



## **Board of Hearing and Speech**

**February 3, 2023**

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**Board Members Present:** Ray Parker, Chair, Public Member  
Nichole Kingham Furness, Vice-chair, Audiologist  
Connie Furry, Hearing Aid Specialist  
Brenda Litke, Hearing Aid Specialist  
Amberkiah Pomeroy, Audiologist  
Sonja Bradford, Speech-Language Pathologist  
Brian Shute, Speech-Language Pathologist  
Paula Benson, Public Member  
Harry Parent, Public Member

**Board Members Absent:** Kelly Siebecke, Licensed Speech-Language Pathology Assistant  
David Horn, Licensed Medical Physician

**Staff Members Present:** Jennifer Santiago, Executive Director  
Kim-Boi Shadduck, Program Manager  
Kristi Knieps, Assistant Attorney General  
Madissen Schatz, Administrative Assistant

**OPEN SESSION:**

**9:00 a.m. Open Session – Ray Parker, Chair, Public Member**

Ms. Shadduck called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

**1. Call to Order – Ray Parker, Chair**

1.1 Board, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

1.2 Dr. Shute motioned to approve meeting agenda. The motion was seconded and adopted.

1.3 Ms. Furry motioned to approve the meeting minutes from November 4<sup>th</sup>. The motion was seconded and adopted.

1.4 Dr. Nichole Kingham motioned to approve the minutes for the November 28<sup>th</sup> special meeting. The motion was seconded and adopted.

**2. Open Forum – Ray Parker, Chair, Public Member**

No comments from the audience.

**3. Open Public Meeting Act (OPMA) Training – Ray Parker, Chair, Public Member**

Ms. Knieps shared a presentation regarding the [OPMA](#) with the board.

**4. Rulemaking Process Training – Ray Parker, Chair, Public Member**

Ms. Shadduck presented training regarding the rulemaking process, including the filing of a CR-101, CR-102, and CR-103 with the Office of the Code Revisor.

**Program Reports – Kristi Knieps, Assistant Attorney General; Jennifer Santiago, Executive Director; and Kim-Boi Shadduck, Program Manager**

a. Credentialing Statistic Report

Ms. Shadduck presented the February 03, 2023, Credentialing Statistic Report.

Active status counts:

Audiologist license- 526

Hearing aid specialist license- 333

Speech-language pathologist license- 3,722

Speech-language pathology assistant certification- 285

Speech language pathologist interim permit- 156

b. Current Budget Report

Ms. Shadduck presented the 2021-23 Biennium Budget Status Report for the period of July 01, 2021, through November 30, 2022. The program maintains a positive fund balance.

c. Program and Legislative Update

Ms. Santiago shared 2023 legislation that may impact board laws. Legislative bills included:

- HB 1001 and SB 5021 – Concerning audiology and speech language pathology interstate compact.
- HB 1009 – Concerning military spouse employment.
- HB 1027 and SB 5036 – 2023-24 Concerning telemedicine.
- HB 1503 – 2023-24 Collecting health care professionals' information at the time of license application and license renewal.

## **Board Business**

### **5. Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill (ESSB) 5229 Health Equity Continuing Education (CE) – Ray Parker, Chair, Public Member**

The Board of Hearing and Speech filed a CR-101 as [WSR 23-04-022](#) on January 23, 2023, regarding hearing and speech health equity continuing education. The board is considering amendments to [WAC 246-828-510](#) (continuing education) and creating new section to [chapter 246-828 WAC](#) to adopt the health equity continuing education (CE) model rules, [WAC 246-12-800](#) through [246-12-830](#), and to consider whether additional CE hours and course topics should be included.

Ms. Santiago shared the recommended rule language, and the board discussed the proposal. Ms. Shadduck will make the board's proposed draft changes, which will be shared with stakeholders through GovDelivery. The board will make adjustments or approve the draft changes during the next board meeting. The board will then move forward will filing a CR-102.

### **6. FDA Rule on OTC Hearing Aids – Ray Parker, Chair, Public Member**

The Board of Hearing and Speech filed a CR-101 as [WSR 23-04-023](#) on January 23, 2023, regarding over-the-counter hearing aids. The board is

considering amending [WAC 246-828-100](#) (Hearing instruments fitting and dispensing – minimum standards of practice) to be consistent with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) finalized rule regarding the sale of over the counter (OTC) hearing aids. The board may also consider clarifying or technical changes as needed.

Ms. Shadduck shared the recommended rule language, and the board discussed the proposal. Ms. Shadduck will make the board's proposed draft changes, which will be shared during the next meeting.

**7. Board of Hearing and Speech Decrease Fees – Ray Parker, Chair, Public Member**

A CR-102 was filed as [WSR 23-01-133](#) on December 20, 2022, regarding proposed fee amendments for multiple health professions. The Department of Health held a hearing on January 24, 2023. If the proposed changes are adopted by the department, the fees will become effective on June 01, 2023.

**8. Correspondence from the Occupational Therapy Practice Board – Ray Parker, Chair, Public Member**

The board received copy of response letter from the Board of Hearing and Speech to the Occupational Therapy Practice Board on updated guidance regarding occupational, speech-language, and physical therapy services.

**9. Subcommittee Transitions – Ray Parker, Chair, Public Member**

Ms. Shadduck shared that she will be separating non-routine application review from disciplinary review for the Education/Exam Subcommittee. Ms. Shadduck will poll subcommittee members on preference and availability for meetings.

The May 05, 2023, board meeting will take place in Spokane. Ms. Shadduck will contact Site Review Subcommittee members to discuss availability pertaining to the site review on May 04, 2023.

Subcommittee meetings will now take place on Microsoft Teams.

The board reviewed an Application for Approval to Receive Lists from Consonus Healthcare. Dr. Shute motioned to approve Consonus. The motion was seconded and adopted.

**10. Agenda Building- Ray Parker, Chair, Public Member**

The board discussed priority items for the May 05, 2023, meeting in Spokane.

- Review draft rule language for WAC 246-828-510, 246-828 WAC to adopt the health equity continuing education (CE) model rules, and WAC 246-12-800 through 246-12-830.
- Review draft rule language for WAC 246-828-100 (Hearing instruments fitting and dispensing – minimum standards of practice).

**Adjournment of Open Session**

Dr. Shute motioned to adjourn the session at 10:39 a.m. The motion was seconded and adopted.

**Submitted by:**  
Kim-Boi Shadduck, Program Manager  
Board of Hearing and Speech

**Approved by:**  
Ray Parker, Chair, Public Member  
Board of Hearing and Speech

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