

Hearing Instrument Dispenser Advisory Council Minutes

SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

Attendees

Council Members

- Dale Thorstad – Hearing Instrument Dispenser Member
- Richard Caruso – Hearing Instrument Dispenser Member
- Robert McLachlan – Public Member

MDH Staff

- Jane Danner – Executive Ops Manager, Operations, 651-201-3887
- Bob Dehler – Engineering Section Manager, 651-201-3710
- Todd Hoover – Admin Supervisor, 651-201-4890
- Gaile Kaufman – Office and Admin Specialist Senior, 651-201-4219
- James Cole – Office and Admin Specialist Senior, 651-201-3700
- Julianna Leintz – Office and Admin Specialist Intermediate, 651-201-4394
- Rick Michals – State Licensing Manager, 651-201-4181
- Daphne Ponds – Executive Operations Manager, State Evaluation, 651-201-5185
- Jodi Rothstein – Office and Admin Specialist Intermediate, 651-201-5390
- Debbie Thao – HOP/Mort Sci Evaluation Supervisor, 651-201-3727

Review and Approval of Minutes

Minutes approved as written.

Additions / Adoptions of Agenda

No additions noted. Agenda was adopted.

Announcements

Announcing James Cole, Gaile Kaufman, and Jodi Rothstein as the staff supporting the admin duties for the advisory council.

Staff Reports

Credentialing, Licensing, and Evaluation reports were presented; reports are available upon request by emailing health.hid@state.mn.us.

Old Business

- HID Exam Update – Last Exam date of 2023 – Oct 13th
- **Current Active Proctors:** Brian Ambrosius, Gretchen Burk, Josie Helmbrecht, Kimberly Johnson, Carly Kempton, Margaret Ann Koeritzer, Eric LaTour, Scott Lau, Todd Lau, Carrie Meyer, Amy Rothermel, Melissa Sanders, Jennifer A. Ward, and Jason Welch

New Business

- Council Member Update, 1 Public Member opening, 1 Audiologist Member position is being filled. Follow Up has been sent to applicant, regarding contact info, and process will continue from there.
- HID License Renewals – renewals were sent out on 9/1/2023. Licenses set to expire 10/31/2023.
- Over-the-Counter Update – With the new federal regulations, HIDs in council didn't notice any significant changes that affected business or practice.
- Meeting Topics – Financial report like previous meetings. Request from member for financial outcomes and budget including budget for exam administration. Jane is gathering additional information regarding this process.
 - Competency Review Board reimplementation – Members inquired about this being an option for future meetings and seeing feasibility. Jane to inquire with Catherine Lloyd about history of the review board and the options that are available.
 - Review of HID Consumer Brochure - Council Members would like to review brochure to make sure it is updated regarding the new federal regulations, and changes regarding hearing aids, vs hearing devices. Brochure is posted on website and to be distributed with minutes for members to review.
 - Cost of Exam for Audiologist HIDs, vs Regular HIDs – Escalation has happened to receive information regarding the differences, and feasibility and process for reviewing/changing fees.

Quorum

- We did have a quorum, 3 out of 5 current members of the council were in attendance. 2 total open positions of 7 total positions in external party.

Next Meeting Date/Time

Tuesday, December 12th, 2023, 3:00 p.m. to 4: 30 p.m.

HEARING INSTRUMENT DISPENSER ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES (SEP. 12, 2023)

Minnesota Department of Health
Health Regulation Division
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09/12/2023

To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-4200.