

**West Virginia Board of Examiners for
Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology
March 23, 2020**

Time: 5:00 PM
Location: Video Conference Meeting from
Remote Locations – Emergency Meeting

Present:
Erin Browning, Board President
Vickie Pullins, Board Secretary
Dr. Vernon Mullins, Board Member
Joe Richards, Citizen Member
Keith Fisher, Assistant Attorney General, Board Attorney
Patty Nesbitt, Executive Director

President Erin Browning called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Keith Fisher explained the Governor’s Executive Order 07-20 authorizes state agencies to suspend rules during the State of Emergency. If the Board suspends the following, it will allow provisional licensees and speech and audiology assistants to provide telepractice services during the COVID-19 state of emergency:

29-1-15.5.2. Telepractice services shall not be provided by:

29-1-15.5.2.a. Speech Pathologists with a provisional license while completing a postgraduate professional experience/clinical fellowship year.

29-1-15.5.2.b. Speech Pathology or Audiology Assistants.

Erin Browning suggested also adding that all other requirements for provisional licensees and assistants are unaffected and still apply to the telepractice setting. Keith Fisher agreed.

Keith Fisher will write the letter for the Board to submit to the Secretary of State notifying him of the Board’s suspension of the Rule. The Secretary of State will post the suspension on their website under the Administrative Law Department. The information will also be sent to all licensees via email and posted on the Board website.

Vickie Pullins made a motion to accept suspending the Rule(s), as presented by Keith Fisher, to allow provisional licensees and assistants to provide telepractice services during the COVID-19 state of emergency. Vernon Mullins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Joe Richards made a motion to adjourn. Vern Mullins seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 5:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia J. Nesbitt for Vickie Pullins, Secretary