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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

**F I N A L M I N U T E S**

MEETING OF:

**STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE  
PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY**

TIME: 10:30 A.M.

Held at

**PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

2525 North 7th Street

CoPA HUB, Eaton Conference Room

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

as well as

**VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

December 12, 2025

1                   State Board of Examiners in Speech-Language  
2                   Pathology and Audiology  
3                   December 12, 2025  
4  
5

6 BOARD MEMBERS:  
7

8 Lisa A. Butler, M.A., CCC-SLP, Chairperson  
9 Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner of  
10 Professional and Occupational Affairs  
11 Patrick M. Murphy, Au.D., M.Ed., CCC-A, FAAA, Vice  
12 Chairperson  
13 Theresa Jacopetti, Speech-Language Pathologist  
14 Robert Sataloff, M.D., ENT  
15 Courtney Eisenhart, Au.D., CCC-A  
16  
17

18 BUREAU PERSONNEL:  
19

20 Ashley Goshert, Esquire, Board Counsel  
21 Denice Szekely, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison  
22 Thomas Davis, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel  
23 Paul Jarabeck, Esquire, Board Prosecutor Liaison  
24 Shana Walter, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel  
25 Shakeena L. Chapelle, Board Administrator  
26 Ryan Lysaght, Esquire, Office of General Counsel  
27  
28

29 ALSO PRESENT:  
30

31 Ted Mowatt, CAE, Vice President/Lobbyist &  
32 Executive Director, Wanner Associates on  
33 behalf of the Pennsylvania Academy of  
34 Audiology  
35 Jill McClelland, Au.D., CCC-A, Penn State  
36 Health  
37 Kristin Park, MS, SLP, Collegeville Speech and  
38 Hearing, LLC  
39 Rebecca Cruz, Philadelphia Prison System  
40 Angie Ambrust, Senior Associate, McNees-Winter  
41 Group, LLC  
42 Erin Badstuebner, Sargent's Court Reporting  
43 Service, Inc.  
44  
45  
46  
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1 \*\*\*

2 State Board of Examiners in Speech-Language

3 Pathology and Audiology

4 December 12, 2025

5 \*\*\*

6 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(1) and 708(a)(5) of the  
7 Sunshine Act, at 10:00 a.m., the Board entered into  
8 Executive Session with Ashley B. Goshert, Esquire,  
9 Board Counsel, for the purpose of conducting quasi-  
10 judicial deliberations on the matters on the agenda  
11 and to receive advice of Board Counsel. The Board  
12 returned to open session at 10:30 a.m.]

13 \*\*\*

14 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State  
15 Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and  
16 was held on Friday, December 12, 2025. Lisa A.  
17 Butler, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at  
18 10:30 a.m.

19 \*\*\*

20 [Ashley Goshert, Esquire, Board Counsel, informed  
21 everyone that the meeting was being recorded, and  
22 those who continued to participate were giving  
23 their consent to be recorded.]

24 \*\*\*

25 Roll Call of Board Members/Introduction of

1 Attendees

2 [Shakeena L. Chappelle, Board Administrator,  
3 provided a roll call of Board members and an  
4 introduction of attendees. A quorum of Board  
5 members was present.]

6 \*\*\*

7 Approval of Minutes of the June 20, 2025 meeting

8 CHAIR BUTLER:

9 Do we have a motion for approval of  
10 the draft minutes for June, 2025?

11 MS. JACOPETTI:

12 I make the motion to approve those  
13 minutes.

14 DR. MURPHY:

15 Second.

16 CHAIR BUTLER:

17 Roll call.

18 MS. CHAPPELLE:

19  
20 Lisa Butler, aye; Acting Commissioner  
21 Claggett, abstain; Dr. Murphy, aye;  
22 Theresa Jacopetti, aye; Dr. Sataloff,  
23 abstain; Dr. Eisenhart, abstain.

24 [The motion carried. Acting Commissioner Claggett,  
25 Dr. Sataloff, and Dr. Eisenhart abstained from

1 voting on the motion.]

2 \*\*\*

3 Report of Prosecutorial Division - No Report

4 \*\*\*

5 Appointment - Shana Walter, Esquire, Deputy Chief  
6 Counsel Introduction

7 [Shana Walter, Esquire, introduced herself as the  
8 new Deputy Chief Counsel for the Prosecution  
9 Division. She replaced Carlton Smith, Esquire, who  
10 moved to the Hearing Examiner's Office. She  
11 offered to answer any questions about prosecution,  
12 both she and Mr. Jarabeck were available. The  
13 Board welcomed her.]

14 \*\*\*

15 Matters for Discussion

16 [Ashley Goshert, Esquire, Board Counsel, discussed  
17 posing a motion to amend the agenda. She requested  
18 an item be added under Miscellaneous for discussion  
19 in reference to the Board's participation in the  
20 2026 Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing (PSHA)  
21 Convention.]

22 MS. GOSHERT:

23 Do we have a motion to amend the  
24 agenda to add that?

25 DR. SATALOFF:

1 So moved.

2 MS. JACOPETTI:

3 Second.

4 CHAIR BUTLER:

5 Roll call.

6 MS. CHAPPELLE:

7

8 Lisa Butler, aye; Acting Commissioner  
9 Claggett, aye; Dr. Murphy, aye;  
10 Theresa Jacopetti, aye; Dr. Sataloff,  
11 aye; Dr. Eisenhart, aye.

12 [The motion carried unanimously.]

13 \*\*\*

14 [Ashley Goshert, Esquire, Board Counsel, discussed  
15 Board representation at the PSHA Convention to be  
16 held the end of March 2026. The Board was  
17 requested to provide a presentation.]

18 MS. GOSHERT:

19 Would the Board entertain a motion to  
20 approve travel and associated  
21 expenses for two Board members, the  
22 Board Administrator, Board Counsel,  
23 and Prosecution Attorney to attend  
24 the PSHA Convention to be held March  
25 26th to 28th, 2026 in Pocono Manor,

1 Pennsylvania?

2 COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

3 So moved.

4 CHAIR BUTLER:

5 Second. Roll call.

6 MS. CHAPPELLE:

7

8 Lisa Butler, yes; Acting Commissioner

9 Claggett, aye; Dr. Murphy, aye;

10 Theresa Jacopetti, aye; Dr. Sataloff,

11 aye; Dr. Eisenhart, aye.

12 [The motion carried unanimously.]

13 \*\*\*

14 Report of Regulatory Counsel

15 [Thomas Davis, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel, had no

16 formal report given the Board had no active

17 proposed regulations in process.

18 Ms. Goshert noted Rebecca Cruz, along with

19 Kristen Park, MS, SLP, were on the line to discuss

20 regulations.

21 Ms. Park noted Ms. Cruz, herself and a small

22 group of SLPs were seeking to make changes in the

23 wording of the current legislation for requirements

24 on obtaining a Pennsylvania SLP license. She

25 stated their concerns was given to the Board at the

1 June meeting, specifically concerns with regard to  
2 the wording mentioning ASHA (American Speech-  
3 Language Hearing Association), and the CCC  
4 (Community Corrections Center) in the legislation.

5 Ms. Park had presented to Mr. Davis a proposal  
6 for working changes in three sections in the  
7 legislation. Mr. Davis acknowledged the receipt of  
8 the document from Ms. Park in June, but he was  
9 somewhat of a different opinion on the requested  
10 changes. He suggested that the Board needed to  
11 review the requested changes.

12 Chair Butler stated the Board did not have the  
13 document in front of them. Research on the matter  
14 had been conducted. There was minimal confusion as  
15 communicated to the Board. She added the two new  
16 Board members would need to review the SLPs request  
17 for re-worded regulation language.

18 Mr. Davis noted the language in the SLPs  
19 request did seem consistent with the regulations of  
20 other boards regarding the CCC or ASHA. He added  
21 the requested changes referenced options in these  
22 sections. He stated, if the Board wanted him to  
23 move forward with the SLPs requests, he would do  
24 so.

25 Ms. Goshert questioned the Board as to its

1 desire to move forward. Chair Butler agreed to  
2 move forward, provided Board Counsel found no  
3 confusion or that the language was concerning. Mr.  
4 Davis informed Ms. Park the Board would be provided  
5 with a report, and if anyone on the Board wished to  
6 discuss the matter further at the next meeting, it  
7 would be added to the Board's agenda. He thanked  
8 Ms. Cruz and Ms. Park for bringing this matter to  
9 the Board's attention.]

10 \*\*\*

11 Report of Board Chairperson

12 [Chair Butler reported on the status of the  
13 interstate compact. She practiced with the  
14 licensing system in the interstate compact. The  
15 onboarding licensing process was being developed,  
16 and applications were opening up. Other Boards  
17 will be starting the process first in Pennsylvania.  
18 She advised that their Board will not be going  
19 through the process until a later date, once all of  
20 the glitches have been worked out thus making it  
21 easier for the Board to complete the process.  
22 Additional information the interstate compact can  
23 be found at ASLP-IC.

24 Chair Butler commented on a great audiology  
25 presentation given at the National board meeting

1 and suggested anyone wanting to see it could find  
2 it on the website at [www.audiologist.org](http://www.audiologist.org). This  
3 website will provide a 50-year plan on the scope of  
4 speech-pathology, including free resources, free  
5 opportunities, and educational resources.

6 Chair Butler discussed ASHA. Amanda Gallagher  
7 from ASHA provided updates, such as revising the  
8 terminology and definition of the Clinical  
9 Fellowship year. In light of the recent changes  
10 and reversals in Medicare B services, ASHA stated  
11 this definition may be misleading when applied to a  
12 graduate practitioner. This definition is set to  
13 be revised in the new certification standards,  
14 effective 2028, along with introducing a new  
15 certified assistance program but stipulating that  
16 this certification does not grant the right to  
17 practice independently.

18 Chair Butler continued with addressing the  
19 2028 audiology changes. Peer review was completed  
20 in September 2025, and reorganized knowledge skills  
21 and practical requirements based on professional  
22 job functions. These changes will be communicated  
23 to the audiologists, support members, and student  
24 graduate programs through the transition.

25 In 2028, there will be new SLP certification

1 standards. A peer review completed included the  
2 recommendations of increased flexibility to meet  
3 basic science prep requirements, increased  
4 flexibility to meet clinical practicum requirements  
5 through co-treatment, and eliminate clinical  
6 documentation opportunities. The audiology changes  
7 will increase the allowance for tele practice and  
8 tele supervision during clinical fellowship.

9 Another update is certified assistance  
10 programs. There are 1,538 certified assistants at  
11 ASHA. In the beginning of 2026, there will be a  
12 survey of all certified assistants to review  
13 recommendations for standards. As of 2025, there  
14 are new SLPA , SLP self-assessment, and audiologist  
15 assistance self-assessment checklists, as well as  
16 an ASHA exam prep worksheet. The Certified  
17 Assistance programs are up for legislation in two  
18 states and discussion in one state.

19 Chair Butler announced PSHA is requesting  
20 support regarding the protection of graduate  
21 education for audiologists and speech pathologists.  
22 The graduated education needs protection. The U.S.  
23 Department of Education is no longer looking at  
24 audiologists and speech pathologists as  
25 professionals. The One Beautiful Bill Act (OBBA)

1 excludes audiologists and speech pathologists'  
2 programs. The bill also controls whether students  
3 can access \$100,000 or \$200,000 in lifetime federal  
4 loans. Chair Butler stressed that this bill means  
5 that students may no longer be able to afford to  
6 complete graduate degrees, ultimately resulting in  
7 fewer services in these areas and a loss of  
8 Pennsylvania's workforce.

9 Chair Butler noted PSHA will be presenting at  
10 the convention being held March 26 - March 28,  
11 2026, in Pocono Manor, Pennsylvania. The audiology  
12 conference is taking place on September 30 -  
13 October 2, 2026, in Wind Creek, Bethlehem. It was  
14 noted that the public should be aware that the One  
15 Beautiful Bill Act is a big problem, not just for  
16 audiologists and pathologists, but for other  
17 professions as well. The bill will force the  
18 education institutions to reduce tuition. The  
19 Board agreed it should be actively involved in this  
20 matter.]

21 \*\*\*

22 Report of Acting Commissioner

23 [Acting Commissioner Claggett informed the Board of  
24 the other boards taking their meetings off-site.  
25 He stated the Accountancy Board held their last

1 meeting at Albright College, where 40 accountancy  
2 students were able to attend, ask questions and  
3 enter into discussion with board members. He  
4 advised these off-site meetings would be hybrid  
5 meetings.

6 Acting Commissioner Claggett encouraged the  
7 Board to consider off-site meetings as the value to  
8 the students is enormous.]

9 \*\*\*

10 Report of Board Members

11 [Dr. Patrick Murphy reported on the Pennsylvania  
12 Academy of Audiology Convention in September 2025.  
13 He was given the task to draft the PowerPoint for  
14 this event. He worked with officials at the  
15 Pennsylvania Academy of Audiology, and they covered  
16 the information regarding the interstate compact  
17 with the state legislature.

18 Dr. Murphy discussed House Bill 1670,  
19 requiring hearing aid coverage through insurances  
20 that were dispensed through the Commonwealth of  
21 Pennsylvania and its policyholders.

22 Dr. Murphy asked the Board legal team if  
23 licensees that had violated the regulations or  
24 rules were ever advised to get an attorney. Mr.  
25 Jarabeck stated this was a decision an individual

1 could make on their own.]

2 \*\*\*

3 Report of Board Administrator

4 [Shakeena L. Chappelle, Board Administrator, stated  
5 noted the need for the election of officers  
6 committee assignments, as well as voting on the  
7 2027 Board meeting dates. She noted the  
8 responsibility of the Board members on the various  
9 committees.

10 Paul Jarabeck, Esquire, explained the role of  
11 the Probable Cause Screening Committee. He  
12 reviewed the three types of cases that would be  
13 presented to the committee for its review.]

14 \*\*\*

15 Election of Officers

16 MS. GOSHERT:

17 Is there a nomination for Chair of  
18 the Board?

19 ACTING COMMISSION CLAGGETT:

20 I would like to nominate Lisa Butler  
21 for chair of the board.

22 MS. JACOPETTI:

23 I would like to second that.

24 MS. GOSHERT:

25 Before we get to another nomination,

1 Ms. Butler, would you accept the  
2 nomination for chair?

3 MS. BUTLER:

4 Yes, I'd like to accept that.

5 DR. MURPHY:

6 Dr. Murphy to self-nominate.

7 MS. GOSHERT:

8 Dr. Murphy is nominating himself. Do  
9 we have a second?

10 DR. EISENHART:

11 I'll second that.

12 MS. GOSHERT:

13 And obviously you accept that  
14 nomination. We'll proceed with a  
15 roll call.

16 MS. CHAPPELLE:

17

18 Lisa Butler, Butler; Acting  
19 Commissioner Claggett, Butler; Dr.  
20 Murphy, Murphy; Theresa Jacopetti,  
21 Butler; Dr. Sataloff, abstain; Dr.  
22 Eisenhart, Murphy.

23 MS. GOSHERT:

24 That's three for Chair Butler and two  
25 for Dr. Murphy. Ms. Butler will be

1 the Chair of the Board in 2026.

2 \*\*\*

3 MS. GOSHERT:

4 Do we have a nomination for Vice  
5 Chair of the board?

6 DR. MURPHY:

7 I nominate Courtney Eisenhart for  
8 vice chair.

9 ACTING COMMISSION CLAGGETT:

10 I will second Courtney's Vice Chair  
11 nomination.

12 MS. GOSHERT:

13 Dr. Eisenhart, would you accept the  
14 nomination for Vice Chair?

15 DR. EISENHART:

16 Yes.

17 CHAIR BUTLER:

18 I would like to nominate Theresa  
19 Jacopetti.

20 MS. GOSHERT:

21 We have one nomination for Theresa  
22 Jacopetti for Vice Chair. Do we have  
23 a second?

24 ACTING COMMISSION CLAGGETT:

25 I second.

1 MS. GOSHERT:

2 Ms. Jacopetti, do you accept the  
3 nomination for Vice Chair?

4 MS. JACOPETTI:

5 Yes, I accept.

6 MS. CHAPPELLE:

7

8 Lisa Butler, Jacopetti; Acting  
9 Commissioner Claggett, Eisenhart; Dr.  
10 Murphy, Eisenhart; Theresa Jacopetti,  
11 Jacopetti; Dr. Sataloff, abstain; Dr.  
12 Eisenhart, Eisenhart.

13 MS. GOSHERT:

14 Dr. Eisenhart has four votes to two.  
15 She will be the Vice Chair for 2026.

16 \*\*\*

17 Report of Board Administrator - (Cont.)

18 [Chair Butler requested Dr. Eisenhart and Theresa  
19 Jacopetti be on Education Committee and both agreed  
20 to serve on the committee.

21 The Board continued its discussion of the  
22 roles of the various committees.

23 Dr. Sataloff offered to serve on the Probable  
24 Cause Screening Committee.]

25 \*\*\*

1 2027 Board Meeting Dates

2 [The Board discussed the dates proposed for its  
3 2027 meetings.]

4 MS. GOSHERT:

5                   Would the Board entertain a motion to  
6                   approve the 2027 board meeting dates?

7 CHAIR BUTLER:

8                   I motion to approve.

9 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

10                   Second.

11 MS. CHAPELLE:

12

13                   Lisa Butler, yes; Acting Commissioner  
14                   Claggett, aye; Dr. Murphy, aye;  
15                   Theresa Jacopetti, aye; Dr. Sataloff,  
16                   aye; Dr. Eisenhart, aye.

17 [The motion carried unanimously.]

18   \*\*\*

19 Report of Board Counsel

20 [Ashley Goshert, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted the  
21 Sunshine Act and Recusal Guidelines in the Board's  
22 packet for review.

23           Ms. Goshert defined the Sunshine Act as making  
24           sure the Board's discussion in public meetings is  
25           transparent to the public. The law has set the

1 boundaries for the act and the state boards abide  
2 by them.

3 Ms. Goshert stated, whenever a board holds a  
4 meeting in which deliberations or official action  
5 takes place, the meeting must be open to the  
6 public. Public notice of the upcoming meeting must  
7 occur. Rescheduled meetings must be given public  
8 notice at least 24 hours ahead of time. Public  
9 notice includes the place, date and time of meeting  
10 as well as newspaper general circulation in the  
11 public subdivision where the meeting is to be held.  
12 The agenda must be publicly accessible on the  
13 Board's website at least 24 hours in advance and  
14 posted at the agency where the meeting is to be  
15 held.]

16 \*\*\*

17 [Chair Butler exited the meeting at 11:39 a.m. and  
18 returned at 11:43 a.m.]

19 \*\*\*

20 [Ms. Goshert stated all agenda items for the  
21 meeting are to be listed on the agenda. Each vote  
22 by a public member must be publicly casted and  
23 recorded. Minutes are required of all open  
24 meetings and must include the date, time, place of  
25 the meeting as well as the names of all members

1 present. The only exceptions to the open meeting  
2 requirements are conferences and executive session.  
3 An executive session may be held to discuss  
4 personnel issues, consult with your attorney,  
5 exchange information for strategy or litigation, or  
6 review and discuss agency business. Executive  
7 sessions can be held before, during or after an  
8 open meeting.

9 She advised, if anyone violates a legal  
10 challenge under the Sunshine Act, it should be  
11 reported within 30 days of the open meeting in  
12 which it allegedly occurred. The penalties for  
13 violation of the act could result in criminal  
14 charges. A court may declare that, at the meeting  
15 where the alleged violation occurred, any action at  
16 that meeting would be null and void.

17 Ms. Goshert stated recusals are mandatory if a  
18 board member has a prosecutorial role in the matter  
19 or a direct, personal financial interest in the  
20 outcome of the matter. She stressed the importance  
21 of speaking with her about any questions regarding  
22 recusal before acting on them alone. An abstention  
23 is just withholding your vote on a motion.

24 Ms. Goshert informed the Board members that if  
25 any member wanted to become a member of another

1 organization while maintaining their membership  
2 with the current board, that member needed discuss  
3 the possible consequences of membership elsewhere  
4 with the current board. The current board will  
5 determine whether the request results in a conflict  
6 of interest or not. She reiterated that any  
7 questions regarding these matters should be  
8 addressed to her directly.]

9 \*\*\*

10 Public Comments - None

11 \*\*\*

12 MS. GOSHERT:

13 Do we have a motion for  
14 adjournment?

15 CHAIR BUTLER:

16 We are going to adjourn the  
17 meeting. Thank you all.

18 \*\*\*

19 [There being no further business, the State Board  
20 of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and  
21 Audiology Meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.]

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## CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing summary minutes of the State Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Meeting was reduced to writing by me or under my supervision and that the minutes accurately summarize the substance of the State Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Meeting.



Erin Badstuebner,  
Minute Clerk  
Sargent's Court Reporting  
Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE  
PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY  
REFERENCE INDEX

December 12, 2025

TIME	AGENDA
10:00	Executive Session
10:30	Return to Open Session
10:31	Official Call to Order
10:31	Roll Call of Board Members
10:35	Approval of Minutes
10:36	Appointment - Shana Walter, Esquire
10:38	Matters for Discussion - PHSHA Convention
10:45	Report of Regulatory Counsel - Public Comment SLT
11:05	Report of Board Chairperson
11:15	Report of Commissioner
11:19	Report from Other Board Members
11:24	Report of Board Administrator
11:34	Miscellaneous - Sunshine Act
11:52	Adjournment

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