Minutes of the Meeting
Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology
October 28, 2026

1. ROLL CALL

Michelle Leenerts, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology to order at 1:03 p.m. on October 28, 2026, 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 Nebraska State Office Building East Vestibule on October 8, 2026.

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

Members Present: The following members answered roll call:

Michelle Leenerts, AuD, CCC-A, Chairperson
Samantha Penas, MS, CCC-SLP, Vice-Chairperson
Noel Griffith, AuD, Secretary
Melissa Bradley-Potter, MA, CCC-SLP

Staff Present:

Amy Blinston, Program Manager
Kim Hitzel, Health Licensing Coordinator
Katherine Amyot, DHHS Legal
TJ O'Neill, Assistant Attorney General
Hayle Alvarado, DHHS Investigations

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Penas moved, seconded by Griffith, to adopt the agenda. Voting aye: Bradley-Potter, Griffith, Leenerts, and Penas. Voting Nay: none. Motion carried.

3. REAFFIRMATION OF MAIL BALLOT

On May 15, 2026, a mail ballot was sent to the Board to review the minutes of the May 13, 2026, meeting. Voting to approve: Leenerts, Bradley-Potter, Griffith, and Penas. Voting nay: none. Minutes approved May 21, 2026.

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4. CLOSED SESSION

Penas moved, seconded by Griffith, to move into closed session at 1:05 pm to hear discussions regarding confidential information and to protect the reputation of individuals named or referenced in such discussions. Voting aye: Leenerts, Bradley-Potter, Griffith, and Penas. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

5. BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS ON APPLICATIONS

The Board returned to Open Session at 1:30 pm.

In the matter of the reinstatement application for Jennifer Lunt, Griffith moved, seconded by Bradley-Potter, to table the application until further information is received. Voting Aye: Bradley-Potter, Leenerts, Penas, and Griffith. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

6. ASLP COMPACT UPDATE

Blinston presented information from the October 3rd, 2026, ASLP Interstate Compact commission meeting. The minutes of this meeting are available on the Compact website. Blinston advised that the website URL and email addresses will change from .com to .gov on October 30, 2026.

7. ASHA UPDATE

Blinston reported there will be an ASHA webinar presentation on November 12, 2026, for Board members to learn about the changes to the requirements for the exams.

8. HIS REGULATION UPDATE

Blinston explained that Hearing Instrument Specialist draft regulations, 172 NAC 75, are required to go before this board per NRS 38-1523(3)(B) which indicates that the Board of Medicine and Surgery and the Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology must be consulted before adopting rules and regulations as provided in NRS 38-126 to provide requirements for the initial cerumen removal course. According to Amyot, this Board may only make recommendations and that the regulations will be sent to the Board members if the final draft includes requirements for the initial cerumen removal course.

9. LICENSURE APPLICATION PROCESSING REPORT

Hitzel stated that this report was prepared for informational purposes and is a snapshot of licensure activity.

10. TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING

Topics for next meeting include Schedule Meetings for 2027, Application Processing Report, and Public Comment.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully signed,

Noel Griffith, Secretary
(signature on file)

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