

BOARD OF EXAMINERS ON SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

Minutes of the May 16, 2005 Board Meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

Cheryl Walters established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 1:12 p.m.

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

Members Absent: Judith Flaker.

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

II. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Action on March 21, 2005 minutes.

Motion to approve March 21, 2005 minutes, as revised, was made by Nancy Steeves. The motion was seconded by Norleen Fleming.

Vote: 4 in favor

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Complaint Items

Adjudicatory Hearing

SP-022 – Richard E. Nero – 1:30 p.m.

The hearing was called to order at 1:40 p.m.

The hearing was closed to testimony at 4:30 p.m. and Board deliberations immediately followed.

The Board concluded that Richard Nero violated the provisions of the Board's Rules, Code of Ethics, Chapter 6, "Principles of Ethics IV" and "Rule of Ethics B".

Vote: 3 – In Favor (1 recused – Ruth Dodge)

The Board concluded that Richard Nero violated certain provisions of the Board's Rules, Code of Ethics, Chapter 6, "Rule of Ethics B".

Vote: 3 – In Favor (1 recused – Ruth Dodge)

The Board ordered sanctions to include a warning, probation to include counseling sessions twice per month which are to commence on July 30, 2005. The counseling shall continue until the provider submits written confirmation to the Board that Richard Nero has satisfactorily achieved the goals of the counseling.

Vote: 3 – In Favor (1 recused – Ruth Dodge)

The hearing was closed at 5:10 p.m.

B. License Application Review

None.

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

CEU Pre-Approval Requests

4 – approved

Norleen Fleming made a motion to approve 4 CEU pre-approval requests. Nancy Steeves seconded the motion.

Vote: 4 in favor

D. Correspondence

Penny Vaillancourt reviewed an email she received from a licensee who was at a spring conference of the Maine Speech Language Hearing Association. There seemed to be a misinterpretation of the speech aide status information given to the participants of the class by the MSLHA presenters. Penny will respond to the email.

Penny Vaillancourt reviewed correspondence from MSAD #9 asking the Board to look at changing the rule of speech assistants only being able to be registered under one speech language pathologist. Penny will respond to the correspondence.

E. Miscellaneous

IV. Other Business

Anne Head provided an update to the board regarding a meeting she had with audiologists regarding licensure requirements and licensure issues with the Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters board. Discussions between members of the speech board and the hearing aid board regarding the possible restructuring of the boards will be held at some point in the future.

Administrator's Report:

Penny Vaillancourt updated the Board on LD #1277, which is awaiting the Governor's signature. This bill will allow speech aides who were registered as of December 31, 2004, to re-register as aides and have until December 31, 2008, to meet the requirements to register as a speech assistant.

Penny Vaillancourt informed the board that Christine Bruenn was confirmed as the Commissioner of the Department.

ADJOURN

Norleen Fleming made a motion to adjourn at 5:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Nancy Steeves.

Vote: 5 in favor

The next meeting is scheduled for June 20, 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, Acting Board Clerk, at 624-8626.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Eugley, Board Clerk