

Meeting Minutes: Speech Language Pathologist and Audiologist Advisory Council

April 24, 2018

Minutes prepared by: Morgan Foster
Location: PERA, 60 Empire Drive, Saint Paul, MN 55103

Attendance

- MDH Staff Members: Barbara Damchik-Dykes, Kia Moua, Morgan Foster, Kristin Johnson
- Council Members: Taiha Wagner, Sarah Monahan, Josephine Helmbrecht, Nancy Thul, George Pfaff
- Call in: Leigh Ann Ahmad, Jenne Tunnell, Nyagatare Valens, Letty Faller, Analise Ludwig, Heidi Hueffmeier
- Absent Members: Catherine Lloyd, Geoffrey Service

Agenda/Notes

- **Convene and Introductions**
- **Announcements**
 - **Staff Updates** – Kia Moua has accepted the position of SLP/A License Specialist, and Kristin Johnson has accepted the open investigator position.
 - **Guest Speaker** – Thomas Tedeschi, Au.D. Chief Clinical Advisor, Amplifon.
- **Approval of Minutes (January 23rd, 2018)** - Meeting minutes approved as written.
- **Additions/Adoption of Agenda** – No additions to the agenda.
- **New Business**
 - **Over the Counter Hearing Aid Act of 2017**– Tedeschi presented on the Over the Counter Hearing Aid Act. Tedeschi stated that it is designed to increase access and affordability of hearing aids for adults with mild-to-moderate hearing loss. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services must promulgate rules within three years of passage for the Act allowing 180 days for public comment. Rules will include output limits and labeling requirements. The federal law preempts state law.
 - **Speech Language Pathology Assistant Licensure Bill** – Thul updated the council on the speech language pathology assistant licensure bill that was introduced in this legislative session.
- **Staff Updates**
 - **Credentialing Report** - Moua presented SLP/AUD credentialing statistics as of April 2, 2018*

- **Investigation and Enforcement Reports** – Johnson presented SLP/AUD Investigation and Enforcement reports through 3rd quarter of fiscal year 2018.*
- **HID Exam Report** - Rauchwarter presented Hearing Instrument Dispenser Practical Exam results from January 5, 2018*
- **Old Business**
 - **Criminal Background Checks Update** – Damchik-Dykes updated the council that MDH has begun conducting criminal background checks. As a reminder, January 1, 2020 SLPA’s who are renewing will be required to undergo CBC.
 - **Health Equity Initiatives** – Damchik-Dykes informed council members to familiarize themselves with the MDH website of the Office of Health Equity, and think of some possible goals related to the work of the committee for 2019.
 - **Online Practical Exam** – Council members gave the Department information about an online audiometric exam used by an educational institution and would like the Department to continue research into this method.
- **Adjourn**

Next Meeting

Date: July 24, 2018

Time: 2:30-4:30 pm

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

Agenda items: (submit proposed agenda items to health.hop@state.mn.us)

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7/24/2018

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