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

May 16, 2025

Attending:

Jerrilyn Frasier Vaughan, L-AUD/SLP, Chairperson Kami Grob, L-SLP, Board Member Stephen J. Harris, L-AUD/SLP, Board Member Emily L. Mutter, L-AUD, Board Member Celeste R. Parker, L-SLP, Board Member Absent:

Courtney Cheek Couvillon, L-SLP, Vice Chairperson Deanna B. Hardy, Public Board Member, Secretary/Treasurer

#### **Board's Mission Statement:**

The Board exists because the legislature declared that "in order to safeguard the public health, safety, and welfare, to protect the public from incompetent, unscrupulous, and unauthorized persons, and from unprofessional conduct by speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and speech-language pathology assistants, it is necessary to provide regulatory authority over persons offering speech-language pathology and audiology services to the public."

The board meeting was called to order and the mission statement was read by Jerrilyn Frasier Vaughan at 8:33 a.m. in the conference room of the Board office, located in Prairieville, Louisiana. Jerrilyn Frasier Vaughan welcomed new board member, Kami Grob. Jolie Jones, Executive Director, and James Raines, Legal Counsel, were present for the entirety of the meeting.

# **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

No one was present to provide public comment.

#### **AGENDA:**

**Motion** was made by Steve Harris, seconded by Celeste Parker and unanimously carried, to amend the agenda as presented, to remove Pending Complaint number 2024-03 from Executive Session and remove Pending Complaint number 2025-01 from Executive Session to be heard in open session instead.

# **MINUTES:**

1. Minutes of February 14, 2025

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Steve Harris and unanimously carried, to adopt the minutes of the meeting held February 14, 2025.

2. Minutes of July 21, 2023

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Steve Harris and

unanimously carried, to revise the minutes of the meeting held July 21, 2023, to reflect the correct license type for Kiah Thompson.

#### **FINANCIALS:**

# Quote from Covalent Logic for Web Accessibility to comply with DOJ Final Rules and PPM 74

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter and unanimously carried, to move forward with the new website design to comply with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.2 Level AA ADA compliance at the cost of \$54,000, which cost includes utilizing the remaining 240 hours from the 2025 contract towards this project.

# 2. Financial Statements for the months ended October 31, 2024 – January 31, 2025

Board members were provided a copy of the Financial Statements prepared by Griffin and Furman, for the months ended January 31, 2025. Monthly budget to actual comparisons are attached.

Jolie Jones will discuss with the auditor how to amend the Budget to incorporate the large one-time expense for the computer software to incorporate the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.2 Level AA ADA compliance.

# 3. Professional contract for IPP Manager

**Motion** was made by Steve Harris, seconded by Celeste Parker and unanimously carried, to offer a professional contract to Leah Rosa Counseling, LLC dba Assurance Recovery Monitoring for fiscal year 2025-2026, with a \$250.00 flat rate annual contracting fee; \$200.00 per month for anyone under monitoring; \$125.00 per hour which will apply to drafting agreements, reading documents, reviewing information, meeting with participants to make referrals, and any other items including board meeting attendance, testifying or other individualized work, with a maximum contract amount of \$3,000.00.

# 4. Retract motion for professional contract for DOJ and offer additional general counsel contract

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Steve Harris and unanimously carried, to offer Sherry Morris of Daigle, Fisse, & Kessenich, a professional contract for fiscal year 2025-2026 for general legal counsel at the Attorney General's designated rates, for a maximum contract amount of \$10,000.00. In disciplinary matters, James Raines will serve as prosecutor and Sherry Morris will serve as general counsel.

# 5. Purchase of new office computers to support Windows 11 Motion was made by Emily Mutter, seconded by Kami Grob and unanimously carried, to purchase two new desktop computers, based on the provided Dell quotes, as the current computers will not support Windows 11.

# **ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW:**

# 1. Executive Director Update

Board members discussed concerns regarding board member appointment nominations having discipline and/or active investigation on their license.

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Steve Harris and unanimously carried, to renew the office lease at the increased rate of \$1.00 per square foot.

Jolie Jones discussed JML 25-025 State Lease Buildings and JML 25-048 Return to In-Office Work. Additionally, Ms. Jones presented board members with LBESPA's one-pager that was submitted to the Legislature, as required by law.

# 2. Board Operations/LBESPA Processing

The Board reviewed data for the period of February 4, 2025 – May 6, 2025. The summary is as follows:

- Initial applications 50
- Upgrade requests 74
- Applications approved 26
- Applications denied 0
- Upgrades approved 61
- Upgrades denied 0
- Telehealth Registration AUD 1
- Telehealth Registration SLP 1
- Conditional Licenses 0
- English Proficiency Assessment 0
- National Practitioner Data Bank gueries 32
- National Practitioner Data Bank reporting 1
- National Practitioner Data Bank revision to action 1
- Online license renewals 358
- Telehealth renewals 1
- Complaints received 6

# 3. Impaired Professionals Program Report

Board members reviewed the Impaired Professional's Program Report from Kathie Pohlman.

# 4. Update on Legislation

HB442 passed through the Committee on Health and Welfare and is waiting to be heard on the House floor.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Email dated April 2, 2025, from Christy Henson, regarding diagnosis of dyslexia

Board members would like to respond with the "practice of speech-language pathology" definition. The law is not specific to treatment and diagnosis of disorders.

- 2. Email dated April 9, 2025, from Renae Colwick, re: delivery of services
  Board members stated that this is a facility issue. Individuals must hold
  paramount the welfare of persons they served. Individuals shall use independent
  and evidence based clinical judgment and uphold the dignity of the profession.
- 3. Email dated March 25, 2025, from Jessica Doxey, re: evaluations written and approved by same SLP in two settings

Board members indicated that if a therapist is seeing a student in different settings, it is recommended that they provide names of three other therapists that could provide services. It is also recommended that this individual check the Code of Governmental Ethics to see if there is a conflict.

4. Email dated April 16, 2025, from Holley Perry of ULM, re: discontinuation of the SLP Assistant track

An SLP Assistant Committee was formed to include: Steve Harris, Celeste Parker, and Kami Grob. The first meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 18, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. The committee will explore the following:

- How many states have assistants?
- Closest universities that have a program?
- Online universities that offer bachelors in speech?
- ASHA SLP Assistant certification program.
- On-the-job hours.
- Get Covalent Logic to run a report for where SLP Assistants and Provisional SLP Assistants are employed.
- Reach out to Louisiana universities to see where they stand with assistant hours and such. Will they offer in the future?
- 5. Email dated April 28, 2025, from Kristen Mardis, re: conflict of interest in providing services

The Board has no rule, law or policy in this regard.

6. Email dated May 5, 2025, from Megan Longmire, re: the requirements of an SLP Assistant license

Board members indicated that Ms. Longmire may qualify for licensure through the Welcome Home Act. Board staff will send her a link to apply.

# **CONFERENCES:**

# NCSB (National Council of State Boards of Examiners)

1. 38<sup>th</sup> Annual NCSB Conference, September 18-20, 2025, Mt. Pleasant, SC Motion was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter and unanimously carried to send Kami Grob and Emily Mutter to the NCSB Conference's New Board Member Training on Thursday, September 18, 2025 and pay related registration and travel expenses.

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter and unanimously carried to send Kami Grob, Emily Mutter, Steve Harris, Jolie Jones, and James Raines to the NCSB Conference on September 19-20, 2025 in Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina and pay related registration and travel expenses.

# 2. Spring 2025 Newsletter

Board members reviewed the NCSB Spring 2025 newsletter.

# 3. Call for Award Nominations

The Board will nominate Kerrilyn Phillips for an NCSB award, based on her work to further the licensure compact, both locally and nationally.

#### 4. Call for Board Nominations

The Board is not nominating anyone to serve on the NCSB Board of Directors at this time.

# Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC)

# 1. Update on Compact Connect

Board members reviewed the update on Compact Connect.

# Speech Pathologists & Audiologists in Louisiana Schools (SPALS)

1. Request for CE Sponsorship for the 2025 SPALS Conference
Motion was made by Steve Harris, seconded by Emily Mutter and unanimously
carried to sponsor the 2025 SPALS Conference in the amount of \$3,000.00, to
assist in providing quality continuing education opportunities to licensees.

# Pending Complaint #2025-01

 Motion was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter and unanimously carried to dismiss Complaint #2025-01.

# **COMPLIANCE HEARING:**

# 1:00 MICHELLE GALBREATH

Ms. Galbreath requested and appeared in person for a compliance hearing to appeal the Board's decision to deny her application for licensure reinstatement for a speech-language pathology license. The Board denied Ms. Galbreath's application, based on belief that she engaged in fraud, misrepresentation, or concealment of material facts and in conduct likely to deceive the public when in response to Question No. 9 of the application, wherein Ms. Galbreath answered "no" to whether she has ever been arrested, charged, or convicted of a crime. Specifically, the criminal history record information received by the Board in association with the application indicated that she has been convicted of a felony, and that information was withheld on the application

submitted on December 13, 2024. Additionally, the Board's records indicate that the Board held a hearing regarding an alleged violation of Board Rule 125(D) in absentia on April 29, 2017, due to failure to keep the Board apprised of her current address.

# **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**Motion** was made by Steve Harris, seconded by Celeste Parker and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 1:30 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: Celeste Parker, yes, Steve Harris, yes; Kami Grob, yes; Emily Mutter, yes.

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Steve Harris and unanimously carried, to come out of executive session at 2:47 p.m. and make the following motions:

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Steve Harris and unanimously carried, to offer Michelle Galbreath reinstatement of her speech-language pathology license on a conditional basis, contingent upon completion of the following:

- Fitness for Duty Evaluation facilitated through the Board's Impaired Professional Program. Must undergo treatment and follow all recommendations that come from the evaluation. The Board recognized provider can extend the time of the evaluation, if necessary.
- If it is determined that Ms. Galbreath is safe to practice by the Palmetto evaluators, she will be issued reinstatement of her speech-language pathology license and begin a probationary period of 150 hours of employment to occur within a minimum time of 6 months, whichever comes last. Once the requirements of the probationary period are met, Ms. Galbreath must submit a letter/report from herself and her supervisor advising the Board of her completion of said requirements and requesting the probationary conditions be removed. The Board must review and approve the letter/report prior to termination of the probationary period.
- Unable to supervise anyone for a period of 2 years, which timeframe will begin once the probationary period ends.
- Cannot be responsible for billing while in the probationary period.
- Dysphagia therapy/services required to be supervised 100% until supervisor writes a report to the Board in which they state that Ms. Galbreath is able to competently and appropriately do so independently. Must submit a Supervision Agreement Form that will be indicated that is specific for the provision of Dysphagia services. The Board must review the report and officially release her prior to practicing Dysphagia independently.
- In addition to the 25 continuing education hours required for reinstatement of her license, which have already been submitted, Ms. Galbreath must complete 30

additional hours of continuing education as follows: 10 hours in Pediatric and 10 hours in Feeding to be submitted prior to practice. 5 hours in Ethics and 5 hours in Billing by May 31, 2026. The continuing education courses must be preapproved by the Board, prior to completion. These hours may be applied to the 10 hours required for the renewal of the license in 2026.

Upon completion of the above requirements, Ms. Galbreath must submit proof to the Board, and request that the Board consider lifting the conditions of her license. Recused: Jerrilyn Frasier Vaughan.

# 1. Review of New Complaint(s)

# a. Complaint #2025-13

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter, and unanimously carried, to accept Complaint #2025-13 and send to investigation.

# b. Complaint #2025-14

**Motion** was made by Emily Mutter, seconded by Celeste Parker, and unanimously carried, to accept the signed Consent Agreement and Order for Complaint #2025-14.

# c. Complaint #2025-15

**Motion** was made by Emily Mutter, seconded by Kami Grob, and unanimously carried, to accept Complaint #2025-15 and send to investigation.

#### d. Complaint #2025-16

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter, and unanimously carried, to combine with Complaint #2025-17 and accept and send to investigation.

#### e. Complaint #2025-17

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter, and unanimously carried, to combine with Complaint #2025-16 and accept and send to investigation.

# f. Complaint #2025-18

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter, and unanimously carried, to accept Complaint #2025-18 and send to investigation.

# g. Complaint #2025-19

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter, and unanimously carried, to accept Complaint #2025-19 and send to investigation.

# 2. Review of Pending Complaints

# a. Complaint #2024-03

Complaint #2024-03 was removed from the Agenda, as there is no update at this time.

# b. Complaint #2024-12

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Kami Grob and unanimously carried, to accept the continuing education submitted to comply with the terms of the signed Consent Agreement and Order.

#### c. Complaint #2025-01

Complaint #2025-01 moved and discussed in open session.

#### d. Complaint #2025-05

**Motion** was made by Emily Mutter, seconded by Kami Grob and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2025-05, based on recommendation of the Complaint Committee.

#### e. Complaint #2025-07

**Motion** was made by Emily Mutter, seconded by Kami Grob and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2025-07, based on recommendation of the Complaint Committee.

# f. Complaint #2025-09

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter and unanimously carried, to create a new policy that states that if the Complaint Committee unanimously agrees to summarily suspend a license, the Board grants the authority to do so.

# g. Complaint #2025-10

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2025-10, based on recommendation of the Complaint Committee.

# 3. Review of Applications

#### a. MJ

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter, and unanimously carried, to grant MJ's upgrade to Speech-Language Pathology license and lift conditions.

#### b. KT

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter, and unanimously carried, to grant KT's upgrade to Speech-Language Pathology license.

#### c. SS

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter, and unanimously carried, to grant SS' upgrade to Speech-Language Pathology Assistant license.

#### d. CP

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter, and unanimously carried, to grant CP's Audiology license, with a letter of concern.

#### e. CS

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter, and unanimously carried, to grant CS' Provisional Speech-Language Pathology Assistant license, with a letter of concern.

#### f. EJ

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter, and unanimously carried, to grant EJ's Provisional Speech-Language Pathology license.

#### g. KB

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter, and unanimously carried, to lift conditions of KB's Speech-Language Pathology Assistant license.

Motion was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for Full or Provisional Speech-Language Pathology and/or Audiology licenses:

| <u>Last Name</u> | First Name | License No. | <u>Type</u> | Last Name | First Name | License No. | <u>Type</u> |
|------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|
|                  |            |             |             |           |            |             |             |
| Bailey           | Andrea     | 9831        | PL-SLP      | Langlois  | Alexis     | 9815        | L-SLP       |
| Cale             | Robert     | 9818        | L-AUD       | Losey     | Kaitlyn    | 9817        | L-SLP       |
| Chow             | Shelley    | 9819        | L-SLP       | Matte     | Abby       | 9813        | PL-SLP      |
| Cleary           | Leela      | 9823        | L-AUD       | Onyekweli | Michaela   | 9828        | PL-SLP      |
| Comisky          | Samantha   | 9824        | L-AUD       | Pace      | Chase      | 9875        | L-AUD       |
| Coolman          | Alissa     | 9821        | PL-SLP      | Simpson   | Baylor     | 9829        | PL-SLP      |
| Fedak            | Larissa    | 9814        | L-SLP       | Spence    | Lindsey    | 9830        | PL-SLP      |
| Ferguson         | Carly      | 9820        | L-SLP       | Thompson- | Ashley     | 9827        | PL-SLP      |
|                  |            |             |             | Gardner   |            |             |             |
| Ford             | Julia      | 9833        | L-SLP       | Tredway   | Shannon    | 9832        | L-SLP       |
| Fransen          | Amanda     | 9812        | L-SLP       | Watson    | Sara       | 9825        | PL-SLP      |
| Jones            | Breanna    | 9826        | PL-SLP      | Weaver    | Elizabeth  | 9822        | L-AUD       |

**Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for **Speech-Language Pathology Assistant and/or Provisional Speech-Language Pathology Assistant licenses**:

| Last Name | First Name | License No. | Туре  |
|-----------|------------|-------------|---|
| Shaw      | Morgan     | 9816        | PROVISIONAL SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT |

# **Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter and unanimously carried, to **upgrade** the following licenses:

| <u>Last Name</u> | First Name | License No. | <u>Type</u> | <u>Last Name</u> | First Name | License No. | Type  |
|------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|------------|-------------|-------|
| Alleman          | Morgan     | 9591        | L-SLP       | Landry           | Molly      | 9667        | L-SLP |
| Armentor         | Samantha   | 9606        | L-SLP       | Lee              | Mindy      | 9503        | L-SLP |
| Baumer           | Mary       | 9605        | L-SLP       | Lemoine          | Grace      | 9655        | L-SLP |
| Breaux           | Shelby     | 9620        | L-SLP       | Lyons            | Mayci      | 9699        | L-SLP |
| Burch            | Amanda     | 9583        | L-SLP       | Massey           | Allie      | 9712        | L-SLP |
| Carruth          | Madyson    | 9665        | L-SLP       | Miller           | Reygan     | 9592        | L-SLP |
| Comeaux          | Hannah     | 9612        | L-SLP       | Monteleone       | Madeline   | 9623        | L-SLP |
| Cooper           | Destiny    | 9608        | L-SLP       | Otwell           | Abigail    | 9639        | L-SLP |
| Drobner          | Alexis     | 9501        | L-SLP       | Peek             | Kolby      | 9589        | L-SLP |
| Drost            | Allison    | 9614        | L-SLP       | Perrot           | Kathleen   | 9684        | L-SLP |
| Duhon            | Lindsey    | 9598        | L-SLP       | Pizzolato        | Alexa      | 9611        | L-SLP |
| Dupre            | Joanie     | 9587        | L-SLP       | Pollan           | Sara       | 9615        | L-SLP |
| Dupre            | Macy       | 9600        | L-SLP       | Prestwood        | Haley      | 9500        | L-SLP |
| Dupree           | Destinee   | 9666        | L-SLP       | Priola           | Caprielle  | 9643        | L-SLP |
| Fream            | Sarah      | 9617        | L-SLP       | Ramos            | Anna Grace | 9359        | L-SLP |
| Gaines           | Evelyn     | 9604        | L-SLP       | Riley            | Megan      | 9728        | L-SLP |
| Giandelone       | Tori       | 9599        | L-SLP       | Rosenbohm        | Alexandra  | 9597        | L-SLP |
| Gordon           | Olivia     | 9656        | L-SLP       | Roy              | Ava        | 9504        | L-SLP |
| Gray             | Molly      | 9677        | L-SLP       | Samaha           | Abby       | 9613        | L-SLP |
| Guillot          | Alayna     | 9621        | L-SLP       | Shaw             | Sandra     | 9373        | L-SLP |
| Hanks            | Emily      | 9585        | L-SLP       | Shepherd         | Blayne     | 9618        | L-SLP |
| Harrelson        | Kiley      | 9339        | L-SLP       | Simon            | Ashley     | 9498        | L-SLP |
| Hill             | Ellison    | 9660        | L-SLP       | Taylor           | Torea      | 9590        | L-SLP |
| Holland          | Audrey     | 9634        | L-SLP       | Thibodeaux       | Emma       | 9446        | L-SLP |
| Horne            | Shelbi     | 9426        | L-SLP       | Thomason         | Kaitlyn    | 9647        | L-SLP |
| Howerton         | Mary       | 9610        | L-SLP       | Thomason         | Kori       | 9531        | L-SLP |
| Hurd             | Sarah      | 9650        | L-SLP       | Thompson         | Kiah       | 9353        | L-SLP |
|                  | Margaret   |             |             |                  |            |             |       |
| Hyde             | Joshua     | 9492        | L-SLP       | Verdin           | Kelsey     | 9518        | L-SLP |
| Johnson Young    | Maggie     | 9067        | L-SLP       | Watts            | Makenzie   | 9601        | L-SLP |
| Jones            | Brooke     | 9676        | L-SLP       | Zaunbrecher      | Laurie     | 9586        | L-SLP |
| Laird            | Madelynne  | 9515        | L-SLP       | Zimmermann       | Caroline   | 9631        | L-SLP |
|                  |            |             |             |                  |            |             |       |

| <u>Last Name</u> | First Name | License No. | Туре                                |
|------------------|------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| Green Hamilton   | Kenyatta   | 9811        | SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT |
| Morrise          | Tre'On     | 9763        | SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT |
| Jefferson        | Chandra    | 9697        | SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT |

# **Motion** was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter and unanimously carried, to <u>reinstate</u> the following licenses:

| Last Name  | First Name | License No. | <u>Type</u> | Last Name | First Name | License No. | <u>Type</u> |
|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| Bailey     | Latasha    | 6233        | L-SLP       | Gatlin    | Shelia     | 4222        | L-SLP       |
| Charles II | Chester    | 6604        | L-AUD       | Gourgues  | Peggy      | 3385        | L-SLP       |
| Chol       | Lexie      | 6753        | L-SLP       | Howard    | Kaitlyn    | 9519        | PL-SLP      |
| Dekemel-   | Kathryn    | 2633        | L-SLP       | Vitatoe   | Arkymbric  | 9431        | L-SLP       |
| ichikawa   |            |             |             |           |            |             |             |

| Last Name | First Name | License No. | <u>Type</u>                         |
|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| Schell    | Alyssa     | 9428        | SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT |
| Wallace   | Sarah      | 637         | SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT |

Motion was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Emily Mutter and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 2:52 p.m.

**MINUTES APPROVED BY:**