

## **Nebraska Sign Language Interpreter Review Board Meeting**

May 13, 2016, 1pm – 3pm

Conference Room 4A

4600 Valley Rd, Lincoln NE

### **I. Roll Call**

The meeting of the Nebraska Interpreter Review Board (IRB) was called to order at 1:12 pm by Mr. Jerry Siders, Chairperson in Conference Room 4A, Lincoln, NE

**Board Members Present:** Ms. Vonda Apking, Mr. Jerry Siders, Mr. John Wyvill, Mr. Pat Bracken, Mr. Heath Focken, Ms. Cheryl Poff, Ms. Bethany Koubsky (participated by audio), Ms. Pam Duncan – joined at 1:15pm

**Interpreters:** Ms. Debra Seiler and Ms. Sharon Sinkler

**Staff:** Ms. Crystal Pierce

**Minutes:** Ms. Cindy Woldt

**Public:** Nicole O'Malley

Ms. Peggy Williams stepped into the meeting and made the announcement that she was retiring on July 1, 2016. Ms. Williams shared how appreciative she was of being able to work with everyone and the working relationships that she developed.

Mr. Wyvill announced that the Commission is having a retirement party for Ms. Williams on June 23<sup>rd</sup> from 2p – 4p in classroom A & B, here at the Lincoln office.

**II. Approval of Agenda** – Mr. Bracken accepted the agenda as written and Ms. Poff seconded. All in favor - passed

**III. Approval of Minutes from February 12, 2016** – Ms. Poff has a change to make under New Business – she wanted it noted that she did not specifically suggest the board reach out to Nancy Coffman about the IRB board member vacancies. Instead she suggested the board reach out to the Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (NCBVI) for a new IRB board member. Mr. Focken approved February 12, 2016, meeting minutes with the noted change and Ms. Duncan seconded. All in favor except for Mr. Siders who abstained due to his absence at February's meeting.

**IV. Public Comments** - No comments

### **V. Old Business**

#### **A. Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) Update**

Ms. Pierce updated the group on RID regarding the RID certification testing

moratorium. After RID's March, 2016 board meeting, RID announced certification moratorium updates. Ms. Pierce shared some key points of the RID announcement.

**B. Quality Assurance Screening Test (QAST) Fee Update**

Ms. Pierce provided the board updated information on the financial costs and revenue incurred by NCDHH when proctoring the QAST Exam. Ms. Pierce provided a comparison the QAST Exam income to cost ratios for current and future testing. The current revenue includes: written exam - \$25, and performance exam - \$170. Projected cost is be \$30 for the written and \$270 for the performance exam.

The QAST Evaluation Team has informed NCDHH the cost their services is going to be increasing on June 1<sup>st</sup> to \$200 per performance exam test evaluation. Ms. Pierce explained the Board can vote increase the price of the QAST only to the amount that covers the costs of proctoring the test. To increase above the amount of cost it requires a legislative vote of support.

The IRB is all in favor of accepting the proposed cost increases for taking the QAST written and performance exams. Mr. Siders made the motion and Mr. Focken seconded. All were in favor.

**C. Board Member Vacancy Update**

Ms. Pierce reiterated to the board that Ms. Poff and Mr. Bracken will leaving the board after this meeting. This leaves 2 positions that are vacant, both being local government positions. Discussion on possible members.

**VI. New Business**

**A. Election of Officers**

Ms. Duncan nominated Ms. Apking to take the roll of Chairperson, Ms. Poff seconded the nomination. Ms. Apking accepted. All voted in favor, except Ms. Apking abstained.

Mr. Siders nominated Ms. Duncan to take the roll of the Vice-Chairperson, Mr. Focken seconded. Ms. Duncan accepted. All voted in favor, except Ms. Duncan abstained.

**B. Bylaws Review**

Ms. Pierce reviewed all of the board's submitted edits to the by-laws. The board made a few grammar edits. All references to chairman changed to chairperson. Any references of corporation were changed to Interpreter Review Board.

The board voted to approve the suggested edits. Ms. Poff motioned and Mr. Bracken seconded. Approved by all.

**C. Interpreter Complaint Review**

The meeting went into closed session at 1:50pm

Ms. Duncan left the meeting at 2:25pm

Meeting was called back to order at 3:01pm

- **Case 1600** – Ms. Apking made the motion to take no further action on this case. Mr. Bracken seconded it. All voted in favor with the exception of Ms. Duncan who abstained.
- **Case 2200** – Mr. Focken made the motion that further investigation needs to take place. Ms. Duncan seconded it. All voted in favor.

**VII. Executive Director Report – Mr. John C. Wyvill**

- A. Deaf Awareness Night at the Lincoln Saltdogs Game on July 13, 2016. NCDHH is working with Nebraska Association of the Deaf (NeAD).
- B. Deaf Awareness Day at the Zoo in Omaha in September, 2016. The date will be announced once the contract is signed.
- C. Also working on a Deaf Awareness Day at the State Fair. This will also be in conjunction with NeAD.

**VIII. Public Comments – no public comments**

**IX. Announcements – none**

The meeting adjourned at 3:09 pm.

**X. 2016 Meeting Reminder**

- A. August 12<sup>th</sup> – Lincoln – 4600 Valley Rd Room 4A on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor
- B. November 10<sup>th</sup> – Omaha – 1313 Farnam, Room TBA