

FLORIDA BOARD OF HEARING AID SPECIALISTS

GENERAL BOARD MEETING FULL BOARD MINUTES

May 22, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. EST

Telephone Conference Call

Dial-in #: 1 (888) 585-9008

Participation Code: 744-469-610



Leanne E. Polhill, H.A.S., Chair

Janet E. Hartman, Executive Director



Florida Board of Hearing Aid Specialist
General Board Meeting
May 22, 2020

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER @ 9:00 A.M. EST

Janet Hartman conducted roll call.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leanne E. Polhill, H.A.S., Chair
Randy Ellsworth, H.A.S., Vice-Chair
Pamela Dechmerowski, H.A.S.
Douglas Moore, H.A.S.
Robert Pickard, MD
Thomas Hollern

BOARD STAFF PRESENT:

Janet Hartman, Executive Director
Eric Pottschmidt, MBA, Program Operations Administrator
John B. Fricke, Jr., Assistant Attorney General
Rose Garrison, Esq., Assistant General

COURT REPORTER:

For The Record - 850-222-5491

AGENDA

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 11, 2019

Motion: by Douglas Moore to approve the VR.
Second: by Pam Dechmerowski
Vote: Passed Unanimously

DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS (TS – 03:50 Minutes)

Voluntary Relinquishment - Debra L. Stefa, H.A.S., Case Number 201926295

Rose Garrison, Esq., Assistant General Counsel read case into record.

Debra L. Stefa was not present when the VR was presented and did not have legal representation.

After discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: by Pam Dechmerowski to approve the VR.
Second: by Randy Ellsworth
Vote: Passed Unanimously



PROSECUTOR'S REPORT (TS – 08:30 Minutes)

Case Inventory:

Total Cases open/active in PSU:	13
Cases in Emergency Action Unit:	2
Cases under legal review:	7
Cases with probable cause recommendation:	2
Total Cases where PC has been found:	4
Cases in holding status:	0
Cases pending before DOAH:	0
Cases in intake status:	0
Cases agendaed for Board:	0
Cases on Appeal:	0
Total Number of Cases Older Than One Year:	4

Currently there are a total of thirteen active cases in the Department's hearing aid inventory. Of those cases, only four are year and older cases and they all are post probable cause. Two of those cases are scheduled to be heard at the July Board meeting for possible resolution.

Motion: by Randy Ellsworth to allow PSU to continue to prosecute 1 year and older cases.

Second: by Douglas Moore.

Vote: Passed Unanimously

REPORTS

Chair's Report - Leanne E. Polhill

Mrs. Polhill noted follow-up on 90-day emergency rule referencing the ability to access distance learning courses to apply towards CE transcripts.

Vice Chair's Report - Randy Ellsworth

Nothing to report.

Executive Director's Report – Janet Hartman

COVID-19 Updates - Mrs. Hartman reviewed COVID-19 updates and noted that the Department of Health website contains a COVID-19 dashboard to review State of Florida COVID-19 updates.

Mrs. Hartman also reviewed telehealth and re-enforced that all professions must practice within their scope of practice while practicing telehealth.

Revised Paper Applications Update – Mrs. Hartman reviewed HB 115 related to student loan debt, and also reviewed questions related to the Federal OIG List and the health history questions.



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2021 Proposed Meeting Dates

Motion: by Randy Ellsworth to approve 2021 meeting dates.

Second: by Douglas Moore

Vote: Passed Unanimously

Annual Financial Report – Mrs. Hartman reviewed financial report.

Board Counsel Report - John B. Fricke, Jr., Assistant Attorney General

Mr. Fricke, Jr. reviewed existing Rules 64B6-7.002, .003, .007, and .008 associated with the *Joint Administrative Procedures Committee correspondence*. **(TS: 23:10 thru 1:29:00)**

RATIFICATIONS

Licenses Issued

Motion: by Pamela Dechmerowski to approve Hearing Aid Specialists and Hearing Aid Specialists Trainee.

Second: by Randy Ellsworth

Vote: Passed Unanimously

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS – no old or new business.

NEXT MEETING DATE – July 17, 2020 @ 9:00 A.M. – Sheraton Sand Key Resort, Clearwater, FL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Jason Winn with the Florida Society of Hearing Healthcare Professionals announced July 23, 2021 as the annual convention date at the Renaissance at Sea World Orlando and asked Board to reconsider this date to replace the tentative July 16, 2021 date previously voted and approved by the Board.

ADJOURNMENT – Chair Polhill adjourned the meeting at 10:35 A.M. EST.