

**FLORIDA BOARD OF
HEARING AID SPECIALISTS**
GENERAL BOARD MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

February 12, 2021, at 9:00 A.M. EST



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

Janet E. Hartman, Executive Director



MEETING CALLED TO ORDER @ 9:00 AM 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.
Thomas Hollern

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Robert Pickard, MD

BOARD STAFF PRESENT:

Janet Hartman, Executive Director
Eric Potts Schmidt, MBA, Program Operations Administrator
John B. Fricke, Jr., Assistant Attorney General
Christina Shideler, Assistant General Counsel
Kristen Summers, Assistant General Counsel
Andrew Pietrylo, Assistant General Counsel

COURT REPORTER:

For The Record - 850-222-5491

AGENDA

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 13, 2020

Motion: by Randy Ellsworth to approve November 13, 2020 Minutes
Second: by Thomas Hollern
Vote: Passed Unanimously

DISCIPLINE (TS – 00:02:20 Minutes)

Determination of Waiver – Edward Smith, H.A.S. Case #2019-09436

Edward Smith was not present when his case was presented and did not have legal representation.

Kristen Summers, Assistant General Counsel, presented the case summarizing one count administrative complaint alleging violation of s.456.072(1)(c), F.S.

After discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: by Randy Ellsworth to adopt the findings of fact and find that he was properly served.
Second: by Thomas Hollern
Vote: Passed Unanimously



After discussion, the following action was taken:

- Motion:** by Randy Ellsworth to adopt the conclusions of law and find that it violates the Board's practice acts.
Second: by Thomas Hollern
Vote: Passed Unanimously

The Prosecution recommended that Edward Smith license be suspended until any necessary compliance has been met, including an evaluation by Professionals Resource Network (PRN).

After discussion, the following action was taken:

- Motion:** by Randy Ellsworth to accept Prosecution's recommendation of continuing suspension until any necessary compliance has been met, including an evaluation by Professionals Resource Network (PRN).
Second: by Pamela Dechmerowski
Vote: Passed Unanimously

Prosecution requested motion to accept the amount of cost of \$2,131.24.

- Motion:** by Pamela Dechmerowski to accept cost of \$2,131.24.
Second: by Thomas Hollern
Vote: Passed Unanimously

PROSECUTOR'S REPORT (TS 00:20:45 Minutes)

Cases in EAU:	1
Cases under legal review:	7
Cases where PC Recom made:	3
Total Cases where PC has been found:	0
Cases in holding status:	0
Cases pending before DOAH:	0
Cases Agendaed for Board:	1
Cases on Appeal:	0
Year Old Cases:	8
Total Cases open/active in PSU:	11

- Motion:** by Randy Ellsworth to allow PSU to continue to prosecute 1 year and older cases.
Second: by Pam Dechmerowski
Vote: Passed Unanimously

REPORTS

Chair's Report - Leanne E. Polhill

Nothing to report.

Vice Chair's Report - Randy Ellsworth

Nothing to report, but provided a kudos to Janet Hartman and her staff for their hard work.



Executive Director’s Report – Janet Hartman

Legislative Update

Janet Hartman discussed the upcoming legislative session pertaining to the Department of Health. Currently there are no bills filed relating directly to the hearing aid specialist profession.

Financial Report

No discussion

Board Counsel Report - John B. Fricke, Jr. (TS 00:28:30 Minutes)

Chapter 64B6-7.002, F.A.C. Guidelines for Disposition of Disciplinary Cases – Presented by Janet Hartman.

After discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: by Randy Ellsworth to adopt the rules as discussed.
Second: by Pamela Dechmerowski
Vote: Passed Unanimously

SERC

Will the proposed rule amendments have adverse impact on small business or will the proposed rule amendments be likely to directly or indirectly increase regulatory costs to any entity including government in excess of \$200,000 in the aggregate in Florida within one year after implementation?

Motion: by Randy Ellsworth votes “NO”
Second: by Pamela Dechmerowski
Vote: Passed Unanimously

Should a violation of this rule or any part of this rule be designated as a minor violation?

Motion: by Randy Ellsworth votes “NO”
Second: by Pamela Dechmerowski
Vote: Passed Unanimously

Would a Sunset provision be applicable to this Rule?

Motion: by Pamela Dechmerowski votes “NO”
Second: by Thomas Hollern
Vote: Passed Unanimously

Chapter 64B6-5, F.A.C. Continuing Education

Janet Hartman discussed upcoming end of biennium and the current continuing education standards in place that will expire March 31, 2021. Leanne Polhill asked about the possibility to extend current continuing education standards into the new biennium. Janet Hartman confirmed that it is possible.



Rules Report

All rules presented before the Board have been passed and are in effect.

RATIFICATIONS (TS 00:53:00 Minutes)

Licenses Issued

Motion: by Randy Ellsworth to accept the ratification list for 3601 and 3603.

Second: by Pamela Dechmerowski

Vote: Passed Unanimously

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

NEXT MEETING DATE – May 21, 2021 @ 9:00 A.M.- GoToMeeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No public comments.

ADJOURNMENT @ 9:59 AM EST