

# Meeting Minutes: Speech Language Pathologist and Audiologist Advisory Council

## July 25, 2017

### Attendance

- MDH Staff Members: Catherine Lloyd, Gloria Rudolph, Kevin Reinke, Morgan Foster
- Council Members: Leigh Ann Ahmad, Heidi Hueffmeier, Sarah Monahan, Analise Ludwig
- Absent Members: George Pfaff, Geoffrey Service, Jenne Tunnell, Nyagatare Valens, Josephine Helmbrecht

### Agenda/Notes

- **Convene and Introductions**
- **Announcements**
  - **Staffing Updates**
    - Catherine Lloyd has moved into the Health Occupations Program Manager.
  - **Vacancies**
    - The council has three open vacancies on the Secretary of State website. Mark DeRuiter and Jerry Meinders have resigned from the Council.
- **Approval of Minutes:** April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting minutes approved.
- **Additions/Adoptions of Agenda:** No additions to agenda.
- **Staff Updates**
  - **Credentialing Report:** Rudolph presented SLP/AUD credentialing statistics as of June 30, 2017\*
  - **HID Exam Report:** Rudolph presented Hearing Instrument Dispenser Practical Exam results from May 12, 2017.\*
  - **Investigation and Enforcement Reports:** Reinke presented SLP/AUD Investigation and Enforcement reports through fourth quarter of fiscal year 2017.\*
  - **Budget Summary FY17:** Lloyd presented preliminary expenditures and revenues. Budget close out is Aug 11, 2017.
- **Old Business**
  - **2017 Legislative Session:** Lloyd recapped the legislative session that wrapped up June 30, 2017. A special session was held, and [fee](#) increases were included into the final budget. [Surcharges](#) for background checks will be effective January 1, 2018 (new applicants) and the first renewal after January 1, 2020 for current licensees.

- **Online Audiometry:** Rudolph continued discussion on researching online audiometry. MDH has not done any further research, and council members who did past research were not present at today's meeting to discuss. The topic will be kept on future agendas for discussion.
- **Tele-Audiometry:** Reinke reported that the Fargo, ND Veteran's Association is currently providing Tele-Audiometry to Minnesota residents. Research shows that tele-Audiometry is expected to increase. MDH should continue to monitor for licensing issues. MN currently does not do Tele-Audiometry. Research is showing that Tele-Audiometry is expanding to increase access to care in rural areas. Licensing issues may arise and MDH should be prepared.
- **New Business**
  - **Teleconference and other options:** Lloyd opened a discussion on informing the Council that the Department has District Offices for holding the advisory council meeting via teleconference. The Department is looking into ways to increase participation, visibility and access to the Advisory Council for Council members and the public.
  - **Legislative 2018 Ideas:** Lloyd discussed possible legislative ideas including, language that allows for an exception to licensing requirements for SLPA's employed by the Federal Government. The department encourages Professional Associations to ask for technical feedback if they are pursuing legislative initiatives.
  - **Criminal Background Checks:** Lloyd updated the council on the progress of the Criminal Background Checks that is expected to begin in January. Due to available technology, and programs, the Department is still working through how to roll out the Criminal Background Checks procedures.
  - **Advancing Health Equity:** The MDH Strategic Plan (2015-2019) identified building a shared understanding and internal capacity for [Advancing Health Equity](#) as a key priority. Lloyd opened a discussion with the council about the Department's effort to advance health equity. The council agrees to the idea of bringing in a speaker to the next Council meeting.
- **Adjourn** – 4:02pm

\*Detailed reports are available upon request.

## Decisions Made

- Online Audiometry: Keep topic on agenda for future meetings and continued discussion.

## Action Items

- Link to Advancing Health Equity/Catherine Lloyd/October 24, 2017
- Meeting Minutes Approved for April 25, 2017

## Next Meeting

Date: October 24, 2017

Time: 2:30-4:30 pm

Location: PERA, 60 Empire Drive, Saint Paul MN 55103

Minnesota Department of Health  
Health Occupations Program  
PO Box 64882  
St. Paul, MN 55164-0882  
651-201-3731  
health.slpa@state.mn.us  
www.health.state.mn.us

Minutes prepared by: Morgan Foster

09/27/2017

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