

STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR  
SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY  
REGULAR MEETING

Friday June 20, 2008 9:00 A.m.  
Texas Department of State Health Services  
Exchange Building  
8407 Wall Street, Room S-402  
Austin, Texas 78754

Minutes

**Committee Members Present:**

Sonya Salinas – Professional member	Richard Caldwell-Public member
Patricia Brannon – Professional member	Kerry Ormson-Professional member
Rosario Brusniak – Professional member	Matthew Lyon- Professional member
Dr. Minette Son – Professional member	Vickie Dionne-Professional member

**DSHS Staff Present:**

Joyce Parsons  
David Richards  
Stephen Mills  
Jose Paiz

**Guest Present:**

Larry Higdon  
Dick Danielson  
Ross Rosier

**Agenda item 1** was call to order. The meeting was called to order at 9:02 p.m. by Mr. Ormson, chair.

**Agenda item 2** was Public Comment. Dr. Dick Danielson and Dr. Ross Rosier commented that they represent the Texas Academy of Audiology (TAA) and were planning on addressing the board in regards to the role of an assistant in audiology. At this time TAA does not have any suggestions.

**Agenda item 3** was Discussion and possible action concerning the approval of minutes from the October 26, 2007 and March 7, 2008 board meeting. Mr. Lyon made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 7, 2008 board meeting. The motion was seconded and passed. Mr. Lyon made a motion to approve the corrected minutes from the October 26, 2007 board meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

**Agenda item 4** was discussion and possible action concerning review and approval of the committee reports:

Ms. Salinas gave the speech scope of practice committee reports for the meetings held May 2, 2008 and June 19, 2008.

During the May 2, 2008 speech scope of practice meeting, the committee updated the current speech-language pathology forms to reflect rule changes. Ms. Salinas made a motion to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Ms. Salinas reported that at the June 19, 2008 meeting, the committee reviewed two applications for licensure. The committee recommends that one applicant needs successful complete the Praxis exam and the other applicant meets the requirements for full licensure. The committee recommends that the ad hoc committee for the jurisprudence examination be reinstated. The committee recommends several proposed amendments to §741.64(g)(4) and §741.64(k)(17). The committee recommends that the step by step

application guidelines for applicants who have graduated from universities that are not ASHA accredited be approved. The committee recommends that a task force committee be formed to review issues relating to telepractice. Ms. Salinas made a motion to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Mr. Lyons gave the audiology scope of practice committee report for the meetings held April 16, 2008 and June 19, 2008.

Mr. Lyon reported that on April 16, 2008 the committee met in San Antonio and spent most of the day reviewing and updating §741.82, §741.44 and §741.102. The committee recommends that proposed amendments to § 741.82, §741.44 and §741.102 be approved. Mr. Lyon made a motion to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Mr. Lyon reported that at the June 19, 2008 meeting that the committee review the proposed amendments to § 741.82, §741.44 and §741.102 and are recommending a few changes. Mr. Lyons also reported that after some discussion the committee will select another day to hold another all-day committee to review the audiology board rules. Mr. Lyon made a motion to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Ms. Dionne gave the complaints committee report from the June 19, 2008 meeting. The committee reviewed 17 complaints. Two complaints were postponed to the next committee meeting. Four complaints were closed with no violations. Four complaints were closed with a warning letter. Two complaints were return to investigations for more information. Two complaints were closed with an administrative penalty of \$200 and three continuing education unit hours. Two were closed with an administrative penalty of \$100 and three continuing education unit hours. One complaint was closed with a warning letter and three continuing education unit hours.

**Agenda item 5** was discussion and possible action regarding the application of licensure of June Walsh Kovach. Ms. Brusniak made the motion to allow Ms. Kovach to obtain her license in speech-language pathology upon successful passing score of the PRAXIS exam (score of 600 or higher). The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**Agenda item 6** was Discussion and possible action regarding the application of licensure of Eric Gilbert Puga. Dr. Son made a motion to allow Mr. Puga to obtain his license in speech-language pathology as he had met the requirements as stated in the board rules. The motion was seconded and passed.

**Agenda item 7** was discussion and possible action regarding the implementation of a jurisprudence examination. Ms. Brannon made the motion to recommend to the board that the ad hoc committee for the Jurisprudence exam be reinstated so that the committee could: revise the questions to include new rules, determine how the exam will be used, establish timelines, and pilot the examination a minimum of one time. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**Agenda item 8** was discussion and possible action regarding the ASHA requirements for supervision of Clinical Fellows. Ms. Brusniak made the motion that the supervisor of a speech-language pathology intern (Clinical Fellow/CF) has the 3 years of professional experience as stated in the board rules. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**Agenda item 9** was discussion and possible action regarding the proposed amendments to 22 TAC, Chapter 741, relating to the role and guidelines of the licensed speech-language pathologist assistants who work in home health and rehab facilities. Dr. Son made a motion that the board rule 741.64(g)(4) be modified by omitting the phrase "at the location where the assistant is employed". This would be proposed to the board to read as "The supervising speech-language pathologist shall provide a minimum of two

hours per week of supervision, at least one hour of which is face to face supervision. This applies whether the assistant practices full-time or part-time". The motion was seconded and passed.

Ms. Brannon recommended that a question be written (for the FAQ section on the Board website) on the topic of supervision of varied patients. She will write the question and send to the committee members for review.

Ms. Brusniak made a motion to propose that 741.64(k)(17) be modified to read: "The licensed speech-language pathologist assistant shall not write or sign any formal documentation relating to the reimbursement of speech-language pathology services." The motion was seconded and passed.

**Agenda item 10** was discussion and possible action regarding the proposed amendments to 22 TAC, Chapter 741, relating to the application process for applicants with transcript from foreign countries. The committee will recommend to the board that it accept the step by step application guidelines for applicants who have graduated from universities that are not ASHA accredited.

**Agenda item 11** was discussion and possible action regarding the proposed amendments to 22 TAC, Chapter 741, relating to telepractice. Ms. Brannon made a motion to recommend to the board that a task force committee be formed to review the issues relating to telepractice and that members of TSHA be invited. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**Agenda item 12** was items for future consideration. There were no items noted for future consideration.

**Agenda item 13** was announcements and comments not requiring committee action. There were no announcements and comments not requiring committee action.

**Agenda 14** was the adjournment of the meeting. Ms. Brusniak made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

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Kerry Ormson, Board Chair

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Joyce Parsons, Executive Director

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Date