape for 1 hour, OnlineCEUs.com Ethics in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology for 2 hours, THSA Clinical Ethics in Speech-Language Pathology for 2 hours, and Relias Academy in Ethics and Boundaries in Healthcare for 3 hours.

c. Complaint #2015-05

Respondent submitted a quarterly report as per the terms of the Consent Agreement and Order.

d. Complaint #2016-01

Jolie Jones reported that the investigation on this matter is still pending, but should be completed soon.

e. Complaint #2016-02

Motion was made by Theresa Rodgers, seconded by Laura Gresham and unanimously carried, to offer a Consent Agreement and Order for violating Rule 701.E.1.i. for charging for services not rendered and misrepresenting services rendered; 4.b. engaging in dishonesty, fraud and misrepresentation; 4.j. violating principles and rules. The Consent Agreement and Order will include successful completion of the Board's open book examination within 90 days, payment of investigation costs of \$503.22 within one year, \$1,000.00 fine within one year, 10 hours of continuing education regarding ethics and billing and fraud, which must be pre-approved by the board within 90 days from the date the Consent Agreement and

Order is signed by the board, notification to American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), Louisiana Department of Education, Louisiana Speech-Language-Hearing Association (LSHA), Speech Pathologists and Audiologists in Louisiana Schools (SPALS), Early Steps, and reporting to the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB).

2. Receipt of New Complaints

a. Complaint #2016-03

An email from a licensee was sent to Steve Harris, Board Chairperson, inquiring about unlicensed individuals performing vestibular diagnostics without an Audiologist on staff. Steve Harris will call this licensee for clarification. It is common practice for individuals to perform vestibular diagnostics under the auspices of a physician.

3. Review of Applications

a. T.E.

Motion was made by Laura Gresham, seconded by Tammy Crawford and unanimously carried, to refund \$130 delinquent fee for renewal of T.E.'s speech-language pathology assistant license.

b. D.S.

Motion was made by Theresa Rodgers, seconded by Daphne Washington and unanimously carried, to reinstate D.S.'s speech-language pathology license.

Motion was made by Laura Gresham, seconded by Tammy Crawford and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for **Full or Provisional Speech-Language Pathology and/or Audiology licenses**:

Perkins, Ashley	7375	PL-SLP	Pitre, Corrine	7376	PL-SLP
Macko, Maria	7455	L-SLP	Dickey, Lindsay	7456	PL-SLP
Edgar, Suzannah	7454	L-SLP	Lambert, Amanda	7457	PL-SLP
Hall, Brittany	7459	L-SLP	Falk, Doug	7461	PL-SLP
Pastel, Erica	7460	L-SLP	Duke, Karen	7462	PL-SLP
Kovalsky, Marcie	7465	L-SLP	Williams, Euraline	7466	L-SLP
Hanton, Andrea	7469	PL-SLP	Bowman, C'Onda	7458	PL-SLP
Davis, Alana	7463	PL-SLP	Cooper, Shayla	7470	PL-SLP
Burns, Gabrielle	7464	PL-SLP	Savoy, Alycia	7471	PL-SLP
Perez, Jessica	7474	L-SLP	Robert, Anna	7476	L-SLP
Beach, Andrea	7475	L-SLP	Tuohey, Colleen	7478	L-SLP
Neumann, Michelle	7477	PL-SLP	Adams, Marquita	7480	PL-SLP
Bernegger, Tayler	7479	L-SLP	Fidler, Megan	7483	L-SLP
Bezold, Madeleine	7482	PL-SLP	Johnson, Leigh	7485	PL-SLP
Riis, Nicole	7484	L-AUD	Broussard, Ashlynn	7401	L-AUD H.A. DISP
Garay, Brittany	7486	PL-SLP	Ivey, Jessica	7481	L-AUD H.A. DISP
Pilon, Ashley	7392	L-SLP	Delahoussaye, Amy	7236	L-SLP

Motion was made by Theresa Rodgers, seconded by Glenn Waguespack and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for **Speech-Language Pathology Assistant, Provisional Speech-Language Pathology Assistant** licenses:

Garrett, Somer	7400	SLP-ASST	Jacobson, Shanna	7435	PL-SLP ASST
Dumas, Lauren	7442	PL-SLP ASST	Williams, Kristin	7436	PL-SLP ASST
Tate, Jessica	7467	PL-SLP ASST	Caldwell, Madison	7468	PL-SLP ASST
Glover, Keonndra	7472	PL-SLP ASST	Olivia, Mallory	7473	PL-SLP ASST
McDonald, Deshanna	7216	SLP-ASST	Gravois, Leah	6558	SLP-ASST
Delahoussaye, Amy	7236	SLP-ASST	Evans, Sara	7022	SLP-ASST
Farmer, Shandra	7263	SLP-ASST			

Motion was made by Tammy Crawford, seconded by Daphne Washington and unanimously carried, to **upgrade** the following licenses:

Nichols, Hayley	7153	L-SLP	Obst, Denise	6892	L-SLP
Harlan, Kelly	7113	L-SLP	Gaudet, Samantha	7243	L-SLP
Ward, Abigail	7139	L-SLP	Macallister, Cate	7273	L-SLP
Madlem, Alyssa	7261	L-SLP	Scherer, Chelsey	7119	L-SLP
Fisher, Shalettha	7250	L-SLP	Reeder, Rachel	7151	L-SLP
Brown, Kayla	7205	L-SLP	Russo, Melanie	6925	L-SLP
Neilson, Elizabeth	7130	L-SLP	Adams, Emily	7172	L-SLP
Mumfrey, Lauren	7317	SLP-ASST			

Motion was made Glenn Waguespack, seconded by Daphne Washington and unanimously carried, to **reinstate** the following licenses:


Mele, Sara	5845	L-SLP	Schiller, Stephanie	5252	L-SLP
Weeks, Katie	5578	L-SLP	Green, Natasha	4238	PL-SLP
De Tarnowsky, Sue	3650	L-SLP	Bonvillain, Lyndsey	6416	SLP-ASST
Stanley, Dawn	6930	L-SLP	Anderson, Jamie	6371	SLP-ASST

Motion was made by Tammy Crawford, seconded by Laura Gresham and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 4:54 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED BY:



 Stephen J. Harris, M.A., CCC-A, L-AUD/SLP
 Chairperson



 Daphne R. Washington, M.A., CCC-SLP, L-SLP
 Secretary/Treasurer