



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**Speech-Language Pathology/Audiology Advisory Council
Minutes
February 17, 2017**

Members

Charles G. Marx, CCC-A
Darlene Gore, CCC-SLP
Kathleen Wentland, CCC-SLP
Robin Friend, OT
Dr. Claude Harbarger

Members Absent

Lindy Oswalt

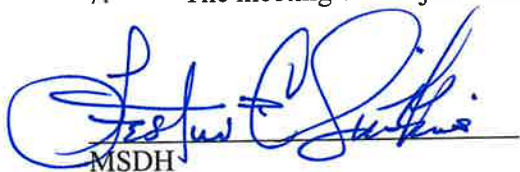
MSDH

F. Simkins
Y. Morrow
E. O'Neal
F. Wang

1. Dr. Marx called the meeting to order. A quorum was established. The Council welcomed new members.
2. By unanimous consent, August 3, 2016, minutes were approved by the Council.
3. The Council elected the following individuals to the named offices by acclamation:

Chair-elect: Mr. Charles Marx
Secretary: Ms. Darlene Gore
4. **Old Business:**
 - A. Dr. Marx inquired about the status of the Telepractice Regulations for speech-language pathology and audiology. Mr. Simkins and Ms. O'Neal replied that all telepractice regulations are on hold until after the current legislative session. Ms. O'Neal will check to see if we can proceed with submitting for this profession.
5. **New Business:**
 - A. A motion was made by Ms. Gore and seconded by Ms. Wentland to accept the ASHA minimum passing scores of 162 for speech-language pathology and 170 for audiology, as the passing scores for licensure in Mississippi. The motion passed. The acceptance of the ASHA minimums passing scores will be submitted to the MSDH Board of Health for approval at the July 2017 meeting.
 - B. Mr. Simkins explained the Department's policy on reviewing the statute and regulations every five years. A motion was made by Ms. Friend and seconded by Ms. Gore that the Council accepted both the *Regulations Governing Licensure of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists* and the statute as written. The motion passed.

- C. The Council discussed changing the audiology educational requirement to reflect that it requires a doctorate to become an audiologist. In addition, the Council discussed if the Department would allow audiologists licensed in another state with a Master's degree to receive a license in Mississippi after changing the requirement. Ms. O'Neal reviewed the statute and the Regulations and informed the Council that the change could be made in Regulations requiring the doctorate for licensure and allowing audiologists licensed in another state with only a Master's degree to obtain licensure in the State of Mississippi. Ms. O'Neal will draft the language and submit for the Council's review.
- D. Ms. Morrow presented an inquiry from a former Council member, Hailey Messersmith. Ms. Messersmith submitted a request for the Council to consider issuing a separate temporary license for the audiology student in their 4th-year externship. The Council discussed the request and decided that a temporary license for the externship was not necessary. A motion was made by Dr. Marx and seconded by Ms. Wentland to maintain the current requirement for a temporary license for audiology. The motion passed.
- E. Ms. Morrow informed the Council that Ms. Wentland term would expire. The Department received Bradley Crowe's name as the nominee from the Mississippi Speech and Hearing Association as her replacement.
- F. Ms. Morrow informed the Council that Ms. Messersmith requested to be removed from the Council. The Department received Ashley Grillis' name as the nominee from the Mississippi Speech and Hearing Association as her replacement.
- G. Ms. Morrow informed the Council that Dr. Harbarger's term expires on December 31, 2017 and that he is eligible for reappointment. Dr. Harbarger stated he is willing to continue to serve and will provide a statement of interest to Ms. Morrow. Ms. Morrow will contact the Mississippi Society for Otolaryngology for their letter of support.
6. The next meeting is scheduled for August 18, 2017, at 10:30 a.m.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.


MSDH


Council Secretary

Date: 18 Aug 17