

Nebraska Sign Language Interpreter Review Board Meeting

Final, approved 3.3.2025

Friday, December 6, 2024

NCDHH Lincoln Office

4600 Valley Rd Room 4A, Lincoln, NE 68510

A. Welcome

The meeting of the Nebraska Interpreter Review Board was called to order by Chairperson Meghann Cassidy at 1:05 PM

Mtg. reopen 2:57 PM

B. Notice of Open Meetings Act

Chairperson Meghann Cassidy announced the notice of the meeting was duly given, posted, published, and tendered in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, and all board members received notice simultaneously by email. The agenda has been kept current and available at the Commission's office and on their website. The materials generally used by the board for this meeting are on the table in a public folder that is available to the general public for this meeting in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, {Neb. Rev. Stat. 84-1412 (8)}. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is available with the public folder for the duration of the meeting in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

C. Roll Call

For the record, board members Meghann Cassidy, Margie Propp, Vicki Steinhauer-Campbell and Kim Davis were present. NCDHH administrative assistant/licensing specialist Gina Petersen was also present, as well as hired interpreters Ben Sparks and Amber Tucker. Board members Briana Stradinger, Vonda Apking, and Tami Richardson-Nelson were absent.

D. Review of Agenda

Chairperson Meghann Cassidy reviewed the agenda with the Board Members.

E. Acceptance of Agenda

Ms. Margie Propp moved to accept the agenda as written, seconded by Kim Davis. With no further discussion, the motion carried with all voting ayes.

F. Acceptance of Minutes

there were no changes suggested. Ms. Margie Propp made the motion to approve, and Meghann Cassidy seconded. With no further discussion, the motion carried with all voting ayes.

G. Chairperson Updates (Meghann Cassidy, Chairperson)

a. Intermediary application – qualification review

- Chairperson Cassidy asked Ms. Gina Petersen to elaborate on this agenda item. Ms. Petersen explained that the individual under review for intermediary licensure does not have an RID awarded certificate, meaning they need to submit the following qualifications listed in the rules and regulations and get approval by the full board.
- Ms. Petersen mentioned number three on the rules and regulations sheet, pointing out that the individual must submit 8 hours' worth of training related to the role and function of a Deaf or Hard of Hearing Intermediary Interpreter, and this applicant completed training in protactile interpreting. Ms. Petersen voiced her uncertainty on whether protactile training counts towards such hours.
- Chairperson Cassidy suggested taking a moment to review the qualifications submitted by the applicant.
- Chairperson Cassidy noted that the protactile training certificates lacked any proof of interpreter specific training.
- Ms. Davis informed the group that she counted only 7 out of the 8 required hours submitted for ethics, as one of the certificates of completion does not mention ethics.
- Chairperson Cassidy shared her opinion that she does not think the requirements have been met.
- Ms. Davis moved to suspend approval of the application until the applicant completes all required training hours, seconded by Ms. Propp.
- There were no objections. The motion carried with all voting eyes.

b. Canadian Certificate of Interpretation (COI) Review

- Ms. Petersen shared that the group may need to drop consideration of acceptance due to specific verbiage in the rules and regulations.

Discussion on COI acceptance scenarios

- Chairperson Cassidy suggested denying acceptance of the COI, as it does not seem to fit within the rules and regulations
- Ms. Petersen mentioned checking with five states on whether or not they accept the COI – none of them do.
- Ms. Propp moved that the IRB deny acceptance of the Canadian Certificate of interpretation, as it does not meet the requirements of the Nebraska Rules and Regulations. Chairperson Cassidy seconded.
- There were no objections. The motion carried with all voting eyes.

c. Informal complaint #2526

- Closed session

Ms. Margie Propp Made the motion to open the meeting at 2:57 PM and Ms. Kim Davis Seconded. With no further discussion, the motion carried with all voting ayes.

H. Executive Director Report

a. Agency Updates

- Ms. Kim Davis shared with the group that the Full Board will be hosting a community forum for the executive director search on Monday, December 9th from 6 to 7 PM. The link has been changed from the original one. Ms. Vicki Steinhauer-Campbell added that there will be a place to watch in person in the Lincoln area through NeAD.

b. Legislative Updates

I. Public Comments

J. Old Business

K. New Business

a. Next meeting dates: TBD

- Decision on the next meeting dates was tabled until the full board decides theirs. The IRB's meeting dates are to be decided over email.

L. Announcements

a.

M. Adjourn

- ##### **a.**
- Margie Propp made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:06 PM, and Kim Davis seconded. With no further discussion, the motion carried with all voting ayes.