

TENNESSEE COUNCIL FOR LICENSING HEARING INSTRUMENT SPECIALISTS

DATE: October 23, 2014

TIME: 9:00 A.M., CT

LOCATION: Health Related Boards
Poplar Room, Ground Floor
665 Mainstream Dr
Nashville, TN 37243

COUNCIL MEMBERS
PRESENT: Thomas Stewart, Hearing Instrument Specialist, Council Chair
Jerry Hall, Hearing Instrument Specialist
Randy Williams, Hearing Instrument Specialist
Frederick Rayne, M.D
Lordy Dell Smith, Consumer Member

STAFF
PRESENT: Teddy Wilkins, Unit Director
Hannah Lanford, Office of General Counsel
Charles Custer, Board Administrator

Mr. Stewart called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. A quorum was present.

Minutes

Mr. Custer advised that the meeting minutes from the June 26, 2014 meeting were not available, and would be available for the next meeting.

Office of General Counsel

The Office of General Counsel has three (3) open cases. There are no consent orders and no agreed orders to be presented to the Council.

There is not any current legislation to be presented to the Council.

Rule 1370-02-.06, regarding exam fees is currently at the Attorney General's office awaiting approval.

Financial Report

Mr. Custer advised that there is not an actual financial report, however, there is a push within the Health Related Boards to reduce fees. Ms. Wilkins advised the Council of the suggested possible fee reductions submitted by the financial department. After discussion, the Council decided to table this topic until the next meeting, so that they can review the current financial statement, as well as obtain a projection of where the Council finances would stand after the Council Operations fee expires.

Investigative Report

Nichelle Dorroh, from the Office of Investigations advised the Council that there are currently five (5) cases open, with one (1) case in the field. There is one (1) case currently in review.

Administrative Report

Mr. Custer presented the Administrator's report to the Council. Mr. Stewart asked a question regarding the Council Operations Fee.

Mr. Custer advised that the contract addendum for the IHS computerized testing is working through the legal process within the State system, and should be completed soon. He advised that once the addendum is completed, he will begin implementing the computerized testing process.

Mr. Custer advised the Council that the March meeting CE attendance certificates have been delayed in being sent, due to multiple issues, and will be sent as soon as possible. Mr. Stewart suggested that Mr. Custer be given a list of attendees for the law session at the TN Hearing Society Conference, so that he can compare the list with the continuing education submitted.

New Licenses

Mr. Williams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hall, to ratify the following new licenses. The motion carried. Mr. Stewart did not vote.

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|---|-----------|---------|-----|
| 1 | Milam | Jeffrey | 835 |
| 2 | Greenwell | Sherry | 805 |
| 3 | Yarnell | Amanda | 825 |

Investigative Consultant

Mr. Custer brought to the Council's attention that the Investigations department is in need of a second consultant for complaints and file review. After discussion, Mr. Hall made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith, to appoint Craig Haltom as an additional consultant. The motion carried.

Correspondence

The Council reviewed a letter from Robert Stockett, requesting permission to work in Tennessee until he is able to pass the state exams. This request is being made because he has been unable to pass a portion of the exams, as well as the fact that he is currently licensed in another state. The Council stated that no, he would not be able to receive a letter allowing him to work, as it would be a violation of Council rules, as it would be unlicensed practice.

The Council reviewed a request from Emily Gaines, asking for a licensed audiologist to be listed as supervisor for an apprentice hearing instrument specialist. The Council denied this request, as the rules specifically state that the supervising licensee must be a hearing instrument specialist.

The Council reviewed correspondence from IHS regarding an editorial speaking against the profession of Hearing Instrument Specialists. Mr. Custer advised that this was informational only, and required no action.

Review of Current Policy Statements

Mr. Custer and Ms. Wilkins advised the Council of a push to review all current policy statements, and update or remove as necessary.

- HIS Council Policy - The Council voted to keep this policy, and reaffirm it.
- Military Renewal Policy - The Council voted to keep this policy.
- Lapsed License Policy - The Council voted to keep this policy.

- CE Violation Policy - The Council voted to keep this policy.

New Business

The Council discussed potential dates for the 2015 meetings. The Council decided on January 23, May 8, and September 25 for the 2015 meeting dates. The Council also chose January 22, 2016 as the date of the first meeting in 2016.

Adjourn

With no other Council business to conduct, Mr. Williams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hall, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

Ratified by the Council of Hearing Instrument Specialist on March 27, 2015