

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

February 15, 2022

Board Meeting

Time: 5:00 PM
Location: Video Conference Meeting
Board Office
99 Edmiston Way – Suite 214
Buckhannon, WV 26201

Present: Board President, Vernon Mullins
Board Secretary, Vickie Pullins
Board Member, Michael Zagarella
Citizen Member, Joe E. Richards
Assistant Attorney General, JoAnne Vella
Guest, Gregg Thornton – Executive Director,
Ohio Board of Speech and Hearing
Executive Director, Patricia Nesbitt – Board Office

President Vernon Mullins called the meeting to order at 5:00PM.

Michael Zagarella introduced Gregg Thornton, Executive Director of the Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board. Because there is a possibility the WV legislature will consolidate the Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters Board with Speech-Pathology and Audiology during the current legislative session, Gregg Thornton was asked to provide information on Ohio's experiences before, during and after their consolidation in 2018. The information provided was important and very helpful to the Board members and are very appreciative of the information Mr. Thornton provided.

President Mullins requested a motion to move Old Business Item #1 to the end of the meeting. Vickie Pullins made the motion. Motion carried. Item #1 will be heard at the end of the meeting.

Patty Nesbitt requested the approval of minutes for the January 11, 2022 meeting be tabled because of omissions and required corrections. Joe Richard made a motion to table the minutes to a future meeting. Motion carried.

The Finance Report and PCard Expense Report were presented. Vickie Pullins made a motion to approve the Financial report as presented and the PCard Expense report as amended. Joe Richards seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Vickie Pullins gave an update on the FARB, Federal Assn. of Regulatory Boards, conference. Some of the topics covered were websites and the ease of applying for a license, frequently ask questions page, and a consumer Bill of Rights.

Diversity, Diversity, Diversity was a hot topic throughout the conference. Board members also need to “show up” at Association meetings, Universities, etc. For a small Board in a small State, Vickie came away from the conference feeling WV is and has been doing some very good things and are ahead of many much larger states with policies and procedures.

Patty Nesbitt discussed the possible upcoming issue with the copier we are currently leasing. The lease expires on February 28, 2022 but the State has not awarded a new contract so there are currently no copiers available on a statewide contract. If the issue is no resolved within the next week or so, Mike Zagarella made a motion to allow Patty Nesbitt to lease a copier off contract. Vickie Pullins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Patty Nesbitt discussed the issues with printing of licenses with signatures of Vernon Mullins as President and Vickie Pullins as Secretary of the Board. A waiver has been received from Correctional Industries so we can go elsewhere to have the licenses printed. It does look as if the Board will still buy the parchment cardstock from Correctional Industries because it is not available elsewhere. We are hopeful it will all be finalized by the end of February.

Patty Nesbitt discussed the purchase and installation of new regulatory software. It will be most likely be after the first of the year 2023.

Patty Nesbitt summarized the Legislative bills introduced this session with references to Chapter 30 Boards.

Vickie Pullins recused herself and left the meeting before going into Executive Session.

Joe Richards made a motion to go into Executive Session. Mike Zagarella seconded the motion. Executive session began at 6:08 PM

Mike Zagarella made a motion to end Executive Session. Joe Richards seconded the motion. Motion carried. Executive Session ended 6:47PM

Mike Zagarella made a motion to postpone decision on the content of the Consent Agreement until revisions are reviewed at the 02/28/2022 meeting. Joe seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Mike made a motion to adjourn. Joe seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 6:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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