

BOARD FOR HEARING AID SPECIALISTS AND OPTICIANS MINUTES OF MEETING

The Board for Hearing Aid Specialists and Opticians met on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at the Offices of the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, Perimeter Center, Board Room 2, 2nd Floor, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23233.

Board members present for the meeting:

Darla All, Chair
LeighAnna Morris, AuD
Judith Canty
Kenneth Kirk, Ph.D
Holly Law
Jacqueline Kowal
Desire'e Lewis-Nelson
Jennifer Mundorff, AuD
Nikisha Richards-Walker, MD
Francis Lunsford
Fitim Xhemaili
Jeffrey Grappone

Board members not present for the meeting:

Maureen Sadak
Michael Armstrong, MD
Debra Ogilvie, AuD

DPOR staff present for all, or part of the meeting included:

Laura McClintock, Director
Stephen Kirschner, Director Licensing and Regulatory Programs
Ashley Reed, Executive Director
Tamika Rodriguez, Regulatory Operations Administrator
Heather Garnett, Administrative Coordinator
Joseph Haughwout, Regulation Affairs Manager

A representative from the Office of the Attorney General was present at the meeting.

A Board for Professional and Occupational Regulation liaison was not present at the meeting.

Ms. All, board chair, determined a quorum present and **CALL TO ORDER** called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Ms. All read the mission statement of the Department of Professional & Occupational Regulations and announced several meeting reminders.

Ashley Reed, Executive Director, explained the emergency egress procedure for board room 2.

**EMERGENCY
EGRESS**

Ms. Reed introduced the new board member, Jeffrey Grappone.

**INTRODUCTION
OF NEW BOARD
MEMBER**

The Board took the agenda into consideration.

**APPROVAL OF
AGENDA**

Ms. Canty motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Dr. Mundorff.

The members voting 'Aye' were Ms. All, Ms. Canty, Dr. Morris, Dr. Kirk, Ms. Law, Ms. Kowal, Ms. Lewis-Nelson, Dr. Richards-Walker, Ms. Lunsford, Mr. Zhemaili, Mr. Grappone, and Dr. Mundorff.

There were no negative votes. The motion carries.

The Board took the minutes from the Board meeting on March 4, 2026, under consideration.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

Mr. Lewis-Nelson motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Dr. Morris.

The members voting 'Aye' were Ms. All, Ms. Canty, Dr. Morris, Dr. Kirk, Ms. Law, Ms. Kowal, Ms. Lewis-Nelson, Dr. Richards-Walker, Ms. Lunsford, Mr. Zhemaili, Mr. Grappone, and Dr. Mundorff

There were no negative votes. The motion carries.

Ms. All read the resolution, which will be mailed to Ms. Brayboy.

RESOLUTION

Commonwealth of Virginia



**Department of Professional and
Occupational Regulation**

**Board for Hearing Aid Specialists and
Opticians**

Resolution To

Stacey Brayboy

WHEREAS, Stacey Brayboy faithfully and diligently served as a member of the Virginia Board for Hearing Aid Specialists and Opticians from 2021 to 2025; and

WHEREAS, Stacey Brayboy has given generously of her knowledge, time, and talent to the Board, and has provided expertise to the Board as needed; and

WHEREAS, Stacey Brayboy endeavored always to protect the health, safety, and well-being of the public by rendering fair and wise decisions, which were in the best interest of the Board and the Commonwealth's citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Board for Hearing Aid Specialists and Opticians acknowledges its gratitude and deepest appreciation for the devoted service of Stacey Brayboy, who is highly regarded by the members of the Board and the citizens of the Commonwealth.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board for Hearing Aid Specialists and Opticians, this sixth day of March in the year two-thousand and twenty-six, that Stacey Brayboy be given all honors and respect due for her outstanding service to the Commonwealth, its citizens, and the Board for Hearing Aid Specialists and Opticians; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be presented to her and be made a part of the official minutes of the Board so that all may know of the high regard in which she is held.

There were no public comments.

PUBLIC COMMENT

REPORTS

Ms. Garnett presented the licensing statistics that were provided in the electronic agenda.

Licensing Statistics

Ms. Garnett presented the examination statistics that were provided in the electronic agenda.

Examination Statistics

Ms. Rodriguez presented the current regulatory actions that were provided in the electronic agenda.

Regulatory Report

Ms. Reed presented the executive directors' report, which was provided in the electronic agenda. Ms. Reed also informed the Board of staff changes, and the board member training conference scheduled for October 22 and 23, 2026.

Executive Director Report

REGULATORY ACTION AND BOARD GUIDANCE

Ms. Reed informed the Board that the General Assembly approved House Bill 1254, amending the HAS regulations to implement training and work permit requirements.

Hearing Aid Specialists Training and Work Permits

Mr. Haughwout presented language for HB 1254. Board members and staff discussed the presented language with amendments. With Board consensus, staff will bring the language back to the Board at the next meeting.

Jennifer Sayegh provided an agency legislation update for House Bills 1176, 1254, 1291, 1305, and House Bill 796/Senate Bill 680.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Jennifer Sayegh presented an overview of the legislative process.

BOARD MEMBER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

REMINDERS

Ms. All reminded the Board of the next scheduled Board meeting on August 12, 2026.

Next Schedule Board Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Adjourn

Darla All, Board Chair

Laura McClintock, Board Secretary