Louisiana Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

December 14, 2020

Participating:

Glenn M. Waguespack, L-AUD, Chairperson Erica A. Chatelain, L-SLP, Vice Chairperson Deanna B. Hardy, Public Board Member, Secretary/Treasurer Annette E. Hurley, L-AUD, Board Member Lucie LeDoux, L-AUD/SLP, Board Member Absent: Jerrilyn Frasier, L-AUD/SLP, Board Member

The meeting was called to order and the Board's mission statement was read by Glenn Waguespack at 12:00 noon via Zoom meeting ID #863 0352 3448. Jolie Jones, Executive Director, and Marcy Ricca, Administrative Specialist, were present for the entirety of the meeting. Video conferences are as allowed during the state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No members of the public participated in the meeting via video conference to provide public comments.

AGENDA:

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried, to accept the Agenda as presented.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW:

 Discussion on how to maximize staffing numbers in hospitals due to COVID-19

Jolie Jones discussed with board members that she had received an urgent phone call from Stephen Russo of the Louisiana Department of Health on December 9, 2020. Since the state is experiencing the biggest recording of COVID positive cases, Governor John Bel Edwards is looking at ways to maximize staffing numbers in hospitals.

Motion was made by Lucie LeDoux, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried to look up Verification of Licensure online to expedite licensure.

Board members discussed offering grace periods, criminal background checks, and verifications. The Board allows telehealth for individuals licensed in Louisiana. The Board is not aware of staffing shortages in Louisiana currently. Audiology and speech-language pathology applicants who are looking to assist

hospitals with COVID-19, can email Marcy Ricca requesting that their licensure application be expedited. Board members have agreed to expedite licensure applications as received. The average length of time that applications are completed by our Board, is typically within one to two weeks from the date that all documents are received.

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 12:39 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED BY:

Glenn M. Waguespack, MS, L-AUD, CCC-A

Chairperson

Deanna Hardy, Public Board Member

Secretary/Treasurer