

Nebraska Sign Language Interpreter Review Board Meeting

Draft I, current version as of 03.19.2025

Monday, March 3, 2025

Omaha Association of the Deaf

4050 Hillsdale Ave, Omaha NE 68107

A. Welcome

The meeting of the Nebraska Interpreter Review Board was called to order by Chairperson Meghann Cassidy at 1:03 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 Tami Richardson-Nelson, Meghan Cassidy, Vonda Apking, Vicki Steinhauer-Campbell, Margie Propp, Kyle Miers, and Briana Stradinger were present. NCDHH administrative specialist Gina Petersen was also present, as well as hired interpreters Ben Sparks and Alecia Barnes.

D. Review of Agenda

Chairperson Meghann Cassidy reviewed the agenda with the board members.

E. Acceptance of Agenda

Ms. Gina Petersen suggested including a vote for a new vice chair. Ms. Vonda Apking moved to accept the amended agenda, seconded by Ms. Briana Stradinger. With no further discussion, the motion carried with all voting ayes.

F. Acceptance of Minutes

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There were no changes suggested. Ms. Margie Propp made the motion to approve, and Ms. Vicki Steinhauer-Campbell seconded. With no further discussion, the motion carried with all voting ayes.

G. Chairperson Updates

Chairperson – vote new

Mrs. Tami Richardson-Nelson motioned to keep Ms. Meghann Cassidy as chairperson, seconded by Ms. Vonda Apking. With no further discussion, the motion carried with all voting ayes.

Vice-Chair – vote new

Ms. Vonda Apking motioned to keep Mrs. Tami Richardson-Nelson as vice-chairperson, seconded by Ms. Vicki Steinhauer-Campbell. With no further discussion, the motion carried with all voting ayes.

Introduction – Kyle Miers, new Executive Director for NCDHH

Mr. Kyle Miers stated that he looks forward to working with the IRB and seeing how they can better serve Nebraska.

Informal complaint #2527

closed session

Session reopened at 2:05 PM. The Board recommended no disciplinary action be taken by the full board regarding informal complaint #2527.

H. NCDHH –Kyle Miers

Agency Updates

Mr. Kyle Miers stated that he started a few weeks ago, having moved from Australia, but has gotten his boots on the ground and is looking at the agency's early work as well as looking towards the future.

I. Public Comments

J. Old Business

Ms. Vicki Steinhauer-Campbell brought up a past discussion regarding filing complaint, how it can be developed and made clearer for those who might want to file a complaint in the future.

Ms. Vonda Apking shared that on the boards she has worked on, there is an individual who helps the designated investigator determine whether or not a complaint should be looked into. Chairperson Meghann Cassidy volunteered to be that person and work with NCDHH staff member Ms. Gina Petersen on future cases. Ms. Margie Propp suggested making those duties part of the chairperson's description by changing the by-laws in the future.

K. New Business

Next meeting dates:

Monday, June 2 (zoom),
Friday, September 5 (Omaha),
Monday, December 1(Lincoln)

L. Announcements

Ms. Margie Propp announced that sign camp will be having a fundraiser on March 23 in Raymond, Nebraska.

M. Adjourn

Mrs. Tami Richardson-Nelson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:30 PM, and Ms. Vicki Steinhauer-Campbell seconded. With no further discussion, the motion carried with all voting ayes.