

**BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND
AUDIOLOGY MEETING**

October 26, 2011

Open Session

The Open Session of the Board of Speech Language Pathology and Audiology was called to order on the above date in Room 104, Cannon Building, Rhode Island Department of Health, Three Capitol Hill, Providence, Rhode Island, pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Open Meeting Law, so called, and other applicable provisions of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, as amended. A quorum was established at 3:10 PM.

Board members in attendance:

Constance Gelfuso

Rachel Baboian

Patricia Bellini

Board members not in attendance:

Rev. Michelle Sullivan

Charles Ruhl, MD

Staff members in attendance:

Maureen Slowick

Rosemary Sheets

Others in attendance:

None-----

The minutes of the meeting of June 30, 2010 were presented. On motion of Ms. Baboian, seconded by Ms. Gelfuso, it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes as presented.

Business

The Board was informed that Charles Ruhl, MD had submitted his resignation from the Board. The terms of all current Board members has expired; therefore the Department will be recruiting for the five (5) Board openings on the HEALTH website.

The Board reviewed the proposed amendments to the RI Rules and Regulations For Licensing Speech Pathologists And Audiologists [R5-48-SPA]. The Board approved the amendments for Public Hearing with the provision that Section 4.3 have additional language added that requires reapplication to the Department to resume practice if the license has been expired for more than two (2) cycles, (4 years), and language to clarify that other information may be requested by the Board.

Electronic recording of the registration of speech pathology support personnel was discussed. The Board approved of the amendment to strike audiologists from the registration requirement in Section 6.4. The Board agreed that the current regulatory requirements for

support personnel for audiologists was sufficient due to the amendment to Section 6.3 titled Supervision and Responsibility.

The Board discussed United Health's policy of on-line hearing screenings, kits to make an impression of the ear and dispensing of the hearing aids. It was decided to refer this issue to the Board Administrator for Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters.

Adjournment to Executive Session

On motion of Ms. Gelfuso, seconded by Ms. Baboian, it was unanimously voted to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to sections 42-46-4 and 42-46-5(1) of the Rhode Island General Laws, as Amended, in that confidential issues of fitness for licensure and investigative cases will be discussed. The Open Session adjourned at 3:10 PM.

Return to Open Session

The Open Session was called back to order at 4:05 PM.

On motion of Ms. Gelfuso, seconded by Ms. Bellini, it was unanimously voted to keep confidential all matters discussed in Executive Session and to seal those minutes inasmuch as fitness for licensure and ongoing disciplinary matters were addressed. The following votes were taken in the Executive Session:

2011-01-SP/AUD No Unprofessional Conduct

2011-02-SP/AUD No Unprofessional Conduct

Adjournment

On motion of Ms. Baboian, seconded by Ms. Bellini, it was unanimously voted to adjourn. The Open Session of the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Sheets

Board Administrator

Health Professions Regulation