

The regular session emergency meeting of the Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists was held on April 30, 2020, teleconference. The meeting came to order at 4:05 p.m. Present for the quorum via conference call were Dr. Tam Nguyen, Dr. Tinita Kearney, Dr. Jennifer Mertes, Dr. Stacey Samuels Cole, Mr. John Rouse, Ms. Ellen Stine, Mr. Kim Keller, Mr. George Sheckells, Dr. Barbara McLendon, and Ms. Carolyn Stine.

#### **Staff Present**

Dr. Candace G. Robinson, Executive Director  
Bethan Haaga, AAG Board Counsel  
Zoann Mouzone, Administrative Specialist III  
Monica H. Wright, Office Secretary III

#### **Absent Members**

Mr. John Cummins  
Ms. Jillian DeLuca  
Dr. Carrie Nieman

#### **Absent Staff**

#### **Visitors**

- Kimberly Link, Esq. – Executive Director, Board of Professional Counselors, Acting Board Liaison
- Marsye Kaplan, SLP – liaison from the Special Education department for the speech-language pathology steering committee with Maryland State Department of Education
- Lindsay Knoblauch, SLP – Board Member, MSHA
- Adrienne Starr, SLP – Phillips School, Annondale, VA
- Sofie Roller, AUD – President, Maryland Academy of Audiology
- Alicia Spoor, AUD – Legislative Chair, the Maryland Academy of Audiology
- Jennifer Kinkaid, AUD – Audiology Associates, Inc.
- Deirdre Courtney, AUD – Audiology Associates, Inc.
- Angela Mezzomo, SLP – Maryland Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- Jessica Oginz, PT – Ivymount School, supervisor OT, PT and works closely with SLP dept.
- Dede Matrangola, SLP – Loyola University, Maryland
- Zirka Hanas, SLP – Baltimore City Public Schools
- Ricky Stinson, SLP – Baltimore City Public Schools
- Diana Desierto, SLP – Baltimore City Public Schools
- Janeen Moore, SLP – Dept. Supervisor of Phillips School programs, Annandale, VA
- Jill Eidelman, SLP – Maryland School for the Blind
- Melanie Upright, SLP – Charles County Public Schools, Maryland

#### **Agenda Review and Approval for March 30, 2020**

Dr. Tam Nguyen made a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Ellen Stein seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

#### **Regulatory Review**

NONE

#### **Executive Director's Report – Dr. Candace G. Robinson**

**Telehealth concerns for continuity of care:** The Board voted to send a letter to Secretary Neall to consider out of state licensees to provide services to those in Maryland for continuity of care.

**Hearing aid programming and fitting concerns from licensees:**

Bethan Haaga, Board Counsel, believed that changing the minimum testing requirements for fitting or programming of a hearing device would require a change in our regulations and the process could not be done until legislative session, would likely be after the state of emergency is lifted. Further, she did not believe that Secretary Neall would have the authority to do so without going through the regulation process.

**Treasurer's Report - Dr. Candace Robinson**

Dr. Robinson, reported the Boards balance is 201,518.79 as of the end of March, 2020.

**Chair Report- Dr. Jennifer Mertes**

**New Vice Chair:** Happy to announce that Dr. Stacey Samuels Cole will serve as Vice Chair.

**Committee Recommendation: A list of applicants that were ready to be Board approved for licensure was reviewed.**

Ms. Caroline Stine made a motion to approve the licenses. Ms. McLendon seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**Correspondence & F.Y.I**

NONE

**Next Board Meeting – May 21, 2020**

**Adjournment**

Ms. Caroline Stine made a motion to adjourn the emergency regular session of the Board meeting. Mr. John Rouse seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The regular emergency session meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Mertes, Au.D.  
Chair