**LOUISIANA BOARD FOR HEARING AID DEALERS**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**JANUARY 26, 2012**

**BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA**

The 71st official meeting of the Louisiana Board for Hearing Aid Dealers was called to order at

7 p.m. on Thursday, January 26, 2012 at the Embassy Suites, Baton Rouge Louisiana by John Casanova, Chairman.

Announcement – the Board received the resignation of Mr. Valery Garon, Elderly Consumer.

The roll was called. Those present were: Jane O’Donnell, Dianne Sasser, Scott Sayer, John Casanova, Dina Zeevi, Katie Christy, and Eugene Radcliff, Board attorney. Resa Brady, the Board’s administrative secretary was present to take the minutes of the meeting. Quorum established.

At this time, John Casanova, Chairman introduced additions to the agenda:

Unfinished Business:

1. Letter received from F.B. regarding contradictions of the contract presented to the board by G. T., Complaint # 81-7/10.
2. Letter to Brown Hearing Centers

New Business:

1. Temporary Training Permit Holder – Shana LaFleur

**Motion** made by Dina Zeevi, seconded by Scott Sayer and unanimously carried, to accept the agenda as amended.

**MINUTES**

Minutes of the July 23, 2011 special meeting were presented to the Board. Mr. Casanova called for corrections or additions. There being none noted - **Motion** made by Jane O’Donnell, seconded by Dina Zeevi and unanimously carried, to accept the minutes as presented.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Copies of correspondence report were distributed for review. Board members were asked to review the correspondence report and address any questions they have. There were no questions.

**TREASURER’S REPORT – Resa Brady**

A. Copies of the Treasurer’s Report dated year end, December 31, 2011 were distributed for review. No discussion – reports will be filed.

B. Budget Review – The budget for 2011-2012 and the Proposed Budget for 2012-2013 were presented. **Motion** was made by Scott Sayer, seconded by Dianne Sasser and unanimously carried to accept the Treasurer’s Report as submitted.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY’S REPORT – Resa Brady**

Mrs. Brady reported a request from WAFB news for budgets, board member expenses, etc. Copies were forwarded.

**SECRETARY’S REPORT – Dianne Sasser**

Mrs. Sasser reported licensed Hearing Aid Dealers as of June 30, 2011 totaled (108), licensed by certificate of endorsement (1), licenses not renewed as of December 31, 2011 (15), license renewed as of December 31, 2011 (94).

There were seven (7) Temporary Permit Holders, five (5) Temporary applicants that will sit for the examination January 27, 2012, one (1) Temporary applicant retaking exam, others sitting for exam (3), for a total of eleven (9) taking the examination.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Audiometer Calibration - Resa Brady

Audiometer tracking would be done in the manner that would be most cost efficient.

Ethics Committee – Dina Zeevi

**Complaint # 92-8/11 - V.S. vs. F.B.**

Complaint resolved. However, no serial numbers or address of the LA Board for Hearing Aid Dealers were shown on purchase agreement.

**Complaint # 89-7/11 – M.R. vs. K.S.**

Correspondence presented. Indications of improper testing procedures noted and request for a refund were reviewed and discussed.

Board decision: Dina Zeevi would form a letter on behalf of Board per **Motion** made by Scott Sayer, seconded by Katie Christy, to place K.S. on 90 day probation to monitor and verify proper testing procedures. All in favor – motion carried.

Letter would be sent to M.R. stating decision of the Board to discipline K.S. for inconsistencies in her procedures. Mrs. R. would also be informed that it is not within the purview of the Board to facilitate a refund for a customer from a dealer. It was noted there was provision for that under the Louisiana Consumer law which could be pursued through civil court or the State Attorney General’s office.

Administrative Secretary was directed to write a letter to Ron Caruso, named in the complaint, inquiring if he has ever performed a hearing test in the state of Louisiana.

Board discussed and implemented a policy to notify the hearing aid dealer and owner of the business (when applicable), at the time a complaint is filed.

The Board made the decision to send a letter to all licensed hearing aid dealers in the state to submit all contracts/bill of sale/purchase agreements, etc. utilized by their office(s), to the Administrative office by March 31, 2012, to insure compliance with the changes to the Louisiana Licensing Act via Act 93, August 2011. It was to note that if two (2) separate forms were used, both should be submitted. Also, dealers would be sure that all paperwork received by the consumer contains the address for the Louisiana Board for Hearing Aid Dealers.

Examination Committee – Katie Christy

Mrs. Christy will coordinate with Melinda Peat to update audiometric portion of the examination. Nine (9) applicants sat for the exam.

Legislative Committee

John Casanova reviewed the changes to the Licensing Act. Scott Sayer was appointed as Chairman of the committee.

Office Inspection Committee – Scott Sayer

Discuss held regarding updates/changes to inspection forms. The revised form will be submitted to administrative office.

Break called at 8:05 p.m. Reconvene at 8:15 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

* Frederick Billedeaux/G. Tosspon complaint. A letter was received from Mr. Billedeaux stating that Mr. Tosspon had altered contract/purchase agreement. Letter noted – no action taken.
* Letter will be sent to Eddie Toohey – pursuant to R.S. 37:2450 – providing a list of places he intends to engage in business in Louisiana.

NEW BUSINESS

* Sam’s Club Hearing Centers – Report from Attorney Radcliff-Pursuant to R.S. 37:2465 – the CEO of a company does not have to be licensed as long as licensed personnel on staff to maintain/operate the business.
* Temporary Training Permit Holder – Shana LaFleur. Mrs. LaFleur unable to maintain supervision with her sponsor, Larry Ash. **Motion** was made by Scott Sayer to allow her to proceed with her temporary training supervision and take the examination provided the E.N.T. doctor she works for send a letter of competence that she is being trained. Seconded by Katie Christy – all in favor – motion carried.
* Renewal of Administrative Secretary contract – expires June 30, 2012.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

**Motion** made by Scott Sayer, seconded by Katie Christy for the officers to remain, John Casanova, Chairman and Dianne Sasser, Secretary/Treasurer – all in favor – motion carried.

DATE AND LOCATION OF JULY, 2012 MEETING

No meeting scheduled.

**Motion to** adjourn was made by Scott Sayer, seconded by Katie Christy – all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Resa Brady

Administrative Secretary