



# State of Idaho

## Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses Speech, Hearing & Communication Services Board

**BRAD LITTLE**  
Governor  
**RUSSELL BARRON**  
Administrator

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### Board Meeting Minutes of 06/03/2025

**Board** April Fagerson, AuD Chair  
**Members** Leah Garey, SLP  
**Present:** Sara Bergsma, SLP  
Gage Welfley, H.I.S.  
Rachel Miller, NIC, BEI

**Division** Tabitha Edwards, Executive Officer  
**Staff:** Russ Spencer, General Counsel  
Pam Rebolo, Board Support Supervisor

**Board** Spencer Cheshire, AuD  
**Members** Claudia Simplot-Nally, Public Member  
**Absent:**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by April Fagerson, AuD.

#### Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 03/03/2025 minutes. The motion carried.

#### DIVISION BUSINESS

**Idaho Code Clean Up Proposals (HB 14):** Mr. Spencer explained the purpose of the Idaho Code Clean Up Act, enacted this year as House Bill 14. It is a targeted clean up of obsolete, outdated, and unnecessary language that has accumulated in statute. The purpose is not to reexamine legislative intent, make major policy changes, or overhaul the statutes. The Division is responsible to make a review of all code sections relevant to the Boards, identify sections that have become obsolete, outdated, or unnecessary and so could be repealed or modified, and provide a report by September 1, 2025 to the Legislature. Mr. Spencer stated that the legal team had completed its initial review of the Board's practice act and presented the Board with a draft of proposed changes. These changes will not be presented as Executive Agency Legislation (EAL) for the upcoming legislative session but will be incorporated into the report.

#### BOARD BUSINESS

**Practice Authority Protection Discussion (HB 110):** The Board discussed the practice authority protection and its possible effect on SPLA's. With further clarification from Mr. Spencer, this Bill was found to not affect the practice of SPLA's.

**Video Remote Interpreting (VRI) (HB 311):** A motion was made and seconded to enter into rulemaking to propose a fee for VRI providers so that they can be licensed in the state of Idaho. The motion carried.

**Spokane Falls Community College:** The Board reviewed a request from the Spokane Falls Community College requesting the Board to allow graduates who have earned the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S) degree from the Hearing Instrument Specialist (HIS) program at Spokane Falls Community College be considered as having completed performance exams that are either approved by the board or approved as equivalent to the International Hearing Society (IHS) Performance Exam as a licensure requirement for hearing aid dealers and fitters in Idaho. The Board will add this topic to the next agenda for further discussion.

**Liaison for Department of Education Communication:** The Board stated that in leu of assigning this task to a board member, representatives from the department of education are welcome to attend any board meeting to gather and relay any information they may need.

**Compact Update:** Leah Garey, the liaison for the Compact information, stated there is not any update.

**Board Election:** A motion was made and seconded to re-elect April Fagerson as Board chair. The motion carried.

### **Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 AM.

The next meeting is on 09/16/2025.