West Virginia Board of Examiners for

Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

August 23, 2021

Board Meeting

Time: 5:30 PM

Location: Video Conference Meeting

Board Office

99 Edmiston Way – Suite 214

Buckhannon, WV 26201

Present: Board President – Erin Browning

Board Secretary, Vickie Pullins

Board Member, Michael Zagarella

Board Member, Vernon Mullins

Citizen Member, Joe Richards

Assistant Attorney General – Joanne Vella - Introduction

Executive Director, Patricia Nesbitt – Board Office

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by the Board President, Erin Browning.

Joanne Vella, Assistant Attorney General, was recently assigned to represent the Board. She gave the Board a brief overview of her experience.

Joe Richards made a motion to approve the minutes for the April 21, 2021 meeting, as amended. Vern Mullins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The financial and PCard report were presented. Vern Mullins made a motion to accept both reports. Vickie Pullins seconded the motion, Motion carried.

COMPLAINT #55 & CE AUDIT – Discussion was tabled until the next meeting while we wait on information from our attorney.

The CE audit was discussed relating to one Speech Pathologist who has not complied with the Consent Agreement and late fee. Erin will call the licensee and report back to the Board for a final Board decision.

NEW BUSINESS

A salary for the new employee, Pamela Coughlin, was discussed. The Board agreed $40,000 plus benefits was a fair starting salary. Mike Zagarella made a motion for President Erin Browning to present a proposal will present the proposed Board approved Salary and Benefits package for the new employee. Vickie Pullins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Vern Mullins wanted to reiterate, in case the request is made, that the Board members agree that extensions, etc., will not be granted, due to COVID-19, for the license renewal continuing education requirement. Even though in person sessions were cancelled there are many opportunities online. All members agreed.

The NCSB conference was discussed to know who will be attending. Vickie Pullins, a NCSB member of the Board of Directors, stated she did not believe the conference would be held in person. It will most likely be a virtual conference.

The NCSB sponsorship was tabled.

Vickie Pullins made a motion to adjourn. Joe Richards seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia J. Nesbitt, Executive Director

for

Vickie Pullins, Board Secretary