



MINUTES OF THE ARIZONA COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF AND THE HARD OF HEARING (ACDHH) Board meeting held on Thursday, December 1, 2016 at 4:30p.m. at the Hilton Tucson East 7600 E Broadway Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85710
Pending Commission Approval

AGENDA

Call to Order & Roll Call Discussion/Action

Acting Chair Kneifel called the meeting to order at 4:35PM.

Commissioners Present: Sue Kay Kneifel, PV Jantz, Robert Baber, Raymond Baesler, Judy Huch, Elizabeth Booth, Jeffery Hebert, Chris Schneck, Barbara Brimhall

Commissioners Present by Phone: None

Commissioners Absent: Elizabeth Garcia

Staff Present: Sherri Collins, Carmen Green, Curtis Humphries, Emmett Hassen, Vicki Bond, and Danielle Smith

Also in attendance by phone: Jo-Ann Handy and Molly Bonsall from the Attorney General's Office

Approval of Minutes: Discussion/Action

August 26, 2016 - No Changes Recommended.

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

Chairs Report/Summary of Current Events Discussion only

Chair Sue Kay Kneifel introduced the newly appointed Board Parent Representative Barbara Brimhall. Commissioner Brimhall introduced herself to the Board and the Public.

Executive Director's Update/Summary of Events Discussion only

Sherri Collins updated the board with 2017's highlights:

- Commissioner vacancies. Three Deaf Representatives and one Representative from the Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and Blind are needed.



Arizona Commission

for the deaf and the hard of hearing

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acdhh.org

- National Association of the Deaf Conference 2016 was a huge success. ACDHH attended the conference and a sensitivity training was held for the Phoenix Sky Harbor Staff.
- ACDHH teamed up with the Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA) for an emergency training where ten interpreters and three Communication Access Real-Time Translation Providers (CART) were prescreened and trained on emergency situations
- Carmen Green gave the board a brief summary of the “Patient Point Program” to the board.
 - o Patient Point mean an integrated patient engagement solutions surrounding key points of care to help healthcare professionals improve health outcomes, efficiency and patient satisfaction. ACDHH created a commercial which helped explained cultural differences between Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals in hopes that the hospital and medical staff will want to have ACDHH staff come to give sensitivity training to their offices.
- ACDHH’s annual Noisy Toys campaign has kicked off and ACDHH had TV segments on the majority of Arizona Television Stations to inform the public of toys that could be harmful to children’s hearing.
- Meeting with Director of Department of Economic Security (DES) to talk about the Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals and issues that they are facing with services that fall directly under DES. ACDHH hopes to continue to work with DES to work on fixing these issues.
- the National Association of State Agencies of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NASADHH) and ACDHH will be meeting with Gallaudet University to discuss nationwide issues that concern the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Communities such as; Early intervention for Deaf and Hard of Hearing children, language acquisition, Interpreter licensure/training and Police training.
- The Arizona Association for the Deaf (AZAD) 80th Gala with be taking place this weekend and ACDHH staff will be in attendance.
- One on one meetings with the newly appointed Arizona State Legislators and Executive Director Sherri Collins are in the process of being scheduled.
- March 7, 2017 ACDHH will be holding a “Deaf and Hard of Hearing Day at the Capitol” which will tie into the Commissions 40th Anniversary celebration.
- The House of Representatives and Senate are in the process of installing looping systems in their buildings. ACDHH will have a ribbon cutting ceremony when the project is complete.
- The Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) walk for Hearing was very successful and the State of AZ doubled their goal, ACDHH was also in attendance. Next year’s walk is scheduled for November 18, 2017.



Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report

Board was given a few minutes to review the report and nothing out of the ordinary was reported. Curtis Humphries answered questions for the board regarding left over monies.

Public Comments on agenda items and non-agenda items

Adrian Martinez expressed to the board that he would like to see more funding and research go in to the Support Service Provider (SSP) decision package that ACDHH is currently working on.

Licensure Complaints and Inquiries

Jo-Ann Handy and Molly Bonsall from the Attorney General's Office joined the meeting at 5:40PM.

Dianne Riddick

On March 1, 2017 the Commission determined that it would offer Ms. Riddick a settlement requiring her complete 5 hours of professional development. She was given until Friday, September 2, 2016, to submit proof of completion of 5 hours of professional development. The commission didn't receive proof by the deadline, although on December 9, 2016 the Commission did receive a letter from her stating that she's been living in a remote village in Alaska with limited internet access and this was the reasoning for her not being able to complete the professional development hours and requested an extension. On Aug 10, 2016 her license expired and has not been renewed.

Commissioner Jantz moved to go into Executive Session to gain legal advice with the Assistant Attorney General's office regarding Ms. Riddick. Commissioner Baber seconded. The meeting went into Executive Session at 5:53PM.

Meeting resumed to open session at 5:57PM

Commissioner Jantz moved that the Commission dismiss the agreement with the understanding that if Ms. Riddick would like to reapply for her license in Arizona that she has to complete the settlement agreement prior to her receiving her new license. Commissioner Baesler seconded. Commissioner Hebert abstained. Motion passes.

Meeting enters executive session at 6:19PM and resumes open session at 6:48PM.

Jennifer Orozco Walker

Ms. Orozco-Walker's General license expired on September 18, 2015. She reapplied with a new initial application on October 22, 2015. In her response to questions asked on the application, she disclosed working 9 days without license beyond September 18, 2015 after she relocated back to Arizona after a few months and stopped interpreting. She contacted License Coordinator for guidance and advised that she was outside her 30 days to renew



with penalty fee of one hundred dollars, therefore she had to reapply for a new license. She has yet to pay the penalty fee and her license is expired as of November 12, 2016.

Commissioner Jantz moved to drop the current complaint against Mrs. Orozco Walker with an agreement that if and if Mrs. Orozco Walker would like to renew her Arizona license she must pay a \$200 fine. Commissioner Schneck seconded, Commissioner Basler and Commissioner Brimhall apposed. Motion carries.

Jerriann Skinner

Complaint was made that Ms. Skinner's worked without a valid certificate (or license) for 53 days between February 26, 2016 through April 19, 2016. According to the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Ms. Skinners CEUs were entered into her account on April 16, 2016 and her account was updated on April 19, 2016 to reflect her current certification status. At this time Jerriann is listed as a Certified member in the RID database that holds a TC, CI and CT.

Commissioner Baesler moves to drop the complaint against Ms. Skinner. Commissioner Schneck seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

April Welch

Case #1

Mr. Steven Roberts alleges that a misinterpretation occurred at his court appearance on November 12, 2015. According to Mr. Roberts, the interpretation indicated that the court would send him a form which he could pick dates and locations at which to fulfill his community service obligations. When Mr. Roberts did not receive a form or letter from the court, he returned to the court and asked the clerk for assistance. The clerk advised Mr. Roberts that he had not sent in the letter as instructed by the judge at the November court appearance, making him out of compliance with the court order and may have been placed in custody. Mr. Roberts alleges that a misrepresentation during his original court appearance was the cause of this misunderstanding.

Case #2

Mrs. Penny Roberts alleges that a misinterpretation occurred during an interaction with the Department of Child Safety (CPS) on December 1, 2015. Mrs. Roberts alleges that the interpreter indicated that Mr. Steven Roberts had molested his granddaughter, when the intended message was that the accused individual was Stephan, the Roberts' grandson. Mr. Roberts became very upset at the accusation and demanded medical tests be performed on his granddaughter to determine the validity of the accusation.

Case #3



Mrs. Penny Roberts alleges that Mrs. April Welch engaged in unprofessional conduct during an interaction with the Pinal County Superior Court on December 7, 2015. Mrs. Roberts alleges that Mrs. Welch had a private discussion with representatives from the Department of Child Safety prior to the meeting with DCS representatives and Mr. and Mrs. Roberts.

Commissioner Jantz moves that all complaints against Ms. Welch be dismissed. This includes case one, two and three. Commissioner Baber seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Jasmine Marin

Case #1

Ms. Pfau-Johnson alleges that Ms. Marin conducted herself in an unprofessional manner not respecting Ms. Pfau-Johnson as an interpreter colleague or team. Ms. Pfau-Johnson felt that already being hired by the school district was not satisfactory to Ms. Marin's expectations or standards. Ms. Pfau-Johnson felt she was humiliated by Ms. Marin's demeanor in front of her student that she was assigned to work with.

Case #2

Ms. Sparpanic filed this complaint against Ms. Marin due to her unprofessional conduct in a public setting. Ms. Sparpanic felt uncomfortable with Ms. Marian when she approached her regarding another interpreter, Mr. Dylann Farney, who happened to be there at the event as well. Ms. Marin was allegedly attempting to discredit Mr. Farney's interpreter experience. Mr. Farney had been hired by a local school district to interpret for Ms. Sparpanic's deaf daughter. Moreover, Ms. Sparpanic felt that Ms. Marin did not maintain her professionalism while she provided a female teenager that she interprets for, keys to Ms. Marin's car. Ms. Marin was also "close" to this male consumer of her which she felt was inappropriate.

Discussion ensued between Commissioners Jantz, and Emmett Hassen regarding case number two against Ms. Marin

Case#3

Mr. Farney filed this complaint against Ms. Marin due to her unprofessional conduct in a public setting. Mr. Farney, as an educational interpreter, happened to be at the coffee shop where a deaf event was being held and noticed that Ms. Marin was speaking loudly to two individuals trying to discredit his interpreting experience. Mr. Farney believes that Ms. Marian was "out-of-line" because she didn't know him personally nor acknowledge that he had been hired by the Kingman Unified School District to interpret for Ms. Sparpanic's daughter.

Commissioner Baesler motions to table the complaints made against Ms. Marian until the board is able to receive more advice from the Attorney General's office. Commissioner Huch seconded. Commissioner Baber opposed. Motion carries.



Stacy Zamora

Ms. Zamora's Provisional B license expired on September 10, 2016 and she reapplied with a new initial Provisional B application on October 25, 2015. In her response to questions asked on the application, she disclosed to working 8 days without a license beyond September 10, 2016. She contacted ACDHH licensing department for guidance and was advised that she was outside her 30 days to renew with penalty fee therefore she had to reapply as new. Upon learning that she did not qualify for Provisional B under the new rules, therefore she applied for a Provisional class C license. She submitted a letter for the board explaining her medical reasons.

Commissioner Jantz moves that a \$100 penalty fee be paid by Ms. Zamora. Commissioner Baber seconded. Commissioner Hebert opposed. Motion carries.

Commissioner Jantz moved to go into executive session for legal advice regarding Jennifer Orozco Walker, Jerriann Skinner, April Welch, Jasmine Marian and Stacy Zamora. Commissioner Baber seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Jo-Ann Handy and Molly Bonsall from the Attorney General's Office were dismissed from the meeting at 6:57PM.

Officer Elections

Board was given the opportunity to vote.

Commissioner Jantz moved that Commissioner Kneifel continue as the Board Chair. Commissioner Schneck seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Commissioner Kneifel moved that Commissioner Baesler be appointed as the new Vice Chair of the Board. Commissioner Schneck seconded. Motion carries unanimously.

Commissioner Schneck moved that Commissioner Jantz be appointed as the new Board Secretary. Commissioner Kneifel seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

2017 Board Meeting Calendar

Commissioner Jantz moved to approve the proposed 2017 board calendar. Commissioner Schneck seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

IARC Update

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

Douglas A. Ducey
Governor

Sherri L. Collins
Executive Director



Commissioner Kneifel informed the board that at the last IARC meeting 16 applicants were approved for licensure.

Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind

Commissioner Kneifel announced that ASDB has approved their 2017 meeting dates and none interfere with the proposed 2017 for ACDHH.

Future Agenda Items

A support service provider update will be given to the board at the next board meeting along with a presentation from the Hard of Hearing Taskforce.

Adjournment

Commissioner Schneck moved to adjourn, Commissioner Baber seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the attached notice was duly posted this 2nd day of December, 2016 at 4p.m. by *Danielle Smith* Assistant to the Executive Director.