

**BOARD OF HEARING AID SPECIALISTS**  
**GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING**  
Telephone Conference Call  
**PHONE NUMBER: (888) 670-3525**  
**PARTICIPANT CODE\*: 4552635641**  
**December 03, 2018**  
**10:00 a.m. ET**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order on Monday, December 3, 2018 at 10:01 a.m. ET by Ms. Leanne Polhill, Board Chair.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call was conducted by Jennifer Wenhold, Executive Director. Those present for all or part of the meeting included the following:

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Leanne E. Polhill, HAS, Chair  
Douglas Moore, HAS  
Pamela Dechmerowski, HAS  
John Fischer, HAS  
Thomas Hollern

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Jennifer Wenhold, Executive Director

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Robert Pickard, MD (excused)  
Randy Ellsworth, HAS, Vice-Chair  
(unexcused)

**COURT REPORTER**

For the Record Reporting  
(850) 222-5491

**BOARD COUNSEL**

Lawrence Harris, Esq.,  
Assistant Attorney General

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. September 10, 2018 General Business Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the September 10, 2018 general business meeting were reviewed and the following action was taken by the Board:

Motion: by Mr. Fisher to approve the minutes as presented.  
Second: by Ms. Dechmerowski.  
Vote: unanimous

**III. APPEARANCES**

**A. Brittany Matthews, AST Applicant**

Ms. Matthews was present and was not represented by counsel. Her appearance was requested on the September 10, 2018 agenda due to an affirmative response to a general history and a health history question on her application for the Hearing Aid Specialists Training Program. At the September 10, 2018 General Business Meeting, the Board required a PRN evaluation and recommendation prior to returning before the Board for action on her application. Ms. Matthews waived her right to the 90-day requirement pursuant to s.120.60, F.S., to allow time to complete conditions set forth by the Board. Ms. Matthews has completed her PRN evaluation and returns before the Board for a determination. Her application is complete as of August 20, 2018.

After discussion, the Board took the following action:

Motion: by Mr. Fischer to approve Ms. Matthews' Hearing Aid Specialists Training Program Registration application contingent on compliance with PRN contract.  
Second: by Ms. Dechmerowski.  
Vote: unanimous.

**B. George Pandis, AST Applicant**

Mr. Pandis was present and was not represented by counsel. His appearance was requested due to an affirmative response to a general history question on his application for the Hearing Aid Specialists Training Program. Mr. Pandis' application is complete as of September 6, 2018.

After discussion, the Board took the following action:

Motion: by Mr. Fischer to approve Mr. Pandis' Hearing Aid Specialists Training Program Registration application contingent on compliance with PRN contract.  
Second: by Ms. Dechmerowski.  
Vote: unanimous.

**IV. REPORTS**

**A. Lawrence Harris, Esq., Board Counsel**

**1. Monthly Rules Report**

Mr. Harris provided a monthly rules report for October 2018 for the Board's review.

**B. Jennifer Wenhold, Executive Director**

**1. Proposed New Health History Questions**

Ms. Wenhold reported on the workgroup developed to modify the health history questions on all licensure application. She stated that the workgroup was composed of one member from each Board which met via conference call in September. The following questions were developed as a result of the call.

1. Do you have any condition that currently impairs your ability to practice your profession with reasonable skill and safety?
  
2. Are you using medications, other drugs, narcotics, or intoxicating chemicals that impair

your ability to practice your profession with reasonable skill and safety?

3. If you answered "yes" to either of the above questions, please provide a letter from a licensed health care practitioner, who is qualified by skill and training to address your condition, which explains the impact your condition may have on your ability to practice your profession with reasonable skill and safety, and stating either that you are safe to practice your profession without restriction or indicating what restrictions are necessary. If necessary, you may attach additional sheets. Documentation must be current within the last year. If you fail to disclose the information requested in this section, your application may be denied.

After discussion, the Board took the following action:

Motion: by Ms. Dechmerowski to open rules 64B6-2.003 Licensure by Exam, 64B6-3.001 Application for Initial License, 64B6-8.002 Qualifications for Trainees, Sponsors, and Designated Hearing Aid Specialists, and 64B6-8.003 Trainee Stages, Minimum Training Requirements, and Training Program for development and the review of applications and forms.  
Second: by Mr. Moore.  
Vote: unanimous.

## **2. Licensure Renewal Cycles**

Ms. Wenhold communicated that the Department may be interested in a 4-year renewal cycle. Board members were interested in the extended renewal period, but wanted more information on the possibility of a 3-year renewal cycle to protect the Board's trust. Ms. Wenhold will research and provide information at a later date.

## **V. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 a.m. ET.