## West Virginia Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

August 25, 2020 Board Meeting

Time: 5:00 PM

**Location:** Video Conference Meeting

**Board Office** 

99 Edmiston Way – Suite 214 Buckhannon, WV 26201

Present: Board Secretary, Vickie Pullins

Board Member, Michael Zagarella Board Member, Vernon Mullins Citizen Member, Joe Richards

**Assistant Attorney General – Keith Fisher** 

Executive Director, Patricia Nesbitt - Board Office

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by the Board Secretary, Vickie Pullins.

Joe Richards made a motion to approve the July 28 2020 meeting minutes as written. Vern Mullins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

The contract with inLumon was discussed. Patty Nesbitt was notified inLumon would not be able to meet the deadline promised for the upcoming license renewal. Vernon Mullins made a motion to terminate the contract per our attorney's recommendations. Joe Richards seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The cancelled airline ticket purchased for Vickie Pullins travel to the NCSB meeting in March was discussed. The meeting was cancelled because of COVID but the travel agency (National Travel) will not refund the ticket because it was cancelled by the traveler and not the airline. It is possible to use the ticket up to December 31, 2021. Vickie Pullins is going to reach out to American Airlines for a refund. The issue was tabled until the next meeting.

The Umbrella Board assessment request was briefly discussed. The final document was accepted by the Board and will be submitted to the Joint Committee on Government Organization.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Vern Mullins wanted to reiterate, in case the request is made, that the Board members agree that extensions, etc., will not be granted, due to COVID-19, for the license renewal continuing education requirement. Even though in person sessions were cancelled there are many opportunities online. All members agreed.

An Audiology licensee contacted the Board regarding programming hearing aids virtually/online. She had been ask by her employer to program the hearing aids that are sold online using online hearing tests. She does not feel it is in the best interest of the patient and wanted to know if the Board could provide any information to help her case. The Board's WV Code & Code Rules do not state anything specific that relates to this issue. The Board made the decision to respond to her with a letter stating, based on the information she provided, fitting hearing aids virtually does violate our law and rules. Michael Zagarella will write the letter for the Board President's signature.

Patty Nesbitt reviewed the Purchasing Audit. This year's audit produced a 92% with (1) infraction. All purchases for statewide contract items from the Office Depot require an ADO (Agency Delivery Order) which was not completed.

Joe Richard made a motion to adjourn. Vern Mullins seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia J. Nesbitt, Executive Director for Vickie Pullins, Board Secretary