

South Carolina Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology
Board Meeting Thursday, July 25, 2024 10:00 A.M.
110 Centerview Drive, Pee Dee Room, Columbia, SC 29210

Board Members Present

Gwendolyn Wilson, Ed.D. CCC-A, Chairperson
Beth F. Montgomery, CCC-SLP, Vice Chair
Jason Wigand, Au.D., CCC-A
Sarah Davis Emory, CCC-SLP
Elizabeth Bunge, Public Member

Staff Present

Mack Williams, Board Administrator
Tara Nixon, Advice Counsel
Jonathan Owens, Program Coordinator
Amelia Leeks, Program Manager, Office of Investigation & Enforcement
LeAnna McMenamin, Esq, Office of Disciplinary Counsel

Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at 110 Centerview Drive Columbia, SC 29210 Board of Examiners in Speech Language Pathology and Audiology office, lobby of the Kingstree Building and provided to all requesting persons, organizations and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. A quorum was present at all times.

Call to Order

Dr. Wilson, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was presented for review and approval.

Motion: In open session, Ms. Montgomery made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Emory.

Approval or Disapproval of Absent Members

All members are present.

Meeting Minutes

Motion: In open session, Dr. Wigand made a motion to approve the April 25, 2024 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Montgomery.

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Administrative Reports

Office of Investigations Report: Ms. Leeks, Office of Investigations & Enforcement presented the OIE statistical report and training report. The Board accepted the reports as information.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC) Report: Ms. McMenamain presented the ODC report. The Board accepted the report as information.

Finance Report: Mr. Williams presented the finance report to the Board. The Board accepted the report as information.

Application Hearing:

Tonya Johnson: Ms. Johnson made a personal appearance before the Board, and was not represented by counsel. The purpose of this hearing is to determine whether Ms. Johnson should be granted a license as a speech-language pathology assistant. The issue was Ms. Johnson did not have a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution in speech-language pathology.

Motion: In open session, Ms. Bunge made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Wigand.

(10:18 am – 10:24 am) – No votes were taken during executive session.

Motion: In open session, Dr. Wigand made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Montgomery.

Motion: In open session, Ms. Emory made a motion to grant the speech-language pathology assistant license. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Montgomery.

Tanya Pressley: Ms. Pressley made a personal appearance before the Board, and was not represented by counsel. The purpose of this hearing is to determine whether Ms. Pressley should be granted a license as a speech-language pathologist. This issue was Ms. Pressley did not provide sufficient evidence of successful completion of Supervised Professional Employment.

Motion: In open session, Ms. Montgomery made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Bunge.

(10:36 am – 10:41 am) – No votes were taken during executive session.

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Motion: In open session, Ms. Montgomery made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Wigand.

Motion: In open session, Ms. Emory made a motion to deny the speech-language pathology license and to approve Ms. Pressley to apply for the intern license. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Montgomery.

Ashlynn Rasmussen: Ms. Rasmussen made a personal appearance before the Board, and was not represented by counsel. The purpose of this hearing is to determine whether Ms. Rasmussen should be granted a license as a speech-language pathology assistant. This issue was Ms. Rasmussen did not complete three (3) hours in Hearing Screening.

Motion: In open session, Dr. Wigand made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Montgomery.

(10:53 am – 11:12 am) – No votes were taken during executive session.

Motion: In open session, Ms. Emory made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Montgomery.

Motion: In open session, Ms. Montgomery made a motion to deny the speech-language pathology assistant license and to grant an extension of the SCER registration for four (4) months to complete three (3) hours of Hearing Screening. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Emory.

Melanie Reynolds: Ms. Reynolds made a personal appearance before the Board, and was not represented by counsel. The purpose of this hearing is to determine whether Ms. Reynolds should be granted a license as a speech-language pathologist. The issue was Ms. Reynolds refrained from the practice of speech-language pathology for thirty (30) days or more and been out of practice since June 2012.

Motion: In open session, Ms. Montgomery made a motion to grant the speech-language pathology license. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Emory.

Reinstatement Hearing:

Allissa Matthews: Ms. Matthews made a personal appearance before the Board, and was not represented by counsel. The purpose of this hearing is to determine whether Ms. Matthews should be granted a license reinstatement as a speech-language pathologist assistant. The issue was Ms. Matthews did not comply with the Board order dated March 30, 2020 in a timely manner. The requirements were met after the deadline in the order.

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Motion: In open session, Ms. Bunge made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Wigand.

(11:31 am – 11:34 am) – No votes were taken during executive session.

Motion: In open session, Ms. Emory made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Bunge.

Motion: In open session, Ms. Montgomery made a motion to grant the speech-language pathologist assistant reinstatement. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Emory.

Expungement Request:

The Board closed the hearing to protect personal information.

Corlene King: Ms. King made a personal appearance before the Board, and was not represented by counsel. Ms. King appeared before the Board to request the expungement of a prior order for her speech-language pathologist assistant license.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Wigand made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Emory.

(11:56 am – 12:17 pm) – No votes were taken during executive session.

Motion: In closed session, Ms. Emory made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Wigand.

Motion: In closed session, Ms. Montgomery made a motion to deny the expungement request due to which the Board does not have an expungement process. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Bunge.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Wigand made a motion to come out of closed session. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Emory.

Expungement Process:

Ms. Nixon discussed the regulations of establishing an expungement process with the Board.

Motion: In open session, Ms. Montgomery made a motion to table this item for the next Board meeting in October and establish a committee to develop and review an expungement process. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Emory.

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Request for S.C. Board Examiners in Speech/Aud to Sponsor the NCSB Annual Conference (Continued Business):

Ms. Montgomery discussed sponsoring the NCSB annual conference with the Board. The Board decided to defer sponsorship until 2025.

2024 NCSB Annual Conference-Approve Members to Attend (Continued Business):

Motion: In open session, Ms. Montgomery made a motion for her, Dr. Wilson, Dr. Wigand, and one staff member to attend the annual conference. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Emory.

2025 Board Meeting Dates:

Motion: In open session, Ms. Montgomery made a motion to approve the dates of 01/16/25, 04/17/25, 07/17/25, and 10/16/25. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Emory.

ASLP Interstate Compact:

Ms. Emory updated the Board on the ALSP Interstate Compact's database.

Legislative Update:

Mr. Williams and Ms. Nixon discussed the legislative update with the Board. Ms. Nixon stated that if there were any notices that the Board wanted to publish, they would need to be published as soon as possible, by the middle of October. No changes were recommended at this time.

Motion: In open session, Ms. Montgomery made a motion to amend the agenda to add public comments. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Emory. The agenda was amended with two-third votes.

Ms. Kelly Caldwell from the SCSHA reviewed their legislative updates with the Board.

Quarterly Performance Review Audit:

Mr. Williams discussed the quarterly performance review audit with the Board.

Motion: In open session, Ms. Montgomery made a motion to go into closed session in accordance with Section 40-67-190. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Wigand.

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Motion: In closed session, Ms. Montgomery made a motion for the licensees who did not provide the materials to submit the missing documentation within three (3) weeks or they will be required to appear at the October Board meeting. If they do submit the materials, the documentation will be sent to Ms. Montgomery for review. If Ms. Montgomery determines they passed, a Board appearance is not required. If she determines they did not pass, they will be expected to appear. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Emory.

Motion: In closed session, Ms. Montgomery made a motion to come out of closed session. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Wigand.

Motion: In open session, Ms. Montgomery made a motion to add SCSHA representatives to the agenda for future Board meetings. The motion was seconded and approved by Ms. Bunge.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: In open session, Ms. Bunge motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded and approved. (The meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm)