

MEETING MINUTES
TENNESSEE COUNCIL FOR LICENSING HEARING INSTRUMENT SPECIALISTS

DATE: February 28, 2020

TIME: 9:00 A.M., CT

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESENT: Jackie Miller, Hearing Instrument Specialist, Chair
Dr. Bruce L. Fetterman, M.D
Lordy D. Smith, Consumer Member

COUNCIL MEMBERS

ABSENT: Gary L. Kelly, Hearing instrument Specialist
Charles C. Chapman, Hearing Instrument Specialist

STAFF

PRESENT Michele Tamayo, Board Administrator
Teddy Wilkins, Unit Director
Ashley Fine, Assistant General Counsel

Mr. Miller called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. A roll call was conducted and a quorum was present.

Ms. Wilkins spoke to the public in attendance and asked that anyone wishing to address the Board, please sign the sign-in sheet.

Minutes

The Council reviewed the minutes from the September 20, 2019, meeting. Ms. Smith made a motion, seconded by Dr. Fetterman, to accept the minutes as presented. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Investigative Report

Lori Leonard, Disciplinary Coordinator for all Non-nursing Boards gave the following report:

There is currently one (1) monitored practitioner under probation and is up for compliance. So far in 2019 investigation has opened two (2) new complaints both for allegations of unprofessional conduct. Investigations has closed four (4) complaints; two closed with no action, one with a letter on concern, and one with a letter of warning. Letters of warning and letters of concern are not reportable the National Practitioner Databank and therefore not considered formal discipline. Currently there are three (3) open complaints that are being investigated and/or reviewed. In 2020 Investigations has received no new complaints.

Financial Report

Maria McCormick presented the Financial Report.

She stated that the mid-year expenditure totals for Payroll Expenditures is \$8,896.95, Professional Services and Dues are \$1,2140.68 and the Total Other Expenditures are \$2,714.78 and Total Direct Expenditures are \$11,611.73. Projections for midyear 2020 where it is anticipated this board may end. Payroll expenditures are projected to be at \$18,061.92, Professional Services and Dues at \$8,150.18, Total Other Expenditures at \$11,930.91. The total direct expenditures are projected to be at \$29,992.82. The allocated expenditures are projected to be at \$9,461.23. The total projected expenditures for the year end to be \$39,454.05. The midyear Total Allocated Expenditures are at \$3,092.54 and the projected Total Allocated Expenditures to be at \$14,704.27. The midyear Total Expenditures are at \$14,704.27. The midyear Board Fee Revenue is at \$35,675.00 and the projected Board Fee Revenue to end at \$66,683.33. The Current Year Net is at \$20,970.73 and the projected Current Year Net at \$27,229.28. The midyear cumulative Carryover is at \$81,785.96 and the projected Cumulative Carryover for year end is \$88,044.50.

Office of General Counsel

Ms. Ashley Fine presented the following OGC report:

Ms. Fine read aloud the Conflict of Interest Policy and the Open Meetings Act.

Disciplinary Activity

The Office of General Counsel (OGC) does not have any open case files, and today there will be an Order of Compliance.

Rule Activity

Ms. Fine stated the rules implementing Public Chapter 323 are in internal review as of February 24, 2020.

Ms. Wilkins spoke to the board concerning the background regarding the new Public Chapter 323. The statute was changed to allow applicants with the national credential (BCHIS) to be licensed. Many times applicants from other states do not have the required two (2) years of college education required and therefore cannot be licensed in Tennessee. This rule would allow those individuals with the BCHIS to use this credential in place of the educational requirement. Ms. Wilkins also commented on the removal of the Physician's statement requirement in the rules and application, stating the Council is the only profession which required this. Ms. Wilkins conducted a survey of the other Board Directors questioning whether their professions required this and found that no other profession requires a separate statement. She informed the Council that this question is actually covered in the application questions which must be answered. It is unduly burdensome to applicants.

Mr. Stasiuk came to the podium as the board reviewed the compliance documents for the lifting of Ms. Stasiuk's probation. After review of the documents Dr. Fetterman made a motion to lift the probation seconded by Ms. Smith. A roll call vote was taken and all were in favor. Ms. Fine explained to the council that the Order of Compliance must be presented to the Communication Disorders and Sciences Board on May 5, 2020 for their approval before Mr. Stasiuk's license could be restored to unencumbered status.

Administrative Report

Ms. Michele Tamayo presented the following Administrator's report:

There are currently a total of 175 licensed Hearing Instrument Specialists, and 17 licensed Apprentices.

Ms. Tamayo stated that from September 19, 2019 through February 15, 2020 there were twelve (12) newly licensed Hearing Instrument Specialists and four (4) newly licensed Apprentices. During the same time frame there were twenty-nine (29) renewals with twenty one (21) renewals completed online for a percentage of 72%. Further zero (0) reinstated; three (3) retired; three (3) expired.

Ms. Tamayo went over the proposed meeting dates for 2020:

June 26, 2020

October 23, 2020

New Licensees

Upon review Dr. Fetterman made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith, to approve the new licensees. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

988 Dossett, Mckenzie D
978 Ebel, Zachary
985 Gammon Tayler
981 Gonzales, Christopher Ryan
959 Gore, Ashtyn E.
986 Harris, David
969 Houston, Kenneth Matthew
972 Lopshire, Michelle
979 Obermiller, Scott
968 Rynd, Olivia
971 Smith, Craig Michael
970 Swirtz, Erin

New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

Adjourn

With no other Council business to conduct, Dr. Fetterman made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Ms. Smith. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:28 a.m.

Ratified by the Council for Licensing Hearing Instrument Specialists on July 17, 2020