

BOARD OF EXAMINERS ON SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

Minutes of the March 21, 2005 Board Meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

Cheryl Walters established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Members Present: Cheryl Walters, Norleen Fleming, Ruth Dodge, Nancy Steeves and Judith Flaker.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Colleen Eugley, Board Clerk; Penny Vaillancourt, Board Administrator; and Carolyn Silsby, Assistant Attorney General.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Action on February 28, 2005 minutes.

Motion to approve February 28, 2005 minutes as written was made by Cheryl Walters. The motion was seconded by Ruth Dodge.

Vote: 4 in favor (1 recused - Nancy Steeves)

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Complaint Items

Review of Maryellen Gallagher's Decision and Order

Motion to approve Decision and Order made by Norleen Fleming; Cheryl Walters seconded the motion.

Vote: 4 in favor (1 recused – Nancy Steeves)

Norleen Fleming made a motion to accept the continuing education documentation Maryellen Gallagher submitted; Judy Flaker seconded the motion.

Vote: 4 in favor (1 recused – Nancy Steeves)

SP-022

The licensee's attorney asked Kate Silsby to ask the Board if they would find it acceptable for him to see a counselor he had seen in the past for marriage counseling as part of the consent agreement.

Cheryl Walters made a motion to stay with the language in the consent agreement; Ruth Dodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 5 in favor

Kate Silsby has set for hearing in May unless the matter is settled before then.

SP-021

Review of the quarterly report.

Motion to accept the 3rd quarterly report from SP-021 made by Norleen Fleming; Judy Flaker seconded the motion.

Vote: 4 in favor (1 recused – Ruth Dodge)

B. License Application Review

As part of a speech-language assistant application for Charity-Leigh Fournier, Martha Pfirman submitted as part of the 10 hours of board-approved supervisory training, a 3-credit university class. There was discussion on whether the class is specific enough to the profession. The Board rules don't reflect that it has to be that specific.

Ruth Dodge made a motion to table determination until further documentation about the class is received; Nancy Steeves seconded the motion.

Vote: 5 in favor

Judy Flaker made a motion to allow the Board Chair to review the content of the class documentation and determine it meets the supervisory process; Nancy Steeves seconded the motion.

Vote: 5 in favor

C. Action taken on BESPAs activity number applications: The following CEUs were acted upon:

CEU Pre-Approval Requests

4 – approved

1 - denied (not clinically or professionally relevant to the practice of Speech-Language Pathology)

Norleen Fleming made a motion to approve 4 CEU pre-approval requests and deny one request appeal. Ruth Dodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 5 in favor

D. Correspondence

Dimitri Toothaker is teaching a course and is looking for ceu credit for teaching. Nancy Steeves noted on her letter that the Board cannot accept this and a letter will be drafted to the licensee regarding the board's rules on acceptable forms of continuing education credit.

A licensee requested the board to clarify billing practices regarding "Practitioners of the Healing Arts" and Medicaid questions. The board will respond that it cannot give legal advice regarding billing practices and will refer the licensee to the standards of practice as outlined in Chapter 6 of the board's rules.

A licensee requested the board to clarify supervision requirements of an SLP Assistant and the use of videotaping. The board will respond by reinforcing the supervision requirements as outlined in Chapter 4 of the board's rules. Specifically, the board will provide the licensee with the board's definition of direct and indirect supervision, as well as the requirements for supervision within the first 90 days, and after the first 90 days of registration of an SLP Assistant.

E. Miscellaneous

The board received legal clarification regarding the impact of OLR's Chapter 13 Audit Rule. The effect of this rule has extended the reporting period to be the license cycle of the license (March 1, 2004 to February 28, 2006, for example). There was additional discussion about the need to go to rulemaking to provide a transition for those who earned continuing education during the license period of November 1, 2003 through February 28, 2004. Discussion was also held about the need to go to rulemaking to identify the acceptable forms of continuing education as the current rules reflect only the types of continuing education, i.e. professionally relevant and clinically relevant.

The board requested that a letter be sent to licensees to inform them of this information pending department approval of rulemaking.

CEU Audit – board staff will prepare letter to send to 10% of licensees in each speech category, including those offered a consent agreement for the purpose of conducting the 2004 ceu audit. All board members will be included in the audit. The letter will be mailed to licensees, including a copy of the reporting form they already submitted for the 2002-2004 licensing period. Licensees will be requested to submit official documentation of ceu activities for that licensing period.

IV. Other Business

Administrator's Report:

LD 1277 (proposed legislation) – Penny Vaillancourt brings before the Board for comments. Discussion on possibly bringing back the speech aide status, possibly granting them more time to become aides. Presently there are Ed Tech III's working as speech aides. The basis for the legislation is that there has been difficulty in obtaining adult practicum hours in order to meet the board's requirements of a Registered Speech-Language Pathology Assistant.

Penny Vaillancourt will forward the board's comments Anne Head, Acting Commissioner. The public hearing is scheduled before the BRED Committee on April 12th and will kept the board informed of the status of the legislation.

Penny Vaillancourt reported that Anne Head recently met with a group of licensed audiologists, where proposed education requirement changes were discussed, along with concerns of maintaining three licenses between the BESPAs and Hearing Aid Dealers & Fitters board.

ADJOURN

Nancy Steeves made a motion to adjourn at 3:31 p.m. The motion was seconded by Ruth Dodge.

Vote: 5 in favor

The next meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2005, at 1:00 p.m.

All regular meetings are open to members of the public for observation, but not for participation. Public hearings for rule making are open for public comment. If you cannot attend this meeting, please contact Colleen Eugley at 624-8626.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Eugley, Board Clerk