

HEALTH OCCUPATIONS PROGRAM

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Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Hearing Instrument Dispensers

May 11, 2016

The Wellstone Center, Ecolab Fireside Room

179 Robie Street East, St. Paul, MN 55107

IN ATTENDANCE:

Present Members:

Richard Caruso
P.J. Kiedrowski
Robert McLachlan
Dale Thorstad
Daniel Rochel

MDH Staff Members:

Amanda Hirsch
Anne Kukowski
Catherine Lloyd
Kevin Reinke
Gloria Rudolph

Guests:

Tracy Erfourth

Absent Members:

Sarah Kahley

AGENDA:

- 1. Convene and Introductions.** Done by those in attendance.
- 2. Announcements**
- 3. Review and Approval of Minutes.** Approved as written.
- 4. Additions/Adoptions of Agenda.** Approved as written.
- 5. Staff Updates**
 - A. Staff Updates – Credentialing Report.** Rudolph presented HID credentialing stats, as of April 30, 2016.

HID Trainees:	Non Audiologist:	Audiologist:	Total Certified:
15	209	3	212

- B. Staff Updates – HID Exam Report.** Rudolph also presented HID Practical Exam results from the February 19, 2016 exam and April 8, 2016 retest exam. Below are the HID/AUD candidates only from the February exam

New Candidates:	Retest Candidates:	Total Candidates:
7 Passed	4 Passed	11 Passed
<u>10</u> Failed	4 Failed	<u>14</u> Failed
17 Total	8 Total	25 Total

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- C. **Staff Updates – Investigations and Enforcements Reports.** Kukowski presented HID Investigation and Enforcement Reports July 1, 2015 – March 31, 2016.

Intake:	Investigations:	Enforcements:	Pending:
70	Opened: 10 Closed: 13	Opened: 4 Closed: 0	Investigations: 16 Enforcements: 9

- D. **Staff Updates-** Kukowski reported that the department was looking for a supervisor.

6. **Old Business**

- A. **Old Business – PSA Advisement Letter.** Lloyd presented the Advisement letter that will serve as a warning to an individual to stop advertising and illegally selling hearing instruments to Minnesota consumers. Members approved of the letter.
- B. **Old Business – Apprenticeship Guidelines.** Lloyd updated the Advisory Council on the status of the apprenticeship guidelines and issues surrounding the scope of practice.

7. **New Business**

- A. **New Business – HPSP (Health Professionals Service Dispensers) -** Erfourth reviewed the purpose of HPSP and provided information about current activity relevant to SLPA practitioners. Each participating board pays an annual fee based on numbers of participants.
- B. **New Business – Craigslist.** Reinke reported that he does searches on craigslist for individuals selling hearing aids and enters just 1 allegation each month regardless of the number of advertisements found. Members suggested searching Amazon or eBay. Reinke asked members for their input on the letter that he sends to advertisers. Members approved of letter.
- C. **New Business – 2017 Legislation.** Kukowski reviewed MDH’s focus for the 2017 legislation session. Health equity will be the main focus. The annual surcharge will expire on the July 1st just in time for the renewal period. Kukowski will conduct an analysis of the renewal fee to determine if fees can stay the same or if the surcharge will need to be brought back.

8. **Adjourn – Meeting adjourned.**

Next Meeting:
Wednesday, August 10, 2016