

**South Carolina Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology
Board Meeting Thursday, April 16, 2026 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
Michael Leonard, General Public Member

Staff Present

Mack Williams, Board Executive
Brandy Duncan, Advice Counsel
Jonathan Owens, Program Coordinator
LeAnna McMnamin, Esq, Office of Disciplinary Counsel
Yarikza Alexander, Office of Investigation & Enforcement

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: Mr. Leonard made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Montgomery and passed.

Approval or Disapproval of Absent Members

Motion: Ms. Emory made a motion to excuse Dr. Wigand's absence until he joins the meeting.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Leonard and passed.

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Meeting Minutes

Motion: Ms. Emory made a motion to approve the October 16, 2025 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leonard and passed.

Administrative Reports

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

Motion: Ms. Emory made a motion to go into closed session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leonard and passed.

Ms. Alexander presented the IRC report to the Board, Case # 2025-14.

Motion: Mr. Leonard made a motion to accept IRC recommendations for Case # 2025-14. The motion was seconded by Ms. Emory and passed.

Motion: Ms. Emory made a motion to come out of closed session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leonard and passed.

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

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

Resolution Guidelines

Ms. Duncan presented the updated proposed resolution guidelines for addressing unlicensed practice with the Board. Also, Ms. Duncan presented the proposed drafts of the consent agreements for unlicensed practice. The Board discussed the sanction guidelines for unlicensed practice and recommended further edits to the guidelines document. Document to be presented again, with such edits, at the next Board meeting.

2027-2029 Renewals:

Mr. Williams reminded the Board about the 2027-2029 renewals. A CE audit will be conducted after the renewals.

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CE Requests for Approval/Disapproval:

Motion: Mr. Leonard made a motion to approve all CE courses that were presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Montgomery and passed.

SCER-Extensions:

Mr. Williams and the Board discussed the SCER extensions. Mr. Williams provided a few scenarios where individuals who did not complete one-hundred clinical practice hours and were unable to finish due to illness or other circumstances before their registration expired. The Board generally recommends renewing the registration for another four months, allowing the completed hours to be counted. A key distinction is made when an individual renews their registration while still within the four-month period and those who let their registration expire. Renewing within the original period allows for the counting of the completed hours, while letting the registration expire necessitates a new application. The Board members emphasize that these situations are designed to provide a pathway for licensure and suggest that the individuals who let their registration expire should reapply, unless there are specific circumstances warranting further consideration.

FARB Summit-Request for Travel Approval:

Ms. Theresa Brown, Program Manager, Mr. Williams, Board Executive, and Ms. Duncan, Advice Counsel will be attending the 2026 FARB Summit.

Motion: Ms. Montgomery made a motion to approve the three staff members and one Board member to attend the 2026 FARB Annual Summit in Minneapolis, MN July 23-25, 2026. The motion was seconded by Dr. Wigand and passed.

2026 NCSB-BOD Meeting:

Ms. Montgomery updated the Board on the 2026 NCSB Board of Directors meeting. The conference agenda is being finalized, with a good lineup of topics and a full-day format. The Board is considering future changes to increase attendance and improve the format, but for now, the current format is planned to remain unchanged. Dr. Wigand is scheduled to speak at the conference. Also, the conference aims to attract more attendees from the NCSB member states.

2026 NCSB Annual Conference:

The Board discussed the NCSB Annual Conference and who will attend.

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Motion: Ms. Emory made a motion to approve travel for Ms. Montgomery and Dr. Wigand who are NCSB Board of Directors to attend the 2026 NCSB Annual Conference in Denver, CO., October 1-4, 2026. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leonard and passed.

Motion: Ms. Montgomery made a motion to approve travel for two board members and one staff member to attend the NCSB Annual Conference in Denver, CO., October 1-4, 2026. The motion was seconded by Dr. Wigand and passed.

ASLP Compact Update:

Ms. Montgomery and Dr. Wigand updated the Board on the ASLP Compact. Ms. Montgomery and Dr. Wigand discussed updates regarding the interstate compact, including the absence of a meeting due to the executive director's departure and the ongoing executive director search. They also noted that states are being added to the compact on a rolling basis, with varying fees depending on the state. Dr. Wigand detailed the current status of the states within the compact, mentioning Ohio's financial challenges, Louisiana and West Virginia's removal, and South Carolina's inability to join due to an FBI background check. They clarified that membership privileges are not automatic and require individual selection and payment.

Legislative Update:

Ms. Duncan spoke about the legislative updates with the Board. Ms. Duncan informed the Board that some changes may be made in Chapter 67 to add the statute which will add criminal background checks which will allow South Carolina to participate in the ASLP Compact. Ms. Duncan spoke to the Board regarding the regulatory changes in Chapter 115. The changes were received in mid-February and received a recommendation from the House Regs Committee in mid-March. This was on the agenda for the full Senate Medical Affairs Committee. The Committee is scheduled to time out on May 3, 2026 and if there are no objections filed, then the regulation changes should be printed in the state register on May 22, 2026 and go into effect on that date. H.3974 is a bill that would allow authorized evaluators to evaluate students in public schools for health, behavioral health, and therapeutic needs, as well as allow private providers services at schools during the day. This bill has passed both in the House and Senate. The Senate made amendments so it is back in the House for the first review to see if they would accept the amendments. H. 3021 and S. 922 are both titled Small Business Regulatory Freedom Acts. One of the big pushes in the bills is more oversight over regulations, but also decreasing the number of regulations in the state. S. 922 is a bill that would change or amend the appointment process for several Boards including the Speech Board for advising consent in the Senate. If passed, it would shorten and speed up the process for the Board appointment. The bill has passed in the Senate and is currently in the House Judiciary Committee.

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ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Ms. Montgomery motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Emory and passed. (The meeting adjourned at 11:22 am)