

Douglas A. Ducey
Governor

Sherri L. Collins
Executive Director



**MINUTES OF THE ARIZONA COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF AND THE HARD OF HEARING
(ACDHH) Board meeting held on Thursday, May 11, 2017 at 4:30p.m.
At the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing 100 N. 15th Ave Phoenix,
Arizona 85251**

Call to Order & Roll Call Discussion/Action

Chair Kneifel called the meeting to order at 4:35pm

Commissioners Present: Sue Kay Kneifel, Robert Baber, Raymond Baesler, Elizabeth Booth, Judy Huch, Jeffery Hebert, Michele Stokes, PV Jantz

Commissioners Present by Phone: Elizabeth Garcia, Annette Reichman

Commissioners Absent: Barbara Brimhall

Staff Present: Sherri Collins, Carmen Green, Curtis Humphries, Emmett Hassen, Vicki Bond, and Danielle Wright, Michele Michaels and Jeremy McCown.

Also in attendance by phone: Molly Bonsall from the Attorney General's Office and Legislative Liaison Rip Wilson.

Approval of Minutes: Discussion/Action

February 23, 2017 - No Changes Recommended.

Commissioner Baber moved to accept the minutes as written, Commissioner Hebert seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairs Report/Summary of Current Events Discussion only

Chair Sue Kay Kneifel announced that Governor Doug Ducey has appointed two new members to our Board of Commissioners. Michele Stokes is the newly appointed Hard of Hearing Representative and Cynthia Butts is the newly appointed Deaf Representative. There are still two open positions for Deaf Representatives.

Commissioner Jantz joined the meeting at 4:40PM

Executive Directors Annual Evaluation:

Commission Chair Sue Kay Kneifel informed the board about the 2016-2017 evaluation process. The evaluation will be made available between May 30, 2017 and June 15, 2017. After all responses are collected the Personnel Committee will meet in July to review the evaluation and prepare to share the results with the full board at the August 24, 2017 meeting in Tucson.

602-364-0990 TTY * 602-542-3323 V * 480-559-9441 VP * 800-352-8161 V/TTY * 602-364-0581 FAX * info@acdhh.az.gov

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Executive Director's Update/Summary of Events Discussion only

Sherri Collins informed the board of recent events and projects. Collins announced that on May 4th we celebrated her 19 years of service.

ACDHH Presented on agency's budget on Jan. 24th. ACDHH's budget request was included in the Executive budget request. Collins reminded the board the commission requested \$190,000 to put toward the (SSP) Support Service Provider Training, \$102,000 for the Hearing Health Care Curriculum, in addition to the \$300,000 for the Deaf-Blind Community Base Services. The Commission is currently waiting for Governor Doug Ducey to sign this bill this coming week.

Collins attended the "Update from Capitol Luncheon" with U.S. Senator Flake and McCain and continues to attend the ongoing Regulatory Agencies' Directors meetings at the Governor's office. As Secretary of the Arizona Center of Disability Law (ADCL), Collins attended the quarterly board meeting. Other ongoing meetings Collins attends are the 90/10 Regulatory Executive Directors meeting, Community Affairs Unit (CAU) meetings, Financial Service Unit (FSU) meetings as well as agency wide quarterly meetings.

Public Relations:

ACDHH is in a transition under new contract with HMA and Lavidge Public Relations. Executive Director Collins participated in a "Diversity Dialogues: Media Coverage of Arizonans with Physical and Sensory Disabilities" panel hosted by The Arizona Republic. ACDHH's Day at the Capitol was a huge success. There was 176 people in attendance and 20 vendors present. Media coverage document was shared with the board.

Public Safety Update:

ACDHH will conduct forty-nine public safety trainings to the Phoenix Police Department. Approximately 60 sworn officers will attend each 2-hour session. Plans are in the works to conduct a one day Community Emergency Preparedness Information Training. During this training members of the deaf, hard of hearing and the deaf-blind communities come together with professionals to discuss strategies for the best outcomes before, during and after emergencies. This event will be in partnership with Maricopa County Department of Emergency Management. To date approximately 300 officers have received training.

Text to 911 for Lake Havasu City:

The Lake Havasu City Police Department began offering text to 911 services on April 4, 2017. This development means quick, direct access to emergency services for those who cannot call, whatever the reason may be. Vicki Thompson, AzTEDP Program Planner provided information on traditional TTY communication, captioned telephone service, as well as some tips about effective communication with members of the deaf and hard of hearing communities. Communications Supervisor, Priscilla Maloncon, Sergeant Tom Gray and Captain Troy Sterling of the Lake Havasu Police Department participated in the training as well as 911 dispatchers. For more information about this service, please contact the LHC Emergency Services at their non-emergency service number at (928) 855-1171.

An Opportunity to Support the Deaf Blind:

ACDHH has identified a crucial gap in services related to Deaf Blind people and has proposed an amendment to the state budget. This amendment would provide temporary funding for home and community based services for the Deaf Blind. ACDHH is currently working with Helen Keller National Center to provide a Support Service Provider Training in September.

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State Officials Discuss Upcoming Wildfire Season:

Forest and fire officials joined Gov. Doug Ducey to offer their annual outlook on the upcoming wildfire season. They anticipate an extremely busy fire season from the mid elevations down to the deserts and grasslands in southern Arizona.

ACDHH and City of Tempe Collaboration:

LEGOLAND Discovery Center at Arizona Mills (Tempe, Arizona) is now accessible for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing thanks to the combined efforts of several individuals and government agencies.

Arizona Center for Disability Law (ACDL):

There have been nine lawsuits filed here in Arizona regarding interpreters in the Medical setting.

Board Relations:

ACDHH Liaison Danielle Wright worked with new commissioners for press releases. Executive Director Sherri Collins continues her ongoing communication with board chair and shares information with the board as needed.

Annual Organization Goals/Objectives:

Collins is in the process of working on staff's goals and performance with an emphasis on outreach and public relations.

Financial Reports

Nothing new to report at this time.

Legislative Update

Legislative Liaison Rip Wilson gave the board an update regarding legislation that ACDHH has been tracking.

- HB2418 (seeking amendment to remove requiring to pay taxes on hearing aid batteries)
- SB1198 – Public Accommodation; Civil Action (opposed)
- SB1406 (Striker to replace SB1198)
- HB2505 – Public Accommodation; Disability: Discrimination Sanctions (this was a better bill than SB1198) - HELD
- HB2396 – ASDB Revisions
- HB1030 – Occupational Therapy (testified to include speech therapy)
- SB1123 – Lobbyist (prohibits state agencies to hire lobbyist)
- SB1239 – Parking Violation; ADA
- SB1180 – Bingo; ADA
- Budget – BRB for Deaf Blind - waiting for draft language.

Discussion ensued between Commissioner Jantz and Rip Wilson regarding legislation.

Public comments not related to the licensure complaints

None

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Early Hearing Detection Intervention (EHDI) Reauthorization Act

The full board was given a copy of ACDHH's position paper to analyze and review. Executive Director Sherri Collins gave the board background information regarding the Early Hearing Detection Intervention (EHDI) Reauthorization Act. Collins recommending a name change to "Early Language Service". Collins also recommends that the group be re-categorized and made separate from "Center for Disease Control". Executive Director Collins also recommends there be research and data collected on children development and language access.

Discussion ensued between Commissioner Jantz, Commissioner Huch, Commissioner Reichman and Sherri Collins regarding the recommendations.

Commissioner Huch motioned for the Commission to move forward and use the recommended language and suggested changes to develop a letter to congress regarding the Early Hearing Intervention Reauthorization ACE. Commissioner Baesler Seconded, Motion carries unanimously.

Board meeting Calendar Revision

ACDHH's August 24th meeting will be in Tucson at the Double Tree at Reid Park 445 S Alvernon Way, Tucson, AZ 85711. The December meeting has now been moved to November 30th here at ACDHH 100 N. 15th AVE Suite 104. Phoenix, Arizona 85251.

Commissioner Jantz motioned to approve the calendar changes as written. Commissioner Hebert Seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Molly Bonsall from the Attorney General's Office joined the meeting at 5:15pm

Renewal Timeframe Extension Consideration: Helen Young

Licensing & Certification Coordinator Emmett Hassen gave the board background information regarding Helen Young's extension consideration. Mrs. Young failed to comply with renewal timeframes as outlined in the rules. ACDHH staff closed her file and informed Mrs. Young that she would need to reapply and an initial applicant.

Public Comments on Agenda Items:

Helen Young addressed the board regarding her consideration for an extension in obtaining her legal license. Discussion ensued between Commissioner Jantz, Helen Young, Commissioner Hebert and Emmett Hassen.

Commissioner Jantz motioned to follow staff recommendation and offer no extensions. Commissioner Baesler seconded. Commissioner Kneifel, Commissioner Baber, Commissioner Booth, Commissioner Reichman, Commissioner Huch all yes. Commissioner Hebert, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Stokes abstain. Motion carries.

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Interpreters Working Outside the Scope of Practice:

Licensed Certified Deaf Interpreters Working Alone:

Vicki Bond provided the board with a recap of the issue at hand and reviewed the Certified Deaf Interpreter (CDI) standard practice paper from the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID). Currently there is no rule place that prohibits this practice, however this is an ethical decision of the practitioner. The community is concerned that practitioners are not making appropriate decision regarding the use of Certified Deaf Interpreter.

The concern applies to those who are not accessing auditory information.

Discussion ensued between Commissioner Jantz, Commissioner Kneifel, Vicki Bond, Emmett Hassen regarding what is included in Certified Deaf Interpreter Best Practice Paper.

Commissioner Jantz moved to go into executive session to gain legal advice regarding Certified Deaf Interpreters. Commissioner Baber Seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting entered into executive session at 5:49

Meeting returned to open session at 6:23pm

Commissioner Huch moved to have ACDHH staff and the Attorney General's office continue to work closely to develop the best wording for the Certified Deaf Interpreters – working alone standard practice paper. Commissioner Baber seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Licensed Hearing Interpreters working in specialized fields

Vicki Bond gave the board a summary of the issue at hand. Additional certifications are required to work in specialized fields such as Medical and Legal. According to the code of professional conduct, Interpreters are to use digression when accepting jobs based on their qualifications and skill level. ACDHH staff would like to create a standard practice paper for Mental Health Interpreters.

Discussion ensued between Commissioner Jantz, Vicki Bond, Commissioner Booth, Commissioner Kneifel and Commissioner Baesler regarding the process of developing a practice paper for General licensed interpreters that are working in these specialized fields. Commissioners also recommended a future statute be put into place.

Commissioner Huch moved to have ACDHH staff and the Attorney General's office continue to work closely to develop the best wording for a standard practice paper for interpreters who accept mental health and medical jobs. Commissioner Jantz seconded. Motion carries

Molly Bonsall from the Attorney General's Office left the meeting at 6:42pm



Over the Counter (OTC) Hearing Aid Position Paper:

Hard of Hearing Specialist Michele Michaels gave the board a synopsis of the Over the Counter (OTC) Hearing Aid Position Paper. ACDHH estimates that only 25% of people who actually need hearing aids receive them. The federal trade commission, in response to the issues of accessibility to and affordability of hearing aids, is considering adopting a new category of hearing aids for mild-to-moderate hearing loss that can be purchased over the counter without a referral from a licensed audiologist. The board was given an opportunity to review the position paper and provide their feedback.

Discussion ensued between Hard of Hearing Specialist Michele Michaels, Commissioner Huch, Commissioner Kneifel, Commissioner Jantz, Commissioner Baber and Commissioner Booth.

Public Comments on Over the Counter Hearing Aid Position Paper:

Tricia Dabrowski addressed the board and provided her comments regarding the Personal Sound Application Product (PSAP) that are available over the counter. She would like to recommend an addition to the position paper stating that if consumers are opposed to the OTC hearing aids, that they should review the FDA regulations on PSAPS.

Gabrielle Sadowski addressed the board and provided her comments regarding the over the counter position paper.

Commissioner Huch motioned to have ACDHH Staff move forward to create and distribute a final Over the Counter Hearing Aid position paper, while incorporating recommended board and public changes. Commissioner Baber seconded. Motion carries unanimously.

Support Service Provider (SSP) Training Update

Deputy Director Carmen Green provided the board with an update regarding Support Service Provider Training in the state of Arizona. Currently the Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths & Adults (HKNC) is reviewing ACDHH's Support Service Provider curriculum. ACDHH is hopeful that the first training will take place in September.

IARC Update

IARC Chair Raymond Baesler updated the board. The last IARC meeting was held on March 16, 2017 and 18 licenses were approved. The next meeting will take place on May 18, 2017. There are roughly 22 applications that are ready for review.

Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and Blind Update

Sue Kay Kneifel updated the board. ASDB is holding their first Summer Transition Camp for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf-Blind teens. The camp will be held June 11th -23rd. This camp supports teens in development of life skills, career readiness skills, leadership and self-advocacy. Those interested in attending should contact Jennifer Hensley Jennifer.Hensley@asdb.az.gov

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Future Agenda Items

Executive Director Collins informed the board that ACDHH will be holding a Community Deaf and Hard of Hearing Day at Wet n Wild on July 28, 2017. On May 18, 2017 Sequoia School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will hold a job fair for Deaf and Hard of Hearing youth. The booths will open between 12- 2:30pm and interpreters will be provided.

Commissioner Baesler motioned to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Garcia seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:22pm

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the attached notice was duly posted this 15th day of May 2017, at 4p.m by *Danielle Wright* Assistant to the Executive Director.