



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Teleconference Meeting

November 22, 2021

For the sake of clarity, the meeting minutes are organized in numerical order to reflect their original order on the agenda; however, issues were taken out of order during the meeting.

1. Call to Order / Roll Call / Establishment of Quorum

Dr. Marcia Raggio, Board Chair, called the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board (Board) meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Dr. Raggio called roll; five members of the Board were present and thus a quorum was established.

Board Members Present

Marcia Raggio, AuD, Board Chair
Holly Kaiser, SLP, Vice Board Chair
Tod Borges, HAD, Board Member
Gilda Dominguez, SLP, Board Member
Debbie Snow, Public Board Member

Staff Present

Paul Sanchez, Executive Officer
Cherise Burns, Assistant Executive Officer
Lisa Snelling, Licensing Coordinator
Heather Olivares, Legislation/Regulation Analyst
Maria Liranzo, Legislation/Regulation/Budget Analyst
Michael Kanotz, DCA Legal Counsel
Brianna Miller, DCA Executive Office
David Bouilly, DCA Web Cast
Sarah Irani, DCA Web Cast
Elizabeth Coronel, DCA Web Cast
Mike Sanchez, DCA Web Cast

Guests Present

Pablo Velez
Maret Wilson Walker

2. Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda

Pablo Velez, Program Director with Amigo Baby from Ventura County, commented on concerns with the end of the waiver for tele supervision and its impact on Speech-Language Pathologists who use a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant to translate.

Maret Wilson Walker, Board Member with California Speech-Language Hearing Association (CSHA), commented on a letter to the Board from CSHA regarding the end of the waiver for tele supervision and the impact on consumers and providers.

3. Discussion and Possible Action on the Board's 2022 Sunset Review Report

Paul Sanchez opened the discussion on the Board's 2022 Sunset Review Report and expressed his gratitude for public comments and the members of the Sunset Review Ad Hoc Committee.

Mr. Sanchez opened the discussion on Section 1 regarding the background and description of the board and regulated profession. Mr. Sanchez provided a summary of the information in this section and commented on the changes to the language since the last Sunset Review Report.

Cherise Burns opened the discussion on Section 2 regarding performance measures and customer satisfaction surveys. Ms. Burns provided a summary of the information in this section and commented on the attachments associated with this section.

Mr. Sanchez opened the discussion on Section 3 regarding fiscal and staff. Mr. Sanchez provided a summary of the information in this section and commented on the current fund level and spending. Ms. Burns commented on the fee information included in the report and Budget Change Proposal for staffing.

Ms. Burns opened the discussion on Section 4 regarding the licensing program and provided a summary of the information in this section. Ms. Burns commented on the various tables associated with this section. Mr. Sanchez inquired of Ms. Burns if she can provide information on the challenges of conducting Continuing Education (CE) audits during the pandemic. Ms. Burns replied with information on the CE audit process, changes to business process due to the COVID pandemic, and the Board's plan to resume CE audits.

Dr. Raggio inquired about the problem of incomplete applications. Ms. Burns commented on checklists on each application, possible reasons for incomplete applications, and efforts the Board has made to reduce the submission of incomplete applications. Dr. Raggio commented on the consequences for incomplete applications. Ms. Burns commented on an increased workload as a result of incomplete applications and that additional measures were needed to processing incomplete applications. Ms. Burns stated that, when the Board completes its Business Modernization Project, all the required documents will be required for online applications with some exceptions such as school transcripts. Mr. Sanchez commented on the increased workload also as a result of an increasing licensing population.

Dr. Raggio inquired on the reasons for Continuing Professional Development courses not being approved. Ms. Burns replied with reasons for denied courses from what she has

seen. Mr. Sanchez stated that some courses are generally outside of the scope of practice for Hearing Aid Dispensers and are often repeated submissions of a previously denied course. Ms. Burns noted the increase in denied courses in 2021. Lisa Snelling described topics of courses that were denied by the Board.

Dr. Marcia Raggio inquired on how this Board's CE audits compare to other healing arts boards. Mr. Sanchez replied with information on this Board's workload and shared his experience with CE audits at another Board. Ms. Burns replied with her experience with CE audits at another Board.

Dr. Raggio inquired about adding language in the report to acknowledge the problem and provide a solution. Mr. Sanchez replied that there is a statement on the top of page 52.

Holly Kaiser inquired about processing incomplete applications compare to complete applications. Ms. Burns replied with information on the current office process for incomplete applications compare to complete applications. Mr. Sanchez commented on Board staff processing applications. Ms. Kaiser inquired if applicants are aware of the impact of incomplete applications. Mr. Sanchez commented on outreach to inform applicants. Ms. Burns commented on the potential issues that may occur to complete an incomplete application. Ms. Kaiser commented on providing the information on the application or website to increase applicant's awareness of the impact of incomplete application.

Mr. Sanchez opened the discussion on Section 5 regarding the enforcement program and provided a summary of the information in this section. Mr. Sanchez commented on the various tables associated with this section.

Mr. Sanchez opened the discussion on Section 6 regarding public information policies and provided a summary of the information in this section.

Mr. Sanchez opened the discussion on Section 7 regarding online practice issues and provided a summary of the information in this section.

Ms. Burns opened the discussion on Section 8 regarding workforce development and job creation. Ms. Burns provided a summary of the information in this section.

Ms. Burns opened the discussion on Section 9 regarding current issues and provided a summary of the information in this section. Mr. Sanchez inquired of Ms. Burns if she can provide a brief background on the items being discussed in this section. Ms. Burns provided a brief background on Uniform Standards, Consumer Protection Enforcement Initiative, and BreEZe.

Ms. Burns opened the discussion on Section 10 regarding Board actions and responses to COVID-19. Ms. Burns provided a summary of the information in this section.

Mr. Sanchez opened the discussion on Section 11 regarding board action and response

to prior sunset issues. Mr. Sanchez provided a summary of the information in this section and commented on the updates for all issues raised at the last Sunset Review.

Dr. Raggio commented on additional information that can be added to the update for Issue #7 on page 86. Mr. Sanchez suggested that the last sentence can be amended to include the additional information. Ms. Burns suggested to include the additional information as the last sentence in the first paragraph to say, “these funds allowed for increased enrollments (of a certain number and/or at the following schools:).

Dr. Raggio inquired for clarification on the question being asked in Issue #9. Mr. Sanchez replied that the question is explained in the Staff Recommendation. Ms. Burns commented on providing an update on the Staff Recommendation and not the issue question.

Ms. Burns opened the discussion on Section 12 regarding new issues and provided a summary of the information in this section.

Ms. Burns opened the discussion on Section 13 regarding attachments and provided a summary of the attachments associated with this report.

Dr. Raggio inquired about Attachment E. Ms. Burns replied with areas the Board should be aware of and information on how to read the data and what the data displays.

Ms. Kaiser inquired about the missing committee meeting in Table 1a. Ms. Burns noted the suggested changes to add members and their committees for October 2021.

Gilda Dominguez suggested changing the term “assessments” to “procedures” in the third paragraph on page 1. Ms. Burns noted the suggested changes.

Dr. Raggio suggested changing the term “problem” in the third paragraph on page 1. Ms. Burns suggested changing “problem” to “language difficulty”. Ms. Dominguez and Ms. Kaiser expressed their agreement with the suggested changes. Ms. Burns noted the suggested changes.

Tod Borges suggested to specify the age to the term “individuals” in the that last paragraph on page 1. Mr. Sanchez commented on the language and circumstances for younger clients. Ms. Burns suggested the language to say, “hearing aid dispensers generally work with individuals over the age of 16, but can work with younger individuals under specified circumstances.” Ms. Kaiser expressed her agreement with the suggested changes. Ms. Burns noted the suggested changes.

Dr. Raggio suggested changes to correct her name under the Audiology Practice Committee in Attachment B. Ms. Burns noted the suggested change.

Ms. Kaiser suggested changes on page 25 to Section 2 in question 7. Ms. Burns suggested the language to say, “the Environmental Scan Survey (n=900) of the Board’s

effectiveness that included responses from various external stakeholders”. Ms. Kaiser expressed her agreement with the suggested changes. Ms. Burns noted the suggested change.

There were no comments on this item from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

There was no Board discussion on the motion or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

Dr. Marcia Raggio moved to approve the Board's proposed Sunset Review Report as amended at today's Board Meeting, and authorize the Executive Officer, or his designee, to make any minor or technical changes necessary to the Report and submit it to the Assembly and Senate Joint Sunset Review Oversight Committee.

Tod Borges seconded the motion.

The motion carried 5-0. (Ayes: Raggio, Kaiser, Borges, Dominguez, Snow)

4. Election of Board Officers

Dr. Raggio opened the discussion on the election of Board Officers and inquired for any nominations for Board Chair. Ms. Kaiser nominated Dr. Raggio for Board Chair.

Mr. Sanchez inquired for additional nominations for Board Chair. No additional nominations were provided.

Mr. Sanchez inquired for public comment on the nomination for Board Chair. There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

Approve the nomination of Dr. Marcia Raggio as Board Chair.

The motion carried 5-0. (Ayes: Raggio, Kaiser, Borges, Dominguez, Snow)

Mr. Sanchez extended his congratulations to Dr. Raggio for continuing as Board Chair. Mr. Sanchez expressed his gratitude to Dr. Raggio and Ms. Kaiser for filling the role as Board Chair and Board Vice Chair this year.

Mr. Sanchez provided a brief description of the duties performed by the Board Vice Chair. Mr. Sanchez inquired for any nominations for Board Vice Chair. Ms. Dominguez nominated Ms. Kaiser for Board Vice Chair. Ms. Kaiser accepted the nomination.

Mr. Sanchez inquired for public comments on the nomination for Board Vice Chair. There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

Approve the nomination of Ms. Kaiser as Board Vice Chair.

The motion carried 5-0. (Ayes: Raggio, Kaiser, Borges, Dominguez, Snow)

Mr. Sanchez extended his congratulations to Ms. Kaiser for continuing as Board Vice Chair.

5. Future Agenda Items and Potential Dates for Board Meetings in 2022

Dr. Raggio solicited future agenda items. Ms. Kaiser inquired about a discussion on tele supervision. Mr. Sanchez replied that he will be addressing concerns raised in a letter to the Board and suggested it can be a pending item for a future meeting if further discussion is needed.

Dr. Raggio solicited future agenda items from the public. There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

Dr. Raggio inquired about potential dates for the Board Meetings in 2022. Ms. Burns replied with a list of potential dates for the Board Meetings in 2022:

- January 7 or 14,
- February 24 and 25 or March 3 and 4,
- May 12 and 13 or May 19 and 20,
- August 11 and 12 or August 18 and 19,
- October 27 and 28 or November 3 and 4 with October 20 and 21 as alternative.

Ms. Burns commented on the January meeting being short in order to comment on the federal regulation proposal for over-the-counter hearing aids and any other items. Ms. Burns further commented on additional meetings for the Sunset Review before the legislative hearing.

Dr. Raggio inquired about the length of the other meetings. Ms. Burns replied that Board staff anticipate half day on the first day and full day on the second day unless there are additional items for the Sunset Review that need to be addressed.

Dr. Raggio inquired about teleconference meetings. Ms. Burns replied that the current waivers were extended through January 2022 and noted that Board staff will continue to monitor public health information and the recommendations from the DCA. Mr. Sanchez commented on teleconference meetings and the length of the meetings.

Ms. Kaiser inquired about meetings in-person. Ms. Burns replied that historically the Board meets twice in Sacramento, and once in both the Bay Area and Southern California. Ms. Burns stated that the Spring and Fall meetings are generally when the Board travels outside of Sacramento. Mr. Sanchez commented on historical board meeting locations.

Ms. Kaiser requested to eliminate January 14 and August 19 as potential dates for the Board Meetings in 2022.

Ms. Dominguez requested to eliminate August 18-19 and November 3-4 as potential dates for the Board Meetings in 2022.

Ms. Burns commented on the potential August dates for the Board Meetings in 2022. Dr. Marcia Raggio inquired for public comment on the potential dates for the Board Meetings in 2022. There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

6. The Board will Meet in Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(c)(3), the Board will Meet in Closed Session to Discuss Disciplinary Matters Including Proposed Decisions, Stipulated Decisions, Defaults, Petitions for Reductions in Penalty, Petitions for Reconsideration, and Remands

The Board did not meet in a closed session.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.