# State Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology June 4, 2021

## BOARD MEMBERS:

 Amy S. Goldman, MS, CCC-SLP, Chair
Theodore Stauffer, Executive Secretary, Bureau of
Professional and Occupational Affairs, on behalf of
K. Kalonji Johnson, Commissioner
Sarah E. Delano, M.Ed., CCC-A, Vice Chair
Nancy J. Stimson, Secretary, Public Member
Lisa Butler, MS, CCC-SLP, QOM
Andrew A. McCall, M.D., FACS
Patrick M. Murphy, Au.D., M.Ed., CCC-A, FAAA

# 18 | 19 | BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Nicole L. VanOrder, Esquire, Board Counsel
Nicole Ehrhart, Esquire, Board Counsel
Paul J. Jarabeck, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
Christopher K. McNally, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Sandra E. Matter, Board Administrator
Marc Farrell, Deputy Policy Director, Department of
State

#### ALSO PRESENT:

Angie Armbrust, Senior Associate, McNees-Winter Group LLC, on behalf of Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association Erin Buckwalter, SLP, MS-CCC, Vice President, Governmental Relations, Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association

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2 State Board of Examiners in Speech-Language 3 Pathology and Audiology

June 4, 2021

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[Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 9:00 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session with Nicole L. VanOrder, Esquire, Board Counsel, and Nicole Ehrhart, Esquire, Board Counsel, to have attorney-client consultations and for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations regarding item 2 on the agenda. The Board returned to open session at 10:30 a.m.]

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[Theodore Stauffer, Executive Secretary, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs, noted the meeting was being recorded, and those who remained on the line were giving their consent to be recorded.]

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The regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology was held on Friday, June 4, 2021. Amy S. Goldman, MS, CCC-SLP, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

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5 Stimson, aye; Sarah Delano, aye; Andy 1 2 McCall, ave. 3 [The motion carried. Amy Goldman and Ted Stauffer abstained from voting on the motion.] \* \* \* 5 6 Report of Prosecutorial Division - No Report 7 \* \* \* Report of Board Counsel [Nicole L. VanOrder, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted the 10 status of regulations for the Board's review. 11 reported movement on Act 41 regarding licensure by 12 endorsement. She noted at least two of the licensure 13 by reciprocity regulation packages for other Boards 14 have moved in the process. Based upon those packages 15 being approved, she mentioned amendments/revisions 16 were being made to the package to ease the flow 17 through the regulatory process and would be brought back before the Board.] 18 19 MS. VanOrder: 2.0 Item 3 on the agenda is the Final 2.1 Adjudication and Order of Austin Kenneth 2.2 White, SLP, at Case No. 20-68-009448 2.3 that was discussed in executive session. 2.4 Is there a motion to approve the 25 Final Adjudication and Order as drafted

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in Case No. 20-68-009448, Austin Kenneth
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                  White, SLP?
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   CHAIR GOLDMAN:
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                  I so move.
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   DR. MURPHY:
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                  I second.
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   CHAIR GOLDMAN:
                 All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?
   [The motion carried. Lisa Butler recused herself from
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   deliberations and voting on the motion.]
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   [Nicole L. VanOrder, Esquire, Board Counsel, addressed
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   a scam alert, noting an increase in scams targeting
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   licensees. She informed everyone that the scam alert
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   is available on the Department of State website and
   encouraged associations to get the word out. She read
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   the scam alert, where persons pretending to be from
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   one of the health-related licensing boards are
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   contacting licensees by phone and mail concerning the
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   status of their license.
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        Ms. VanOrder reported scammers are threatening
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   license suspension for failure to act and falsely
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   claiming involvement with the Federal Bureau of
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   Investigation (FBI) and the Drug Enforcement
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   Administration (DEA). She stated scammers are known
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1 to aggressively threaten license suspension for
2 failure to provide personal information.

Ms. VanOrder provided reminders from the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs (BPOA) concerning contact and personal information.

Ms. VanOrder mentioned that those who were the subject of an investigation or disciplinary action will receive notice by certified mail and/or personal service and provided with a contact name and phone number. She informed everyone to contact their local police department or the Pennsylvania State Police if they have been a victim of the scam.

Chair Goldman encouraged representatives from professional associations to post the scam alert on their websites and send it through their social media.]

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18 Report of Board Chair

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19 | [Amy S. Goldman, MS, CCC-SLP, Chair, requested

20 approval to attend the National Council of State

21 Boards of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and

22 | Audiology Conference (NCSB) in Williamsburg, VA,

23 October 7-9, 2021.

Chair Goldman noted being president-elect of NCSB

25 and thanked the Board for their votes. She mentioned

also being the conference chair. She addressed the
conference, noting a training day for new Board
members preceding the conference. She stated there
would be several sessions at the conference this year
talking about lessons learned through the pandemic and
the impact on boards and action the boards across the
country have taken during the pandemic, including
looking at telehealth regulations.

Chair Goldman noted there would be updates on certification, including emerging challenges in the certification of speech-language pathology and audiology assistants and discussions on clinical simulation and cultural competence, along with state health exchange information regarding licensure challenges across the country and interstate compact in speech-language pathology and audiology discussions.

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Ms. VanOrder noted that it is not known yet whether in-person attendance will be approved by October but advised the Board to make the motion in case it is permitted.

Chair Goldman commented that the hotel will be following all relevant Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Commonwealth of Virginia COVID-related rules. Ms. Delano also noted being interested in

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   attending.]
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   CHAIR GOLDMAN:
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                  Could I have a motion to, assuming that
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                  travel is permitted, a motion to support
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                  attendance of two Board members at the
                  2021 NCSB Conference?
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                       Would someone like to make a
                  motion?
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   MS. STIMSON:
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                  I'll motion.
   CHAIR GOLDMAN:
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                  Nancy moved. Could I have a second?
   MS. DELANO:
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                  I second.
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   CHAIR GOLDMAN:
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                  All in favor? Opposed?
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   [The motion carried unanimously.]
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   [Amy S. Goldman, MS, CCC-SLP, Chair, noted prior
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   discussion in March concerning the quality of
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   applications for continuing education approval.
                                                       She
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   commented that a workgroup comprised of Ms. Butler,
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   Ms. VanOrder, Ms. Ehrhart, Ms. Matter, and herself
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   looked at ways to streamline the application form and
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   clarify requirements.
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Chair Goldman addressed ways of earning continuing education other than attending an approved course, including approval for a course where course sponsors have not sought approval or are not an otherwise approved provider.

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Chair Goldman noted the importance of encouraging licensees to engage in these other activities regarding continuing education and questioned whether Ms. VanOrder had the answer of whether or not there could be a webinar about continuing education?

Ms. VanOrder apologized for not having the answer but mentioned that the newsletter is available and is unsure whether a webinar would be looked at the same way. She suggested Ms. Ehrhart provide that information for the next Board meeting.

Chair Goldman commented that her service with the National Council of State Boards of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology helped her see that many Boards are actively involved in educating their licensees and believed a webinar about continuing education would be a good way to reach out to their licensees.

Chair Goldman also mentioned other boards are involved with educating the public. She mentioned creating information for consumers in her last term

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   regarding audiologists and speech-language
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   pathologists and suggested looking at those documents
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   since it has been quite a while.
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        Chair Goldman thanked Ms. Matter, Ms. VanOrder,
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   Ms. Ehrhart, and Ms. Butler for their work regarding
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   revisions.l
   MS. VanOrder:
                  I believe before we move on from the CE
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                  application, it may be prudent to go
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                  ahead and have a motion approving the
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                  revised application.
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   CHAIR GOLDMAN:
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                  Would somebody like to make a motion to
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                  approve the revised CE application?
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   DR. MURPHY:
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                  I move to approve.
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   MS. STIMSON:
                  I'll second.
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   CHAIR GOLDMAN:
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                  Any other discussion? All in favor of
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                  approving the revised applications for
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                  the provider sponsor and approval of the
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                  revised application for individual
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                  approval? Any apposed? Any
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                  abstentions?
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[The motion carried unanimously.]
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   Report of Commissioner - No Report
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   [Theodore Stauffer, Executive Assistant, Bureau of
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   Professional and Occupational Affairs, on behalf of K.
   Kalonji Johnson, Commissioner, had nothing official to
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   report but offered to take any questions or concerns
   to the Commissioner.]
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   Appointment - Bureau of Finance and Operations Annual
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     Budget Presentation
   [Kimberly Adams, Chief of Fiscal Management, Bureau of
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   Finance and Operations, Department of State, addressed
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   licensee population from a revenue standpoint.
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   noted a licensee population of 8,253 in FY-2016-2017
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   with an increase of 475 in FY 2018-2019 to 8,728 and
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   another increase of 786 in FY 2020-2021 to 9,514.
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   it increased another 19 this morning, where speech-
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   language pathologists increased from 8,488 to 8,507
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   and audiologists stayed the same, giving a current
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   licensee total of 9,533.
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       Ms. Adams noted revenue by source.
                                            She reviewed
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   categories and actual revenue for FY 2018-2019 and FY
   2019-2020, showing a biennial total.
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                                           She noted 96.5%
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   of revenue is coming from renewals and applications.
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She noted the last fee increase was in 2018, and all license classes are \$65 biennially. She mentioned expenses incur from timesheet-based charges, direct-based charges, and licensee-based charges.

Ms. Adams provided a categorical breakdown of expenses, noting the current budget for FY 2020-2021 and current expenses as of May 21, 2021. She noted the current expenses increased, giving a new total. She stated the budget was adequate for FY 2020-2021.

Ms. Adams reviewed revenues and expenses for FY 2020-2021 and reported a bottom-line figure. She mentioned fee increases a few years back are working as proposed with a growth in the bottom line.

Chair Goldman questioned whether there was a target for the remaining balance, where perhaps there would be a fee reduction. Ms. Adams explained that some funding should be kept there because one major legal case could decrease the bottom line quickly, and it takes a while for a fee increase to go through. She noted the remaining balance should at least cover a biennial amount of expenses, and the Board is in a good place at the current time.

Ms. Adams addressed why projected expenses and the budget varies between even and odd years, noting an increase in expenses during a renewal period because

1 of an increase in administrative costs.

2 Ms. Adams reviewed Board member expenses, noting

3 current expenses and the current budget of \$15,000 for

4 FY 2020-2021, which is adequate and has been carried

5 to FY 2021-2022. She noted the most current expenses.

6 She mentioned that any excess remains in the

7 restricted account for the Board's use.]

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9 Report of Other Board Members - No Report

10 | [Patrick M. Murphy, Au.D., M.Ed., CCC-A, FAAA, noted

11 looking forward to the day the Board could resume

12 meetings in Harrisburg.

13 Mr. Stauffer informed everyone the department is

14 still awaiting direction from higher up regarding any

15 | in-person meetings and is also awaiting the

16 legislature's decision in determining what waivers

17 | will end and continue. He will inform the Board of

18 any changes.]

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20 Report of Board Administrator - No Report

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22 | Miscellaneous

23 [Sandra E. Matter, Board Administrator, noted the

24 proposed 2022 meeting dates are scheduled for March 4,

25 June 3, September 2, and December 2.

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        Ms. Matter will forward the dates to Mr. Stauffer
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   to be placed on the Board meeting calendar for 2022.]
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   Adjournment
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   CHAIR GOLDMAN:
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                  If there is no other business, we are
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                  looking for a motion to adjourn.
   DR. MURPHY:
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                  I move to adjourn.
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   CHAIR GOLDMAN:
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                  Is there a second?
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   DR. MCCALL:
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                  Second.
   CHAIR GOLDMAN:
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                  Any discussion? Maybe we will see you
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                  all in person at the next meeting.
                  Thank you all for attending today.
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                                                         The
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                  meeting is adjourned.
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   [The motion carried unanimously.]
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   [There being no further business, the State Board of
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   Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology
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   Meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.]
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#### CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing summary minutes of the State Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Meeting, was reduced to writing by me or under my supervision, and that the minutes accurately summarize the substance of the State Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Meeting.

Derek Richmond,

Minute Clerk

Sargent's Court Reporting Service, Inc.