



**Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board  
77 South High Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215**

**Board Meeting Minutes of Monday, December 6, 2021**

The Regular Business Meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by Board President, Tammy H. Brown, held at 77 South High Street, 31<sup>st</sup> Floor, Board Room.

**Board Officers and Members – Roll Call:**

Tammy H. Brown, M.A., CCC-A, Audiology Board Member and Board President  
Steven M. Griffin, M.A., CCC-SLP, Speech-Language Pathology Board Member  
Nancy Mills, Au.D., Audiology Board Member  
Michael R. Pratt, H.A.S., Hearing Aid Specialist Board Member  
Matthew Starner, H.A.S., Hearing Aid Specialist Board Member  
Stephen M. White, Esq., Public Member

**Also Present:**

Gregg B. Thornton, Executive Director  
Connie J. Allen, Board Investigator  
Cheryl R. Hawkinson, Principal Assistant Attorney General

**Excused Absence:**

Lisa Dodge Burton, Public Member  
Barbara L. Prakup, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, Speech-Language Pathology Board Member  
Carrie L. Spangler, Au.D., CCC-A, Audiology Board Member and Board Secretary

**AGENDA**

**Motion #1**

Mr. Starner moved to accept the agenda as submitted. Mr. White seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the October 20, 2021 board meeting were reviewed.

**Motion #2**

Dr. Mills moved to accept the minutes of the October 20, 2021 board meeting. Mr. Starner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**BOARD PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

Ms. Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting. She thanked everyone for their continued support of the COVID-19 protocols being followed during the in-person meeting. She thanked Mr. Thornton and the staff for their continued teamwork with the Board's operations.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Thornton submitted a written report of significant activities occurring since the last Board meeting. He provided updates regarding:

- Significant meetings, presentations, and events
- Legislative and media contacts
- Year-to-date revenue and expenditures for FY2022
- Significant legislation
- COVID-19 updates
- ASLP-IC Interstate Compact
- Continuing education audits
- Occupational Licensure Board Review
- Annual ethics training for board members and staff

**ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT**

There were no legal updates from Principal Assistant Attorney General Cheryl Hawkinson.

**INVESTIGATIONS****EXECUTIVE SESSION****Motion #3**

Mr. Starner moved to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing investigation of charges or complaints against a licensee, regulated individual, or an applicant for the purpose of disciplinary action pursuant to R.C. §121.22.(G)(1), and which requires that such matters be kept confidential under R.C. §121.22(G)(5). Dr. Mills seconded the motion, which passed by roll call vote as follows: Ms. Burton: excused absence; Mr. Griffin: yes; Dr. Mills: yes; Dr. Prakup: excused absence; Mr. Pratt: yes; Dr. Spangler: excused absence; Mr. Starner: yes; Mr. White: yes; and Ms. Brown: yes

The Board went into Executive Session at 9:53 a.m. and invited Board staff to remain in attendance. The Board also invited the Assistant Attorney General to remain in attendance.

The Board returned to Public Session at 10:25 a.m.

**B. BOARD ACTIONS****New Cases****CO2021-12051**

This case involves a speech-language pathologist who was terminated from employment from a rehabilitation facility because the licensee took possession of the following facility keys without authorization: master key (access to restrooms, maintenance and administrators offices and business doors); a glass sliding door (was to remain closed during Covid); a therapist's office door; the therapy manager's filing cabinet. The employer questioned how the keys were obtained and what the keys were used for. The licensee said they were their personal keys to their home. Knowing this was not true, the licensee later informed the employer that the keys were in fact not their personal keys. The licensee: obtained initial licensure June 1987; is currently not employed; is currently under an Adjudication Order, entered on May 1, 2019. This is their second offense. The licensee's conduct constitutes a breach of the terms and conditions of their Adjudication Order as follows:

- Further violations of Chapters 4744 and 4753 of the Ohio Revised and Admin. Code occurred.
- In violation of Ohio Revised Code Section (ORC) 4753.10 (A)(13) and Admn. Code (OAC) Sections 4753-3-08(M) and OAC 4753-9-01(C)(1)(a), code of ethics – failing to maintain a professional behavior and not engage in dishonesty, fraud, deceit, misrepresentation or other illegal conduct that may adversely reflect on the profession or the individual.

Accordingly, the Investigative Review Group recommends that the Board approve a settlement agreement with the following terms and conditions and to continue monitoring this case upon the licensee accepting and completing the terms of the settlement:

- Suspend indefinitely, all stayed except for 90 days;
- Shall provide the Board with a release to obtain a copy of the licensee's mental health evaluation;
- Shall complete a new mental health assessment by their current mental health provider (cost incurred by the licensee) that includes details regarding the allegations considered in this case;
- Shall provide the Board with a release to obtain any and all medical information related to their mental health condition;
- The licensee and their mental health team shall immediately notify the Board if there is a relapse or change in the licensee's mental health plan;
- Shall provide the Board with a letter from their mental health team, every three months, attesting that they continue treatment, follows their mental health care plan and can perform their job as a speech-language pathologist, the first letter is due within 90D from the settlement effective date;
- If the Board receives information that the licensee is no longer in treatment, the Board, at its discretion, may require the licensee to complete a mental health assessment by a mental health provider approved by the Board;
- If the licensee obtains re-employment, the employer(s) shall submit to the Board the licensee's annual performance evaluation within 30 days from the date of the annual performance;
- Continuing education hours shall be audited indefinitely;
- Shall have no further violations of Chapter 4744 and 4753 of the Ohio Revised and Admn. Code Chapter;

**Motion #4**

Mr. Griffin moved to accept the Investigative Review Group's recommendation with the above modifications in case **CO2021-12051**. Mr. Starner seconded the motion. Mr. Pratt abstained. The motion passed unanimously.

**CO2021-16887**

This case involves a speech-language pathologist who renewed late (after the July 1, 2021 renewal extension deadline) and practiced under an expired license for more than fifteen days. Services were billed and adjustments were made. The licensee: obtained initial licensure February 2007; completed the required continuing education hours for the 2019-20 biennium; applied for reinstatement. This is their first offense.

Accordingly, the Investigative Review Group recommends that the Board approve a settlement agreement with the following terms and conditions and to close the case upon the licensee accepting and completing the terms:

For violation of the ORC Section 4753.02 unauthorized practice, 4753.09 license renewal and 4753.10(A)(9), (13) unprofessional conduct while engaging in the practice of speech-language pathology, violating this chapter or any lawful order and OAC Section 4753-9-01(C)(e)(i), code of ethics:

- Reprimand.
- Shall complete two additional continuing education hours in the area of ethics within 60 days from the settlement effective date. The two hours are not applicable towards the current biennium for renewal.
- Shall complete and pass the Board's jurisprudence examination within 90 days of receipt of the exam.
- Shall have no further violations of Chapters 4744 and 4753.

**Motion #5**

Dr. Mills moved to accept the Investigative Review Group's recommendation in case **CO2021-16887**. Mr. Starner seconded the motion. Mr. Pratt abstained. The motion passed unanimously.

Previously Heard Cases**CO2021-13313**

This case involves a speech-language pathologist who renewed late (after the July 1, 2021 extension deadline) and practiced under an expired license for more than fifteen days. Services were not billed. The licensee obtained initial licensure July 2012 and completed the required continuing education hours for the 2019-20 biennium. This is their first offense.

At its October 20, 2021 meeting, the Board heard this case. They agreed with the Investigative Review Group's recommendation (*below*). The licensee agreed to the terms and signed the Consent Agreement.

Accordingly, the Investigative Review Group recommends that the Board approve and close the case upon the licensee completing the terms:

- *Reprimand.*
- *Complete two additional continuing education hours, in the area of ethics, due 60 days from the effective date of the Consent.*

- *Passing of the Boards' jurisprudence examination due 90 days of receipt of the examination.*

**Motion #6**

Mr. White moved to accept the Investigative Review Group's recommendation in case **CO2021-13313**. Dr. Mills seconded the motion. There were no abstentions from those present. The motion passed unanimously.

**C. INVESTIGATIVE REPORT – Mrs. Allen**

Since the last Board Meeting 10/20/2021	OPENED Investigations	15
	CLOSED Investigations	4
Current Open Investigations		64
Of the Current Open Investigations	Consumer Complaints	9
	Referral Complaints	55
Current Open Cases Due to Monitoring	Consent Agreement(s)	8
	Adjudication Order(s)	1

**Of the Current Open Investigations, the Investigative Categories are:**

Application Requirements Not Met	0
Billing Fraud	0
Continuing Education Violation and/or Self Report	29
Conviction	0
False or Misleading Advertisement	1
Falsified/Misleading Application	0
Illegal, Incompetent, or Habitually Negligent Practice	0
Impaired Practice	0
Misrepresentation of Credentials	0
Practicing Under Expired License and CE Violation	1
Practicing Under Expired/Inactive License	14
Renewal Issue	2
Supervised Professional Experience Violations	0
Unlicensed Practice	1
Unprofessional/Unethical Conduct	16

**Sub-Categories – Unprofessional Conduct Investigations**

Documented Unrendered Services; Billing	2
Failure to Disclose disciplinary action by other Entity	1
SPE Supervisor Responsibilities	1
Standard of Practice Issue	2
Student harm by staff	1
Terminated as hearing aid network provider	1
Terminated from Employment	5
Transcript Late	1
VA benefits cancelled due to wrong patient information documented	1
Yelled at patient	1

**UPDATES SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

Other Information, Enforcement Activities and/or Outcome of some of the previously closed cases:

- Referrals to Investigations – 12
- Educational Letters – 12
- License Verifications – 54

### **Continuing Education**

#### **2019-20 CE Audit**

August 2021, ten percent of audiologists, speech-language pathologists and hearing aid fitters (active license status) were audited for their 2019-20 CE hours. 460 licensees were audited. Fifty-seven percent of audits have been reviewed to completeness. The board member audits are also complete.

### **Disciplinary Investigations Statistics for 2021 To Date**

#### **Disciplinary Investigative Actions Taken**

Hearings	1
Adjudication Orders	1
Consent Agreements	6
Consent Agreements Non-Reportable	1
Educational Letters	28
Referrals to Prosecutor	0
Referrals to Other Agencies	2

#### **Category of Disciplinary Investigative Actions Taken To Date**

Application Requirements Not Met	0
Billing Fraud	1
Continuing Education Violation	5
Conviction – Disqualifying Offense	1
False or Misleading Advertisement	1
Falsified/Misleading Application	0
Illegal, Incompetent or Habitually Negligent Practice	0
Impaired Practice	0
Misrepresentation of Credentials	0
Practicing Under Expired License and CE Violation	1
Practicing Under Expired/Inactive License	4
Renewal Issue	4
Supervised Professional Experience Violations	4
Unlicensed Practice	1
Unprofessional/Unethical Conduct	9

#### **Sub-Categories – Unprofessional/Unethical Conduct**

Documented Unrendered Services	No.	1
Hearing Aid non return	1	
Hearing Aid not working	1	
Hearing Aid online sale out of state to Ohio consumer	1	
Hurt ear/pressed hearing aid	1	
SPE Supervisor Responsibilities	2	
Transcript Late	2	

**LICENSURE**  
**Carrie Spangler**

**APPROVAL –**

## A. License Review

### Motion #7

Ms. Brown moved to ratify the Audiology, Hearing Aid Dealers, Hearing Aid Fitters, Hearing Aid Satellites, Conditional Speech-Language Pathology, Speech-Language Pathology, and Trainee Permit licenses granted by the Executive Director since the last Board Meeting. Mr. Starner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

License: Number	Issue Date	Applicant Full Name
IL.03456	10/15/2021	AmyLynn Pope Rule
SP.14664	10/15/2021	Julie Michelle Marcel
TP.11270	10/15/2021	Randall George Rausch
SP.14666	10/19/2021	Kristin Mary Gillig Casallas
COND.20211898-SP	10/19/2021	Brandy Shook
SP.14665	10/19/2021	Carla A. Rivera
SP.14667	10/20/2021	Lucy R. Ingram
TP.11271	10/20/2021	Bailey Wiford
A.02343	10/20/2021	Joseph Frank Lanzetta
SP.14668	10/21/2021	Kaitlyn Adams
TP.11272	10/21/2021	Ashley Marie O'Farrell
HAD.00124-SAT	10/21/2021	DoraAnn Rodriguez
SP.14670	10/21/2021	Kayleigh Anne Izor
SP.14671	10/21/2021	Shannon M Robbins
HAD.00123-SAT	10/21/2021	Rebecca L. Belt
SP.14669	10/21/2021	Rikki Ellen Brumbaugh
TP.11273	10/21/2021	Abigail Rose VanHorssen
AIDE.10135-A	10/26/2021	Bailey Wiford
AIDE.10136-A	10/26/2021	Kelli Ilderton
SP.14672	10/26/2021	Madison Hatfield
SP.14674	10/27/2021	Scott Jeffery Archibald
SP.14673	10/27/2021	Charisse Marie Toeppe
SP.14678	11/4/2021	Kendall Kelly
SP.14675	11/4/2021	Stephanie Kay Wimsatt
SP.14676	11/4/2021	Sarah E. Bowman
A.02344	11/4/2021	Jennifer A Ishmael
SP.14677	11/4/2021	Erin Jean Severhof
SP.14679	11/4/2021	Veronica Karen Musser
SP.14680	11/4/2021	Courtney Jean Hephner
SP.14681	11/11/2021	Catalina T. Morar
COND.20211899-SP	11/12/2021	Rachel N Hoisington
TP.11274	11/15/2021	Kara Angelica Johnson
COND.20211900-SP	11/15/2021	Mason Forest Hakes
SP.14682	11/15/2021	McKenzie May Springford
SP.14684	11/16/2021	Jacinda Hickman

AIDE.10137-A	11/16/2021	Ashley E Smith
COND.20211901-SP	11/16/2021	Blair Taylor
SP.14683	11/16/2021	Mary Pearl
SP.14685	11/18/2021	Margaret Foley
COND.20211902-SP	11/22/2021	Hussein Ali Chouaib
HAD.00125-SAT	11/22/2021	Sheila M Portz
IL.03457	11/22/2021	Dillian M Franklin
HAD.03388	11/22/2021	Sherrie Stump
HAD.03389	11/24/2021	Sheila M Portz
SP.14687	11/29/2021	Kristen Marie Nicol
SP.14688	11/29/2021	Jamie Maxwell
SP.14689	11/29/2021	Helen Handley
SP.14686	11/29/2021	Macey Danielle Szalay
TP.11275	11/29/2021	Nicole Beranek

<b>Audiology Aides</b>
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None

<b>Speech-Language Pathology Aides</b>
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None

<b>Licensure Applications</b>
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None

<b>Special Applications</b>
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None

**LICENSING SUMMARY**

Audiology	1,074
Audiology Aide	77
Conditional Speech-Language Pathology	372
Dual – Audiology and Speech-Language	27
Hearing Aid Dealers	217
Hearing Aid Satellites	419
Hearing Aid Fitters	412
Inactive Audiology	45
Inactive Speech-Language Pathology	256
Speech-Language Pathology	7,950
Speech-Language Pathology Aide	3
Trainee Permit Holders	35
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>10,887</b>



## **BOARD BUSINESS**

### A. Audit Management Letter

The Board reviewed the final audit management letter issued by the State Auditor's Office of the board's operations for the 2020-2021 fiscal year period. There were no recommendations or findings made.

### B. Approval of Board Expenditures – Laptop Computer

Mr. Thornton reported that one of the Board office laptop computer's hardware system failed and needed to be replaced.

### **Motion #8**

Mr. White moved to approve an expenditure in the amount of \$1,159 to vendor Brown Enterprise for a laptop computer. Mr. Pratt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Board President, Tammy Brown noted for the record that she is not affiliated with the vendor and the same last name is purely coincidental.

### C. Ohio Dyslexia Committee – Update

Mr. Griffin updated the Board on the status of the Ohio Dyslexia Committee. Mr. Griffin stated that a draft of the Ohio Dyslexia Guidebook was recently released for public comment. The guidebook focuses on three areas of law: school districts must establish a certification process for structured literacy programs; establish acceptable training and certification programs; and establish guidelines centered around instruction of school children identified with dyslexia. He stated that the committee will continue to meet in 2022. The committee intends to develop guidelines addressing students with hearing loss who have dyslexia.

### D. NCSB Secretariat for ASLP-IC Commission Vote

Mr. Thornton updated the Board about the National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (NCSB) serving as the "Secretariat" for the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC). The role of the secretariat would be to help the ASLP-IC Commission setup the database system and other administrative tasks to get the compact operational. NCSB will be asking its member states to vote on whether it should serve as the secretariat to the ASLP-IC Commission.

### **Motion #9**

Mr. Starner moved to authorize the Board's Executive Director to vote on the question of whether NCSB should serve as secretariat to the ASLP-IC Commission. Mr. White seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### E. FDA's Proposed Regulations on Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids

The Board reviewed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's proposed regulations for over-the-counter hearing aids. The FDA is accepting public comments on the proposed regulations until January 18, 2022. The Board discussed issues and concerns and authorized the Board's Executive Director to draft public comments and submit them to the FDA on behalf of the Board.

## F. Poll Board Members for 2022 Reappointments

The following board members whose terms are up for expiration on March 22, 2022 were polled to determine if they intend to apply for reappointment.

Barbara Prakup – No (Confirmed by Mr. Thornton)  
Carrie Spangler – Yes (Confirmed by Mr. Thornton)  
Matt Starner - No  
Stephen White - Yes

## G. Board Meeting Dates, Elections and Committee Assignments for 2022

The Board set the following meeting dates for 2022:

### **Board Meeting Dates for 2022**

January 31<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 a.m. (Monday)

March 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. (Friday)

May 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. (Tuesday)

July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30 a.m. (Friday)

August 31<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 a.m. (Wednesday)

October 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. (Tuesday)

December 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. (Thursday)

### **Election of Board Officers**

The Board discussed the board officer positions and duties, and the procedures for the election of board officers. Mr. Thornton presided over the election of the board president due to Dr. Spangler's excused absence. Dr. Mills moved to nominate Ms. Brown as board president for 2022. Mr. White seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. The Board voted unanimously to elect Tammy Brown as Board President for 2022.

Ms. Brown presided over the election of the board secretary. Mr. Starner moved to nominate Dr. Spangler as board secretary for 2022. Mr. Pratt seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. The Board voted unanimously to elect Carrie Spangler as Board Secretary for 2022.

After conferring with board members, Ms. Brown made the following committee assignments for 2022:

### **Rules Committee – 2022**

Matt Starner, Chair and (HAD)  
Nancy Mills, (AUD)

Steve Griffin, (SLP)  
Lisa Burton, (Public)  
Board President  
Board Executive Director

**Professional Competency Committee – 2022**

Michael Pratt, Chair and (HAD)  
Carrie Spangler, (AUD)  
Barbara Prakup, (SLP)  
Stephen White, (Public)  
Board President  
Board Executive Director

**Investigative Review Group – 2022**

Michael Pratt, Chair and (HAD)  
Nancy Mills (AUD Consultant)  
Barbara Prakup/Steve Griffin (SLP Consultant)  
Board Investigator  
Board Executive Director  
Assistant Attorney General

**Policy and Procedure Committee – 2022**

Board President, Chair  
Executive Director  
Lisa Burton (Public)

**Review Committee January - June 2022**

Carrie Spangler (AUD applications)  
Barbara Prakup (SLP applications)  
Matt Starner (HAD applications)

**Review Committee July - December 2022**

Nancy Mills (AUD applications)  
Steve Griffin (SLP applications)  
Michael Pratt (HAD applications)

**CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence discussed at the meeting.

**OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

There were no comments from members of the public or professional organizations.

**MEMBER CONCERNS**

There were no member concerns.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:49 p.m.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Tammy H. Brown, Board President

\_\_\_\_\_  
January 31, 2022  
Date



\_\_\_\_\_  
Gregg B. Thornton, Executive Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
January 31, 2022  
Date



\_\_\_\_\_  
Carrie L. Spangler, Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
January 31, 2022  
Date