

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Sacramento, CA**  
**February 21, 2025**

1. Call to Order / Roll Call / Establishment of Quorum

Gilda Dominguez, Board Chair, called the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board (Board) meeting to order on February 21, 2025, at 8:31 a.m. Ms. Dominguez called roll; six members of the Board were present and thus a quorum was established.

**Board Members Present**

Gilda Dominguez, Speech-Language Pathologist, Board Chair  
Amy White, Dispensing Audiologist, Board Vice Chair  
Tod Borges, Hearing Aid Dispenser  
Tamara Chambers, Otolaryngologist, Public Member  
Charles Sanders, Dispensing Audiologist  
Karen Chang, Public Member

**Staff Present**

Cherise Burns, Interim Executive Officer  
Maria Liranzo, Legislation/Regulation/Budget Analyst  
Yuping Lin, DCA Legal Counsel  
Dao Choi, DCA Regulatory Counsel

2. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Ms. Dominguez asked for public comment for items not on the agenda. There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

3. Review and Possible Approval of the December 5 - 6, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes

Ms. Dominguez opened the discussion on the review and possible approval of the minutes.  
Ms. Liranzo provided a summary of the minutes.

Ms. Dominguez asked for Board discussion.

Ms. Dominguez asked if the word "previously" can be added before "saw a statement that speech-language pathologists were not allowed to supervise occupational therapists" on page 7.  
Ms. Liranzo noted the changes.

Ms. Dominguez asked for public comments. There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

**Amy White moved to approve the December 5 - 6, 2024, Meeting minutes as amended.**

**Tod Borges seconded the motion.**

**The motion carried 6-0.** (Ayes: Dominguez, White, Borges, Chamber, Sanders, Chang)

4. DCA Update – DCA Board and Bureau Relations

Ms. Dominguez invited staff from DCA Board and Bureau Relations to provide an update. Melissa Gear expressed gratitude for John Dandurand's service to the Board and provided an update on Board vacancy, DCA response to Los Angeles Wildfire under Executive Order N-15-25, 2025-26 state budget proposal, Form 700 electronic submission, Board Member Orientation Training, and DCA Board and Bureau Relations team.

Ms. Dominguez asked for Board discussion. There was no Board discussion.

Ms. Dominguez asked for public comments. There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

5. Board Chair's Report

Ms. Dominguez reported on the Board meeting calendar and committee membership. Ms. Dominguez expressed gratitude for John Dandurand's service to the Board.

Ms. Dominguez asked for Board discussion. Tod Borges asked what the date for the December meeting is. Ms. Dominguez replied that it is December 4-5.

Ms. Dominguez asked for public comments. There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

6. Petition for Penalty Relief – Modification of Probation – Arturo Avina, License # SP 27490, Case # 11-2024-046

A petition for penalty relief (modification of probation) was heard with Administrative Law Judge Wim van Rooyen presiding. The people were represented by Deputy Attorney General Jason Ahn. The petitioner, Arturo Avina, represented by Kevin Murphy.

A written transcript of the proceeding was transcribed by a court reporter.

7. The Board Will Meet in Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(c)(3) to Discuss Disciplinary Matters Including Proposed Decisions, Stipulated Decisions, Defaults, Petitions for Reductions in Penalty, Petitions for Reconsideration, and Remands.

The Board met in closed session to discuss disciplinary matters.

8. Pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(a)(1), the Board will Meet in Closed Session to Consider and Take Possible Action on the Appointment of an Executive Officer.

The Board met in closed session to consider and take possible action on the appointment of an Executive Officer.

## 9. Interim Executive Officer's Report

Ms. Dominguez invited Cherise Burns to provide the Interim Executive Officer's report.

Ms. Burns provided an administration update on the recruitment of an Executive Officer.

Ms. Burns reported on outreach efforts including a conference call with representatives from the California Speech Language Hearing Association (CSHA) and California Academy of Audiology, and preparing a presentation with the Board Chair for CSHA's Convergence Conference in March.

Ms. Burns reported on the budget including the budget reduction, the Board's expenditures, the potential need for an augmentation for Attorney General (AG) and Office of Administrative Hearing (OAH) costs, and the Board's fund condition.

Karen Chang asked when the Board collects recovery costs, which generally include AG and OAH cost, from licensees. Ms. Burns replied that the cost is recovered when the person petitions for their license to return to practice and the amount varies from case to case.

Ms. Chang asked if the Department of Finance will reject the request for augmentation. Ms. Burns replied that she is not aware of any request being denied.

Ms. Burns provided a brief report on the Board's regulations and deferred to the regulatory report.

Ms. Burns reported on licensing including a continued reduction in processing times and a continued increase in capacity to process more applications.

Ms. Burns reported on hearing aid dispensing practical examination results.

Ms. Burns reported on enforcement including an increase in complaints and subsequent arrest notifications, other enforcement statistics, and continuing education (CE) and continuing professional development (CPD) audits.

Mr. Borges asked what the audit looks like. Ms. Burns replied that the auditor is looking for any renewal requirements related to CE such as number of self study hours, certificate, provider status, dates of completion, and CE exemptions. Ms. Burns noted the last audit was in 2018.

Mr. Borges asked if there is a plan to increase the number of audits done in a year. Mr. Burns replied that it will be ongoing and continuous.

Mr. Borges asked if five (5) percent of the license population is the goal. Ms. Burns replied that it is to audit the entire license population over time. Ms. Burns stated that a person would not be audited twice unless they fail an audit.

Ms. Dominguez asked for public comments. There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

10. Discussion and Possible Action to Revise the Legislative Proposal Adopted by the Board for an Omnibus Bill to Amend BPC sections 2531.3, 2532.2, 2532.3, 2532.4, 2532.6, 2532.7, 2536, and 2538.53; Education Code Section 44831; and Welfare and Institutions Code Section 14132.55

Ms. Dominguez invited Ms. Liranzo to present the legislative proposal for an omnibus bill. Ms. Liranzo provided a background and update with a summary of changes to the previously adopted proposal.

Ms. Dominguez asked for Board discussion. There was no Board discussion.

Ms. Dominguez asked for public comments. There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

**Charles Sanders moved to adopt the legislative proposal as noticed, direct staff to take all steps necessary to submit the proposal, and authorize the Interim Executive Officer, or their designee, to take all steps necessary to complete the process for the legislative proposal.**

**Amy White seconded the motion.**

**The motion carried 6-0.** (Ayes: Dominguez, White, Borges, Chamber, Sanders, Chang)

11. Update on Adopted Regulations Regarding Advertising for Hearing Aid Dispensing as stated in Title 16, CCR section 1399.127

Ms. Dominguez invited Ms. Liranzo to present an update on adopted regulations. Ms. Liranzo provided a background and update on adopted regulations regarding advertising for hearing aid dispensing.

Ms. Dominguez asked for Board discussion. There was no Board discussion.

Ms. Dominguez asked for public comments. There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

12. Future Agenda Items

Ms. Dominguez asked for future agenda items.

Mr. Borges asked if the list of items regarding hearing aid dispensing on a future agenda. Ms. Burns replied that it is still on the list of future agenda items.

Ms. Dominguez asked for public comments. There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.