



Minutes of the Thursday, September 22, 2011 meeting of the **Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing (ACDHH)** held at ACDHH 100 N 15th Ave., Suite 104, Phoenix, AZ 85305.

PENDING COMMISSION APPROVAL

Call to Order

Chair Schneck called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Schneck, Wasisco, Hollabaugh, Muller, Hill and Kollman

Commissioners Present by Phone: Clevenger and Jones

Commissioners Absent:—Seibold

Staff Present: Sherri Collins, Carmen Green, Lynn Wakefield, Curtis Humphries, Emmett Hassen, Michele Michaels, Bryanna Browder and Melinda Villela

Approval of May 19, 2001 Commission meeting minutes

Commissioner Hollabaugh moved to accept the minutes as submitted, Commissioner Wasisco seconded, the motion carried, Commissioner Muller abstained

Approval of May 19, 2001 Work Session Minutes

Commissioner Hollabaugh moved to accept the minutes as submitted, Commissioner Jones seconded, the motion carried, Commissioners Muller and Hill abstained

Chairs Report

Chair Schneck:

- Welcomed everyone to the new ACDHH facility which is complete with the latest assistive technology.
- The Executive Director evaluation will be done in November. Chair Schneck will Chair the Personnel Committee as Commissioner Schafer's term has expired.

Evaluation forms will be sent out prior to the November meeting. Please return the evaluation promptly. Commissioner feedback is important.

- Welcome to Frank Kollman our new Interpreter Representative and invited him to introduce himself. Commissioner Kollman is a CODA who grew up in Spokane, WA. served in the Air Force for 11 years, worked for the US Department of Defense and is an Arizona licensed American Sign Language interpreter who has interpreted around the world in professional, educational, and freelance settings. Commissioner Kollman holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and a Master's in Deaf Education.
- The following are current Board vacancies:

2 Deaf

2 Hard of Hearing

Chair Schneck and Director Collins have been working with Governor's office regarding appointments. More applicants are need. Please encourage people you know to submit applications. Appointment is a long process and can take over a year. We are working ahead to speed the appointment process.

- Committee selection and realignment will occur later in the year when more commissioners are appointed.

Education Session – Strategic Direction & Priorities

Executive Director Collins introduced honored guest Jennifer Uharriet who is the Governor's Budget Analyst and thanked her. Jennifer was pivotal in securing our new office space.

Executive Director Collins reviewed findings of the Vision Conferences and the direction and priorities for the agency over the next few years.

Executive Director update and summary of current events

- Welcome everyone to the new office. The meeting rooms are fully accessible to the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing. The agency host more community events.
- ACDHH will be submitting an application to the National Deaf-Blind Project
- Executive Director Collins and Deputy Director Green will be attending the NASRA conference in October
- Executive Director Collins will also attend the TEDPA conference in October

- Beth Slough, Executive of Hamilton Relay in Nebraska was introduced. Hamilton currently holds the Az. Relay contract
- Christine Molano, AZTEDP, Program Specialist was introduced. Christine is ACDHH's newest employee and has been with the agency for two months. Christine introduced herself. She is originally from Chicago, IL. and has been here in the valley for 23 years. She studied American Sign Language, worked at Valley Center for the Deaf for 10 years. During that time she worked with assistive technology. Most recently she was at Silverado Senior Living and Memory Care working with patients who have dementia or Alzheimer's and in many cases hearing loss.
- The 2013 budget was submitted on September 1, 2011. There were two Critical Issues submitted with the budget. One was the need additional revenue. The second explained about the National Deaf-Blind Project.

Public Comments

Shelley Herbold – asked if there is any assistance that ACDHH can give in resolving an issue with Phoenix Day School for the Deaf's transportation sub-contractor. The buses do not have air conditioning or it does not work well. She is concerned the children's health is at risk. She further stated that she has become aware that PDS is not the only school facing challenges with transportation companies and wants to know if legislation can be passed to improve conditions.

Chris Sanchez- stated that he is searching for group home and is unable to find one who can communicate with him in American Sign Language.

Juliann Wasisco – Chris Sanchez's guardian, expressed her concern regarding the lack of group homes owned and operated by Deaf individuals. Individuals living in hearing group homes experience many communication barriers.

Patricia Woodward of the Woodward Foundation stated that she has a state contract with the state for the Developmentally Delayed. There are several group homes that have to be filled before clients are referred to her facility. The wait could be from 1 – 5 years

Larry Divinney – expressed his concern regarding the lack of Deaf group homes in Arizona, the closest one is in Albuquerque

Lisa Furr – shared a recent experience. She expressed her concern regarding communication accessibility in hospitals and the lack of live interpreters as well as restricted building access afterhours when intercom systems are used to gain access.

Helen Young – expressed her concern that social and community events are not currently well publicized in the community since another organization took over. Opportunities for Deaf to interact are being missed. She would like to have ACDHH coordinate community news information again

Licensure Complaints

Commissioner Hill moved to go into executive session, Commissioner Muller seconded, the motion unanimously carried

Executive session was entered into at 7:19 p.m.
at 7:42 pm the Commission returned to open session

Helen Young

Commissioner Muller moved that after careful consideration of the facts the Commission take no action regarding this complaint, Commissioner Hollabaugh seconded, the motion unanimously carried

Samantha Marques

Commissioner Wasisco moved that a letter be sent to cease the action of interpreting.

Commissioner Hollabaugh proposed a friendly amendment to include an educational letter to the Dr.'s office advising them of their responsibility to provide equal accessibility, Commissioner Muller seconded, the amendment unanimously carried

Commissioner Hollabaugh seconded the original motion, the motion unanimously carried with the friendly amendment

2012 ACDHH Calendar

Executive Director Collins explained the calendar is being presented early for planning purposes. In 2012 one ACDHH meeting will be held in Tucson. January is recommended.

Discussion ensued regarding if May would be a more economical time. Commissioner Hill and Executive Director Collins participated in the discussion

Commissioner Wasisco moved to accept this calendar as issued, Commissioner Muller seconded, the motion unanimously carried

Interpreter Application Review Committee Update

Committee Chair Wasisco reported that at 3:15 p.m. September 22, 2011, 14 applicants were recommended to be approved. Congratulations to those applicants.

Announcements

Commissioner Hollabaugh stated that she is here to represent the kids and showed pictures. Hands and Voices will hold their annual retreat on September 30th. The retreat will be in Lakeside. Hands and Voices selects different cities around state for its retreats to accommodate everyone.

Chair Schneck announced the next ACDHH meeting November 17, 2011

Commissioner Jones thanked the interpreters, VRS interpreters and Caption One for the services they provided, Commissioner Wasisco seconded

Future Agenda Items

There were no items at this time

Adjournment

Commissioner Hill moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m., Commissioner Wasisco seconded, the motion unanimously carried

Dated this 27th day of September, 2011

Chris Schneck, Commission Chair

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the attached notice was duly posted this 27th day of September, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. by Assistant to the Board of Directors