

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

May 15, 2020

Attending:

**Glenn M. Waguespack, L-AUD, Chairperson
Erica A. Chatelain, L-SLP, Vice Chairperson
Deanna B. Hardy, Public Board Member, Secretary/Treasurer
Leigh Anne Baker, L-SLP, Board Member
Jerrilyn Frasier, L-AUD/SLP, Board Member
Annette E. Hurley, L-AUD, Board Member**

Absent:

Lucie LeDoux, L-AUD/SLP, Board Member

The meeting was called to order and the Board's mission statement was read by Glenn Waguespack at 8:00 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Board office located at 37283 Swamp Road, Suite 3B, Prairieville, Louisiana. Jolie Jones, Executive Director was present for the entirety of the meeting. Ayn Stehr, Legal Counsel, joined the meeting for executive session.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No one was present at the meeting to provide public comments.

AGENDA:

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

MINUTES:

1. Minutes of February 14, 2020

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried, to adopt the minutes of the meeting held February 14, 2020, as presented.

2. Minutes of March 18, 2020 Emergency Meeting/Call due to COVID-19

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried, to adopt the minutes of the meeting held March 18, 2020, as presented.

3. Minutes of March 20, 2020 Emergency Meeting/Call due to COVID-19

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried, to adopt the minutes of the meeting held March 20, 2020, as presented.

4. **Minutes of March 23, 2020 Emergency Meeting/Call due to COVID-19**
Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried, to adopt the minutes of the meeting held March 23, 2020, as presented.

FINANCIALS:

1. **Financial Statement for the months ended November 2019 – December 2019**

Board members were provided a copy of the Financial Statements prepared by Champagne & Company, for the months ended November 2019 – December 2019.

2. **Quote for Polycom wireless conference phone**

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried, to purchase a Polycom wireless conference phone as quoted for \$1,170.00.

3. **Estimate from Covalent Logic for digital ID cards**

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Deanna Hardy and unanimously carried, to approve the estimate from Covalent Logic to provide digital ID cards for licensees, in the amount of \$1,200.00.

4. **Estimate from Covalent Logic for grace period letter**

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried, to approve the estimate from Covalent Logic to create a auto-generated grace period letter in the content management system, in the amount of \$1,023.00

5. **Estimate from Covalent Logic for 2020 renewal changes**

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried, to approve the estimate from Covalent Logic to make the revisions to the 2020 online renewal, in the amount of \$1,137.50.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW:

1. **Executive Director Update**

Jolie Jones discussed the smooth transition from working at the office to home relating to COVID-19. The Board would like to highlight this seamless transition in their next newsletter. Professional contracts have been submitted to the Office of State Procurement for approval.

2. **LBESPA Processing**

The Board reviewed data for the period of February 4 – May 6, 2020. The summary is as follows:

- Initial applications – 118
- Upgrade requests – 37
- Applications approved - 38
- Applications denied - 0
- Upgrades approved - 37

- Online renewals – 436
- Renewals in the board office – 2
- Complaints received – 4
- National Data Bank queries – 37

3. Updates on Previous Presentations

Glenn Waguespack had a presentation scheduled at Caddo Parish Schools that was cancelled due to COVID-19.

4. Update on Board Vacancies

Annette Hurley's Audiology board member position vacancy was published on April 24, 2020, with a deadline of June 1, 2020.

5. July Board Meeting Change

The LBESPA board meeting that was previously scheduled for July 31, 2020 has been moved to July 24, 2020.

6. Update on 2020 Regular Legislative Session

Senate Bill 98 with the licensure compact did not go forward in the 2020 Regular Session because of delays in the legislature due to COVID-19. House Concurrent Resolution 71 requires licensing boards to provide fee waivers for businesses. A letter has been sent to the Legislature on behalf of the Board. House Bill 498 regarding licensing payment plan, House Bill 622 regarding universal licensing, House Bill 613 regarding licensing military families, House Bill 422 regarding licensing apprenticeship, and House Bill 762 regarding an Advisory Committee were all reviewed by the Board.

7. Digital vs. wet signatures

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried, to create a policy to accept digital signatures if the document is sent to the Board office directly from the signer.

8. Update on Provisional Audiology license request

Glenn Waguespack has contacted other states to find out more information and is awaiting their responses. The Board is not planning to make any changes with regarding to a Provisional Audiology license at this time.

9. Audiology Praxis examination changes

Glenn Waguespack informed the Board that the Audiology Praxis examination will be changing in September 2020.

10. Online Sale of Hearing Aids

Glenn Waguespack discussed consumer protection concerns relating to companies who are providing online sales of hearing aids. The Board will research this matter further.

11. Discussion regarding changes necessitated by COVID-19

a. Praxis Examination Requirements – Provisional SLP 1 year

Beginning May 15, 2020, the Praxis examination will be available online. The Board cannot grant extensions for completion of the Praxis examination without promulgating rules. The Board will accept a screenshot of a passing score until official document is received, if necessary during this time.

b. Supervision

i. Provisional Speech-Language Pathologists

If a Provisional Speech-Language Pathology licensee has not met the minimum number of hours required annually, a conditional license may be granted through December 31, 2020, to makeup the needed hours. Upgrade will not be considered until the minimum requirements have been met with the number of hours and time frame. Upon completion, licensees must submit supervision documentation, along with a letter to the Board requesting that the conditions be lifted.

ii. Restricted Speech-Language Pathologists

If a Restricted Speech-Language Pathology licensee has not met the minimum number of hours required annually, a conditional license may be granted through December 31, 2020, to makeup the needed hours. Upon completion, licensees must submit supervision documentation, along with a letter to the Board requesting that the conditions be lifted.

iii. Speech-Language Pathology Assistants and Provisional Speech-Language Pathology Assistants

The Board will accept a notarized statement in lieu of supervision or a note that no therapy has been provided on the supervision forms. If no therapy has been done, no supervision is required.

c. Continuing Education

The Board will require all continuing education to be submitted as required by June 30, 2020.

d. Criminal Background Checks

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried to temporarily extend the policy regarding criminal background checks to be acceptable for 120 days from the date received in the Board office, due to delays from COVID-19.

e. NPDB Query Fees Waived

The Board reviewed correspondence from the National Practitioner DataBank (NPDB) that all query fees will be waived retroactively from March 1, 2020 – May 31, 2020.

f. Telehealth

The Board made no changes to the telehealth rules/policies.

g. Conditional Licenses due to COVID-19

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Deanna Hardy and unanimously carried to lift Karen Sikes' conditional Audiology license.

h. Open Book Examination

Motion was made by Deanna Hardy, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried to create a new office procedure to lockdown the open book examination with a password, restrict editing and printing, and offer the Board's open book examination, with a board staff member watching via Zoom.

i. Office Procedures

Motion was made by Deanna Hardy, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried to allow board staff to telecommute/work from home, as needed.

Motion was made by Deanna Hardy, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried to allow visitors at the board office via appointment only.

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried to provide Marcy Ricca and Tracy Jeanmarie, the Board's Administrative Assistants, with a \$50 stipend for March and April 2020 for the use of their personal cell phones for business while working from home as necessitated by COVID-19.

12. SLP Assistant Certificate online program

The Board reviewed an email from Jana Berube of Alexandria Community and Technical College regarding an SLP Assistant certificate online program. Although a bachelor's degree is required for licensure, 100 hours are required, of which only 25 hours can be observation. The Rules require that 20 hours be in speech, 20 hours in language, and 35 can be in speech, language or hearing and obtained while being enrolled at an accredited university. Although SLP Assistants may receive certification from the program at Alexandria Community and Technical College, they will still need to meet the requirements stated in the law and rules in order to be licensed in Louisiana.

13. Roles and Responsibilities of Board Members

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried to adopt the Personal Qualities of a Regulatory Board Members from FARB, as well as the acknowledgement of such, which will be included as part of the Board Orientation moving forward, to the Board's Policy Manual.

CONFERENCES:

Louisiana Academy of Audiology (LAA)

1. Request to Exhibit

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried, not to exhibit at the 2020 LAA Conference.

Louisiana Speech-Language-Hearing Association (LSHA)

1. Request to Present

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Deanna Hardy and unanimously carried, not to exhibit at the 2020 LSHA Convention.

Speech Pathologists & Audiologists in Louisiana Schools (SPALS)

1. Request for Continuing Education Sponsorship

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried, to sponsor continuing education for the 2020 SPALS Conference.

Council on Licensure, Enforcement & Regulation (CLEAR)

1. Membership Renewal

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried, not to renew the Board's CLEAR membership.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Email from Darcie Roussel, dated March 27, 2020, regarding SLP Assistant proposed Rules Changes

The timeframe for public comments for the Rules revisions has passed; however, the Board is not advocating for Speech-Language Pathology Assistants not to be hired. Additionally, the Board held two public hearings regarding the proposed rules revisions.

2. Email from Tally Ward, dated April 8, 2020, requesting a refund of licensure application fee

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried to deny the refund request, as all fees are non-refundable.

3. **Letter from Rebecca Davis of Southeastern Louisiana University, dated April 15, 2020, regarding the clinical hour requirements for speech-language pathology assistants**
The Board's mission is to protect the consumer. The Board does not feel that it is in the best interest of public protection to lower the required number of hours. This request requires rule promulgation.
4. **Email from Nicole Magee, dated April 21, 2020 requesting a refund of licensure application fee**
Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried to deny the refund request, as all fees are non-refundable.
5. **Letter from Erin Foreman, dated April 29, 2020, requesting a refund of licensure application fee**
Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried to deny the refund request, as all fees are non-refundable.
6. **Email from Kristyn Smith, dated May 10, 2020, regarding ESY school services**
LBESPA has no jurisdiction over what the school district requires. Duties and responsibilities are determined by your school district.

COMPLIANCE HEARING:

Ms. Ghaith 1:15 p.m.

Ms. Ghaith requested and appeared for a compliance hearing to appeal the Board's decision to deny her application to reinstate her Provisional Speech-Language Pathology license. The Board denied Ms. Ghaith's request to reinstate her license based on the criminal background check information received.

Ms. Ghaith provided an explanation to the Board that all but one of the charges were dropped and she pled to a lesser charge and completed the probationary period ordered by the Court. These charges were personal and unrelated to her employment.

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried, to reinstate Ms. Ghaith's Provisional Speech-Language Pathology license.
Abstained: Deanna Hardy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 11:37 a.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: Erica Chatelain, yes; Deanna Hardy, yes; Annette Hurley, yes; Leigh Anne Baker, yes; Jerrilyn Frasier, yes.

1. a. Complaint #2016-08A

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Deanna Hardy and unanimously carried, to send Complaint #2016-08A to the Attorney General's office to move to revocation hearing for failure to complete the open book exam, pay half of the investigation costs, and practicing while suspended.

b. Complaint #2018-12

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried, to reoffer the Amended Consent Agreement and Order. If this Consent Agreement and Order is not acceptable, the Board will move forward to disciplinary hearing. Allow 45 days to submit signed Consent Agreement and Order.

c. Complaint #2020-01

Motion was made by Deanna Hardy, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried, to offer a Consent Agreement and Order that would include that Respondent admitted to practicing without a license for one year and that Respondent would have no legal right to practice Audiology or Speech-Language Pathology again, along with an \$8,000 administrative fine.

d. Complaint #2020-15

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried, to dismiss complaint #2020-15.

2. Review of Pending Complaints/Cases

a. Complaint #2018-07

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Deanna Hardy and unanimously carried, to release Respondent based on successful completion of the terms of the Consent Agreement and Order.

b. Complaint #2018-10

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried, to dismiss complaint #2018-10 and issue a Provisional Speech-Language Pathology license, based on sworn testimony and court documents. Abstained: Deanna Hardy.

c. Complaint #2019-17

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Deanna Hardy and unanimously carried, to pre-approve the continuing education courses submitted. The Board also granted a 60 day extension for completion of the Open Book Examination, due to COVID-19.

3. Review of New Complaints/Cases

a. Complaint #2020-16

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2020-16, as the Board has no jurisdiction. The Board suggests that the complainant report this to the Graduate School Dean, as well as, the Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA) and Council for Clinical Certification in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CFCC). Recused: Leigh Anne Baker.

b. Complaint #2020-17

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried, to dismiss Complaint #2020-17, as the Board has no jurisdiction. The Board suggests that the complainant report this to the Graduate School Dean, as well as, the Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA) and Council for Clinical Certification in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CFCC). Recused: Leigh Anne Baker.

c. Complaint #2020-18

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried, to send Complaint #2020-18 to investigation.

4. Correspondence from student regarding university/professor concerns

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried, to notify the student that this matter is not in the Board's jurisdiction, but recommend that she file a complaint with the Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA). The Board noted that the Praxis was not developed as a summative measure to be used in conferring a degree. Recused: Leigh Anne Baker.

5. Correspondence from SLP supervisor regarding supervision concerns

Board staff will send an acknowledgement that they have received this document.

6. Review of Telehealth Registration Applications

a. EC

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Deanna Hardy and unanimously carried, to grant telehealth registration.

7. Review of Applications

a. SD

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Jerrilyn Frasier and unanimously carried, to deny SD's Audiology licensure application, as he does not meet the clinical hour and Praxis requirements.

b. CM

Motion was made by Deanna Hardy, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried, to issue CM's Speech-Language Pathology license.

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for **Full or Provisional Speech-Language Pathology and/or Audiology licenses**:

Last Name	First Name	License No.	Type	Last Name	First Name	License No.	Type
Ardoin	Samantha	8550	PL-SLP	Lee	Sandra	8541	L-SLP
Baldwin	Hailey	8548	L-AUD	Mack	Margo	8546	L-SLP
Bayona	Margarita	8543	L-SLP	Nunn	Shelby	8544	L-SLP
Boudreaux	Amy	8553	PL-SLP	Nwaozuru	Lucky	8533	L-SLP
Brehm	McKenzi	8551	PL-SLP	Sikes	Karen	8542	L-AUD
Cheney	Savannah	8549	PL-SLP	Sloan	Kyla	8529	PL-SLP
Dobrowolski	Cathryn	8535	PL-SLP	Smith	Kristin	8530	L-SLP
Dufrene	Claire	8534	L-AUD	Stovall	Mallory	8537	L-AUD
Freeman	Jheri	8547	L-SLP	Strong	Jordan	8539	L-AUD
Glover	Keonndra	7472	PL-SLP	Travis	Jordan	8554	L-AUD
Herrin	Kelly	8545	L-SLP	Tucker	Anne	8538	L-AUD
Hieger	Maggie	8527	L-SLP	Wood	Allison	8552	PL-SLP
Honaker	April	8528	PL-SLP				
Kessinger	Kacy	8540	PL-SLP				

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Jerrilyn Frasier 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.	Type
Ducote	Reagan	8536	PROVISIONAL SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT
Kelly	Kelishia	6423	SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT
Kling	Sage	8531	PROVISIONAL SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT
Luker	Allison	8532	PROVISIONAL SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Annette Hurley and unanimously carried, to upgrade the following licenses:

Last Name	First Name	License No.	Type	Last Name	First Name	License No.	Type
Aarstad	Jordan	8339	L-SLP	Kettering	Shannon	8357	L-SLP
Bennett	Carlie	8394	L-SLP	Landry	Maddie	8374	L-SLP
Benoit	Avery	8330	L-SLP	Martin	Amanda	8424	L-SLP
Benoit	Laura	8174	L-SLP	McCarthy	Kelley	8412	L-SLP
Boe	Andrea	8262	L-SLP	Mchan	Claire	8401	L-SLP
Callahan	Shannon	8409	L-SLP	Mcneil	Rachel	8354	L-SLP
Carlisle	Brittany	8348	L-SLP	Merendino	Camille	8342	L-SLP

Curdts	Lydia	8414	L-SLP	Miller	Avery	8328	L-SLP
Darbonne	Taylor	8410	L-SLP	Moore	Mallory	8340	L-SLP
Demanuelle	Rebecca	8378	L-SLP	Murphy	Cassie	8082	L-SLP
Digiaco	Emily	8301	L-SLP	Neyrey	Meaghan	8336	L-SLP
Duhon	Lauren	8411	L-SLP	Poirrier	Jaci	8156	L-SLP
Fincher	Shelby	8393	L-SLP	Robichaux	Olivia	8359	L-SLP
Fontenot	Meagan	8370	L-SLP	Sebastien	Maria	8314	L-SLP
Gauthier	Maya	8362	L-SLP	Shirley	Brooke	8352	L-SLP
Guidry	Dalane	8290	L-SLP	Smith	Eric	8256	L-SLP
Gutierrez	Christina	8368	L-SLP	Stills	Taylor	7968	L-SLP
Hammett	Lisa	6511	L-SLP	Sylvester	Shelby	8379	L-SLP
Hyatt	Jacie	8418	L-SLP	Tejada	Erika	8391	L-SLP
				Welch	Sydney	8355	L-SLP

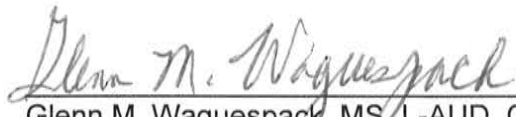
Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Deanna Hardy and unanimously carried, to **reinstate** the following licenses:

Last Name	First Name	License No.	Type
Benn-abbey	Patrice	3320	L-SLP
Coleman-smith	Yolanda	2988	L-SLP
Deroche	Dara Lynn	6115	L-SLP
Ghaith	Ashley	8055	PL-SLP
Jefferson	Samantha	6107	L-SLP
McCory	Christine	5937	L-SLP
Rice	Patricia	4925	L-SLP
Zeagler	Clare	1709	L-SLP

Motion was made by Annette Hurley, seconded by Erica Chatelain and unanimously carried, to come out of executive session at 3:05 p.m.

Motion was made by Erica Chatelain, seconded by Deanna Hardy and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 3:12 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED BY:


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


 Deanna Hardy, Public Board Member
 Secretary/Treasurer