

*These minutes were approved by the Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology via mail ballot on 6.15.2023.*

Minutes of the May 10, 2023  
Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Meeting

**1. ROLL CALL**

Dr. Michelle Leenerts, Vice-Chairperson, called the meeting of the Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology to order at 1:08 p.m. on May 10, 2023, in the Goldenrod Conference Room at the Nebraska State Office Building located at 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. In accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411 of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, copies of the agenda were e-mailed to the Board members and other interested parties, posted on the DHHS web site at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx>, and posted in the Licensure Unit on April 26, 2023.

Leenerts announced that this is an open meeting, and the Open Meetings Act is posted.

**Members Present:** The following members answered roll call:

Dr. Michelle Leenerts, Vice-Chairperson  
Katie Brennan, Member  
Robert Thornhill, Member  
Kathryn Anderson, Secretary

**Members Absent:**

Dr. Rhonda Dick, Chairperson

**Staff Present:**

Amy Blinston, Health Licensing Coordinator  
Claire Covert-ByBee, Program Manager  
Suzanna Glover-Ettrich, DHHS Attorney  
TJ O'Neill, Assistant Attorney General

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Brennan moved, seconded by Anderson, to adopt the agenda. Voting aye: Brennan, Leenerts, Anderson, and Thornhill. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

**3. REAFFIRMATION OF MAIL BALLOT**

The Board reaffirmed the mail ballot approving the February 15, 2023, meeting minutes on February 23, 2023. Voting to approve: Dick, Anderson, Thornhill, and Leenerts. Brennan did not vote.

**4. INVESTIGATIONAL & CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION/REPORTS – CLOSED SESSION**

**MOTION:** Thornhill moved, seconded by Anderson, to move into closed session at 1:10 p.m. to hear discussions regarding confidential information and to protect the reputation of individuals named or referenced in such discussions. Voting aye: Brennan, Anderson, Leenerts, and Thornhill. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

## **5. BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS ON APPLICATIONS**

The Board returned to open session at 1:24 p.m. and recommended that Linda Logan be issued an unrestricted audiology license.

## **6. ASLP COMPACT**

Covert-ByBee reported that the Compact Commission and sub-committees have been working on operationalizing the Compact. A special meeting of the entire commission was held to review and vote on election of a new member at large to the Executive Committee, adoption of bylaw amendments, adoption of rules, and adoption of the budget. The Executive Committee is looking to find a part-time executive director for the ASLP Compact. The Committee is also moving forward with an RFP to find vendors to create and manage a database for Compact Data Set reporting and Compact Privilege tracking. All are welcome to attend any scheduled meetings of the commission or its committees. More information can be found at [ASLPCompact.com](http://ASLPCompact.com).

## **7. FDA QUESTIONS**

Covert-ByBee indicated that a guidance document was sent out by the FDA regarding over-the-counter hearing aids. A question was raised at the last Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology meeting whether prescriptive devices require the provider to generate a hearing aid authorization form or certificate of need. The FDA indicated it is up to each individual Board or licensing authority to define the requirements.

## **8. UPDATE ON NEW LICENSURE DATABASE**

Covert-ByBee advised that the Department of Health and Human Services is in the process of pursuing an emergency contract with the same entity that created LIS to stabilize the licensure database. The Department is hoping to move forward by July 1, 2023.

## **9. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Covert-ByBee presented the Board with information regarding the following legislative bills: DHHS Omnibus Bill 227 (which now includes LB430), LB296, LB593, LB16, and LB810. These bills may be viewed on the Nebraska Legislature website: <https://nebraskalegislature.gov>.

## **10. LICENSURE AND EXECUTIVE ORDER 22-08**

Covert-ByBee stated EO 22-08 is in effect through June 30, 2023. This EO does not really impact ASLP professions as there is a temporary license already available.

## **11. LICENSURE APPLICATION PROCESSING REPORT**

The application processing report was prepared for informational purposes only.

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## **12. TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Suggested topics for next meeting include Legislative Update, ASLP Compact, Licensure Database Update, Temporary Licensure, and Application Processing Report.

## **13. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Anderson, Secretary