



**MINUTES OF THE
ARIZONA COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF AND THE HARD OF HEARING (ACDHH) held on
Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 4:30 p.m. at The Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the
Hard of Hearing 100 N. 15th Ave. Suite #104 Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Pending Commission Approval**

Call to Order & Roll Call

Acting Chair Kneifel called the meeting to order at 4:33pm

Commissioners Present: Elizabeth Booth, Elizabeth Garcia, Raymond Baesler, Sue Kay Kneifel, Kathy Roadlander, Robert Baber, Jeffery Hebert, Judy Huch

Commissioners Present by Phone: Marv Lamer

Commissioners Absent:

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

Also in attendance by phone: Assistant Attorney General Laura Flores.

Approval of Minutes:

October 15, 2015 – No Changes at this time.

Commissioner Roadlander moved to approve the minutes as written, Commissioner Baber seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Chairs Report/Summary of Current Events

Commissioner Kneifel made announcements to the community and the Board. Commissioner Kneifel welcomed Commissioner Judy Huch our new Audiologist Representative to the commission. Commissioner Judy Huch introduced herself to the board.



Executive Director's Update/Summary of Events

ACDHH has been working on updating the interpreter licensure rules for the state of Arizona and has been to four different cities across the state gathering public comments and suggestions from both the hearing and deaf community. The thirty day written comments session is currently taking place and will end on March 13, 2016. A public comment email which was sent to the board by Deb Stone is available for Commissioners review. After the thirty day written comments session has ended, there will be an oral comments session that will take place at ACDHH on March 17, 2016. Both the oral and written comments ACDHH receives will be reviewed by the board for final approval prior to be handed over to the Governor's Regulatory Review Council.

A special meeting in April will need to take place to approve the proposed interpreter rule changes. Commissioners are able to attend by phone.

Sherri Collins mentioned the board vacancies. There are four vacancies all of which are Deaf representative positions. Two of the board's current commissioners are eligible for reappointment.

The Noisy Toys Awareness campaign that took place over the 2015 holidays was mentioned.

Sherri Collins attended the National Association for the Deaf Biennial conference which had around two hundred people attend. ACDHH staff was present with a booth set up and all in all this conference was a great success.

ACDHH's Specialists were mentioned and their highlights are available for the boards review.

The Arizona Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing hosted the Black Deaf History Month in February which was a great success. The African American Symposium was also mentioned.



A lawsuit against 911 in Arizona and Text 911 is available for the board's review and updates will be given to the commission as the case continues.

ACDHH and the National Association for the Deaf will hold a Legislative Training for the Deaf community. AZ interpreters will be able to earn continuing education units (CEUs). The training will take place on Saturday, March 5th at the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing.

Sherri Collins spoke to the board about the new bill tracking system that is being put into place with the help of the commission's new lobbyist Rip Wilson. Arizona Senate Bills SB1284 and SB1166 were mentioned. A copy of a press release regarding SB1284 is available for the boards review.

At the October 2015 meeting the board was present for The University of Arizona's low income hearing aid program presentation. ACDHH is currently working with lobbyist Rip Wilson on the best policy approach to obtain coverage for Arizona low income citizens, who need assistance with hearing aid coverage. This program will also be discussed and presented to the Governor's Council on Aging during a meeting in May.

There is nothing unusual in regards to the budget at this time. No recommendation for changes were given in regards to ACDHH's finances.

ACDHH's new lobbyist Rip Wilson and the Commission's new Analyst from JLBC, Henry Furtick introduced themselves to the board.

RSA, AZ relay service and ACDHH partnered together for a lunch and learn for employers to understand the importance of video relay systems and other assistive technologies that can be used in the workplace. Commissioner Sue Kay Kneifel explained this event in more detail.

Commissioner Booth joined the meeting at 5:00pm.

Looping at House and Senate- Funding

Commissioner Kneifel moved agenda item nine to agenda item five and continued with the agenda as written.



Sherri Collins provided the board with background knowledge in regards to looping at the Capitol for both the House and Senate buildings. Collins asked for the board to approve the funding for this project by using the commission funds from the fund balance. Discussion ensued between Commissioners Baber, Garcia, Kneifel, Baesler, lobbyist Rip Wilson, and Sherri Collins in regards to the location of the funds.

Commissioner Roadlander moved to approve the funding for the partnership in providing the looping with the house and senate. Commissioner Huch Seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments on Agenda Items Only:

No public comments at this time.

Licensure Complaints:

Commissioner Baseler moved to go into a closed executive session, commissioner Baber seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting entered closed executive session at 5:18pm.

Open Session returned at 5:27pm.

Emmett Hassen explained each complaint:

Lilia No last name: Complaint was made that the interpreter attended a medical appointment and interpreted without a license. Commissioner Garcia motioned to dismiss the complaint. Commissioner Roadlander seconded. Commissioner Huch and Commissioner Hebert abstained. The motion passed.

Linda Bove: Deaf client felt that the interpreter violated the code of professional conduct. Commissioner Lamer requested that Emmett Hassen give his recommendation on this complaint. Emmett Hassen stated there was no evidence of a violation of the code of professional conduct. Hassen recommended that the complaint be dropped with no further action. Commissioner Garcia motioned to dismiss the complaint with no further action. Commissioner Hebert seconded. Commissioner Huch abstained. The motion passed.



Cynthia Busby: Deaf client alleged that interpreter violated several codes of the professional conduct by taking jobs she wasn't qualified for. Commissioner Kneifel asks Emmett Hassen to give his recommendation on how to handle this complaint. Hassen suggested that the board dismiss this complaint with no further action. Commissioner Baber motioned to dismiss the complaint with no further action. Commissioner Booth Seconded. Commissioners Huch and Hebert abstained. The motion passed.

Diane Riddick: Interpreter allegedly violated several tenants of the CPC by not showing up to an assignment. Emmet Hassen stated that both tenants 6.0 and 6.4 show evidence to the complaint and he recommended that the interpreter take professional development courses rather than suspending or revoking the interpreter's license. Discussion ensued between Commissioners Hebert, Baesler, Garica and Kenifel. Commissioner Baesler motioned that the interpreter take professional development courses related to ethics and or business. Commissioner Booth seconded. Commissioner Kneifel asked for clarification on a specific number of hours. Commissioner Baseler amended that the interpreter take 0.5 CEUs. Commissioner Booth Seconded. Commissioners Baber and Huch abstained. The motion passed.

Commissioner Lamer left the meeting at 5:45pm.

Darcy tucker: Deaf client alleged that the interpreter violated the code of professional conduct by accepting jobs that she wasn't qualified for. Emmett stated that there was no harm done and recommended that the board dismiss the complaint, in addition the interpreter should receive a written letter, asking that the interpreter gather further information before accepting assignments. Commissioner Baber motioned that the complaint be dismissed with no further actions. Commissioner Baesler Seconded. Commissioner Huch abstained. The motion passed.

Vernice Williams-Thomas: Deaf client alleged that the interpreter violated the code of professional conduct by working without a license. Emmett recommended the filing of a cease and desist letter with the state of Arizona so that the interpreter cannot work in the state of Arizona. Commissioner Baesler motioned that a cease and desist letter be put on file in the state of Arizona. Commissioner Roadlander seconded. The motions passed unanimously.



Licensure: proposed rules update

A special meeting will take place on April 12, 2016 at 4:00pm, to address the updated interpreter rule changes. Commissioners are welcome to attend the meeting by phone.

Interpreter Fund:

Sherri Collins explained the BEI interpreter exam to the board. Collins requested that the board approve the funding for this test by using the interpreter fund in the amount of 255,000\$. Discussion ensued between Commissioners Booth and Garcia in regards to the location of said funds. Commissioner Garcia motioned to approve the staff to utilize the interpreter fund for the BEI proposal. Commissioner Huch seconded. Commissioner Hebert abstained. The motion passed.

Officer Elections:

Commissioner Kneifel proposed to table the officer elections until there is a full board. Commissioner Roadlander motioned that officer elections be tabled until a meeting which all commissioners are present. Commissioner Garcia seconded. Commissioner Baesler abstained. The motion passed.

2016 Meeting:

Discussion ensued between the full board on dates that could potentially work for upcoming meetings. Commissioner Baesler motioned that the board set the 2016 meeting schedule with the following dates: Special meeting on April 12, 2016 at 4:00pm, May 5, 2016 at 4:30pm, August 25, 2016 at 5:00pm and December 1, 2016 at 4:30pm in Tucson. Commissioner Baber Seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

IARC Update from January 21, 2016 IARC meeting

Commissioner Kneifel stated that the IARC board reviewed and approved eleven interpreter applications for licenses.

Douglas A. Ducey
Governor



Sherri L. Collins
Executive Director

Arizona Commission

for the deaf and the hard of hearing

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acdhh.org

Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and Blind Representative Update

Commissioner Kneifel explained that the Superintendent interviews will be held again with a total of 16 total applicants. The stakeholder group screened the applications the week of 2/29. The stakeholders will recommend applicants to the board to move forward in the interview process.

Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items at this time.

Adjournment

Commissioner Roadlander moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:17pm, Commissioner Booth seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Dated this 3rd day of March 2016

Sue-Kay Kneifel, Acting Commission Chair

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the attached notice was duly posted this 3rd day of March 2016 at 12 p.m. by *Danielle Smith*, Assistant to the Executive Director.