

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF HEARING AID DEALERS & DISPENSERS
Board Meeting Minutes * March 14, 2017
Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive * Macon, Georgia 31217

A meeting of the Georgia State Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispensers was held Tuesday, March 14, 2017, in the Professional Licensing Boards division offices located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

Board Members Present:

Ralph T. Jackson, Jr., Chair
Jason Murphy, Vice-Chair
Vaughn Bray, BC-HIS, CCCA
Joseph Stock, BC-HIS
Kadyn Ochs Williams, AUD

Board Members Absent:

Dr. Donald N. Cote, M.D; ABO Board Certified

Administrative Staff Present:

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director
Tiffany Jordan, Licensure Analyst
Linsey Brookins, Board Support Specialist

Attorney General's Office:

Wylencia Monroe, Assistant Attorney General

Mr. Jackson, Chair, established that a quorum was present and called the Board meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Agenda: Approved as presented

Mr. Murphy moved, Mr. Stock seconded and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 43-1-2(k) (1) (2), O.C.G.A. § 43-1-2(k) (4), O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1), to review applications, the previous meetings Executive session minutes, receive the Assistant Attorney General and Cognizant (Complaints) Reports. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Board members Jackson, Murphy, Vaughn, Williams and Stock.

Application Review:

- O.R.I.
- S.T.

Recommendation:

Refer to AG's Office
Pending receipt of additional information

Cognizant (Complaints) Report:

- HA170003

Recommendation:

Refer to Investigations

Investigative Interview Conducted:

- HA170005 (J. Murphy recused)

Recommendation:

Close w/ LOC

Assistant Attorney General Report:

Wylencia Monroe, Assistant Attorney General provided a status report which included information on any cases referred for action, requests for advice and /or requests for authority for proposed rules.

Executive Session Minutes:

- December 13, 2016

Recommendation:

Approve as presented

At the conclusion of Executive Session on Tuesday, March 14, 2017, Mr. Jackson declared the meeting to be “open” pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq. No votes were obtained during Executive Session.

Dr. Williams moved, Mr. Bray seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendation on the applications as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Dr. Williams moved, Mr. Murphy seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendation of the Cognizant’s report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Mr. Bray moved, Mr. Murphy seconded, and the Board voted to accept the Assistant Attorney General’s Report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Mr. Stock moved, Dr. Williams seconded, and the Board voted to approve the December 13, 2016 Executive Session minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Minutes:

- December 13, 2016 Board Meeting
- February 16, 2017 Conference Call
- March 7, 2017 Conference Call

Dr. Williams moved, Mr. Murphy seconded, and the Board voted to approve the December 13, 2016 meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Dr. Williams moved, Mr. Murphy seconded, and the Board voted to approve the February 16, 2017 meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Dr. Williams moved, Mr. Murphy seconded, and the Board voted to approve the March 7, 2017 meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Correspondence:

- Inquiries from the GA SLPA Board
- SB 153 – Board Letter to Gov. - Amended
- K. Runion – Release of Exam Score

Recommendation:

Respond as directed
Approved with Amendments
Request Approved

Ms. Williams motioned, Mr. Stock seconded, and the Board voted to approve the release of the file contents for K. Runion as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Ms. Williams motioned, Mr. Stock seconded, and the Board voted to allow the Board Staff to respond as directed to all correspondences listed above. None opposed, motion carried.

Public Rules Hearing:

Rule 276-14-.03. Reinstatement of License

Following the late renewal penalty period, all non-renewed licenses will be revoked by operation of law for non-renewal, and an application for reinstatement must be submitted to seek re-licensure.

(a) Reinstatement shall be within the sole discretion of the Board.

(b) A person applying for reinstatement ~~on or after April 1 of every even numbered year must~~ shall submit the following:

1. For both **dealer and dispenser** applicants for reinstatement, a completed reinstatement application and the **non-refundable** reinstatement application fee; and
 2. For only **dispenser** applicants for reinstatement, applying within one (1) year of the effective date of the lapsed license, verification of ~~fourteen (14)~~ twenty (20) hours of Board approved continuing education obtained within two years prior to the date the reinstatement application is received by the Board administrative staff (Refer to Board Rule 276-10 for continuing education information).
 3. For only **dispenser** applicants for reinstatement, applying after one (1) year of the effective date of the lapsed license, verification of the retake and passage of both the written and practical examinations required for licensure within one year ~~prior to of the date of the reinstatement application is received by the Board administrative staff,~~ and verification of ~~fourteen (14)~~ twenty (20) hours of Board approved continuing education obtained within two years prior to the date the reinstatement application is received by the Board administrative staff (Refer to Board Rule 276-10 for continuing education information).
- (c) Individuals currently/actively licensed and practicing full time in the field of dispensing hearing aids in another state or jurisdiction filing for the reinstatement of a lapsed or revoked Georgia hearing aid dispensers license shall submit verification of twenty (20) hours of Board approved continuing education obtained within two years prior to the date of the reinstatement application (Refer to Board Rule 276-10 for continuing education information).

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 43-1-19 and 43-20-6

Mr. Stock motioned, Mr. Murphy seconded and the Board voted to adopt the proposed rule amendments to Board rule 276-14-.03 as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Misc. Discussion Items:

- HB821 Military Family's & Licensure

The Rules Committee will be meeting at a later date and time to begin drafting rules that will be required due to implementation of HB821 into Georgia law.

- SB153 – Amended Letter to Governor

Mr. Stock motioned, Mr. Murphy seconded, and the Board voted to approve and present the amendments made to the written statement addressed to the Governor regarding the proposed new legislation. None opposed, motion carried. The amended statement is below:

Dear Governor Deal,

The Georgia Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispensers (henceforth the “Board”) recently discussed the revised, substitute of Senate Bill 153, adopted by the Senate, now with the House, regarding over-the-counter hearing aid devices. Through this correspondence, the Board wishes to convey to you the following concerns regarding this proposed legislation:

Overall, it appears that the legislation is not in the best interest of the consumers of Georgia due in part to the expediency of this new, proposed legislation, and to:

- There are currently no regulations or guidelines with regard to telehealth to protect the interests of consumers in a transaction such as this, which affects the consumer's health.
- There is no language in the proposed bill that requires the seller of the device to give the

consumer information, direction or guidance regarding the use, misuse, or risks associated with the device (e.g. risks associated with over-amplification).

- This bill does not address the need for ongoing, continuity of care or follow-up, the current standard within our profession.

The Board respectfully requests you consider delaying passage of this proposed legislation, and delay further discussion of the proposed legislation until the 2018 session.

Thank you for your consideration of the Board's concerns.

Sincerely,

The Georgia Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispensers

Ralph T. Jackson, Jr. – Chair 2016-2017

Jason Murphy - Vice-Chair 2016-2017

Dr. Donald N. Cote, M.D.

Vaughn G. Bray, BC-HIS, CCCA

Kadyn Ochs Williams, Au.D.

Joseph Y. Stock, BC-HIS

General discussion followed regarding all new legislation passed into law during the 2016 legislative session that effects all professional licensure Boards: HB 821, HB 952 and SB 367. These bills will remain posted for Board review and reference.

Application Ratify List: 12/13/2016 - 03/13/2017

license No	Licensee
HADS000970	Amos Leon Melvin, Jr
HADS000971	Patrick Alan Lockett
HAP000262	Trena Lee Smith
HAP000263	Russell Robert Hood
HAP000264	Timothy Scott Floyd
HAP000265	Brittany Michele Bumgarner
HAP000266	Miracle Joy Priester
HAP000267	Martha P Williams
HAP000268	Meagan Suezanne Groves
HAP000269	Mylee Ann Lansdon

Dealership Locations:

HADE035168	Decatur Hearing Aid Service	917 N. India Creek Dr. Clarkston, GA 30021
HADE035169	Miracle Ear	956 Dawsonville Hwy Gainesville, GA 30501
HADE035170	Sam's Club Hearing Aid	10100 Canal Crossing Brunswick, GA 31525
HADE035171	Moultrie Hearing Aid CTR	250 Doc Darbyshire Road Moultrie, GA 31788
HADE035172	Hearing Solutions Of North	63 Plott Street Unit D Blairsville, GA 30512
HADE035173	Advanced Hearing Aid	4159 Mill Street Covington, GA 30014

Mr. Murphey moved, Mr. Stock seconded, and the Board voted to approve the ratify list of licenses issued between meetings as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Murphy moved, Mr. Bray seconded, and the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 12:10 p.m. None opposed, motion carried.

Minutes recorded by:

Linsey Brookins, BSS, HC1

Minutes reviewed and edited by:

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director, HC1

RALPH JACKSON

Chair

BRIG ZIMMERMAN

Executive Director, HC-1

These minutes were approved on: **June 20, 2017**