West Virginia Board of Examiners for

Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

February 17, 2021

Board Meeting

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: Video Conference Meeting

Board Office

99 Edmiston Way – Suite 214

Buckhannon, WV 26201

Present: Board Secretary, Vickie Pullins

Board Member, Michael Zagarella

Board Member, Vernon Mullins

Citizen Member, Joe E. Richards

Board Attorney, Keith Fisher, Asst. Atty. General

R. Michael Squires, Au.D., Parkersburg, WV

Executive Director, Patricia Nesbitt – Board Office

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Vickie Pullins, Board Secretary.

Election of Officers – Mike Zagarella made a motion to retain the current slate of officers. Vern Mullins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The minutes of the August 25, 2020 meeting were presented. Joe Richards made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Vern Mullins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Financial Report and PCard Reports were presented. The cash balance, as of January 31, 2021, is $353,101.75. Expenses are less than in past years due to the pandemic and cancellations of conferences, etc. Vern Mullins made a motion to accept the financial report as presented. Mike Zagarella seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The PCard Expense Reports were presented. Vickie Pullins made a motion to approve all reports as presented. Vern Mullins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 4 under New Business - Michael Squires requested a written interpretive statement from the Board to clarify the terminology in WV Code §30-32-14, Scope of practice for audiology, to have the same meaning as evaluation and management. Vickie Pullins made a motion to approve Michael Squires request. Vernon Mullins second the motion. Motion carried. The statement will read:

At its meeting on February 17, 2021, the West Virginia Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (the Board) reviewed and considered the scope of practice for Audiology, as set forth in W. Va. Code §30-32-14, and hereby affirms that the scope of practice for Audiology does include all aspects of the evaluation, treatment, and management of patients regarding auditory and vestibular integrity and disorders.

The Board further recognizes that each individual licensee is responsible to appropriately assess and defend his/her personal scope of practice, as a subset of the total recognized scope of their field(s), by virtue of their education, training, and professional experience.

Joe Richards made a motion to go into Executive session to discuss complaints. Vernon Mullins seconded the motion. Motion carried at 5:30 PM.

Vernon Mullins made a motion to end Executive session. Joe Richards seconded the motion. Executive session ended at 5:55 PM.

OLD BUSINESS

License Renewal Statistics were tabled until the next Board Meeting.

The Board had a brief discussion on the status of Rules suspensions once the state of emergency is lifted by the Governor, as well as the Governor’s Executive Order regarding registration of telepractice services with an out of state SLP or AUD license.

Erin Browning and Patty Nesbitt both attended the virtual FARB Forum the end of January. Patty Nesbitt gave a brief overview of the discussions included in the conference.

NEW BUSINESS

Joe Richards made a motion to go into Executive session to discuss licensee self-reports. Vickie Pullins seconded the motion. Motion carried at 6:11 PM.

Mike Zagarella made a motion to end Executive session. Joe Richards seconded the motion. The Executive session ended at 6:21 PM.

The ASHA Committee of Ambassadors presentation was tabled.

The additional information requested from the Academy of Doctors of Audiology regarding their request for a written determination of specific are included in the Audiology scope of practice was not received. The item was tabled.

Patty Nesbitt presented the relevant Chapter 30 Board bills introduced in the legislature.

The WVSHA conference in March is virtual this year. Patty Nesbitt will record a licensure presentation for graduate students.

Joe Richards made a motion to adjourn. Vickie Pullins seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:43PM

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia J. Nesbitt, Executive Director

for

Vickie Pullins, Board Secretary