

Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Full Commission Board Meeting
4600 Valley Road, Conference Room 4A Lincoln NE 68522

October 30, 2015 Meeting Minutes

A. Welcome and Opening

Chairman Dr. Frank Turk called to order the October 30, 2015 special meeting of the Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing full commission board meeting at 10:06 am.

B. Notice of Open Meeting

Chairman Dr. Frank Turk 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. Publication of official notice of the meeting appeared in the October 26, 2015 edition of the Lincoln Journal Star, a legal newspaper of general circulation in this state, as required by the Open Meeting Act. The Agenda was kept current in the Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing's Office and on the Board's website. Materials generally used by the Board for this meeting were available for inspection by the public, and in accordance with the Open Meetings Act. A copy of the Open Meeting Act was available for the duration of the meeting.

C. Roll Call

For the record, Board members Margie Propp, Norm Weverka, Dr. Carol Lomicky, John Hogue, Jeremy Fitzpatrick and Dr. Frank Turk were present. Board members Regina Frerichs, Dr. Stacie Ray, and Michael Brummer were absent. Also present were Executive Director John Wyvill and Crystal Pierce Interpreter Program Assistant. Interpreter Sharon Sinkler was present. Remote CART was provided by Alternative Communication Services, LLC.

D. Review Of Agenda

Executive Director Wyvill reviewed the agenda with the Board members

E. Acceptance of the Agenda

Chairman Turk reminded those present for the meeting that the agenda cannot be altered 24 hours prior to the meeting except for the emergency items according to the Open Meetings Act. Board Member Hogue moved to accept the agenda for the October 30, 2015 meeting as printed. Board Member Dr. Lomicky seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion carried with Propp, Hogue, Fitzpatrick, Lomicky, Weverka and Turk voting aye.

F. Interpreter Program Report

1. Crystal Pierce, Interpreter Program Assistant, presented Title 96 Chapter 1: Draft One Language Edits to the Full Board. Noted that the first draft had a public hearing on August 18 and received no public comments. Stated also that there has been no changes to Draft One since the Board approved it prior to the hearing. Board Member Propp made the motion to accept Title 96 Chapter 1 Draft One Language Edits. Board Member Weverka seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion carried with Propp, Hogue, Fitzpatrick, Lomicky, Weverka, and Turk voting aye.
2. Crystal Pierce, Interpreter Program Assistant, presented Title 96 Chapter 1: Draft Two edits to the Full Board. Ms. Pierce noted that we received three comments. The first comment was from Joselyn Luedtke, Health and Human Services Committee Legal Counsel. Ms.

Luedtke noted a grammatical item and that was addressed in the proposed rule as noted on page F50. The next comment was submitted by Andrew Snarr of Sorenson Communications. Mr. Snarr requested a temporary permit's restriction of 30 hours be extended to 30 days. Sorenson has traveling video interpreters that come into the Omaha center. All VRS interpreters working in Nebraska must have a license. After question from Board Member Propp, Ms. Pierce confirmed that the change was acceptable to the Interpreter Review Board. The Interpreter Review Board didn't vote on the public hearing comment this based on the advice of the Attorney Generals. The IRB just provided feedback on the public hearing comment because they met and reviewed the comments less than ten days prior to this Board meeting. Board Member Weverka then suggested to vote on each comment separately. Board Member Weverka moved and Propp seconded the motion that the Temporary Permit change from 30 hours to 30 days. Motion carried with Propp, Hogue, Fitzpatrick, Lomicky, Weverka and Turk voting aye. Board Member Fitzpatrick then moved and Hogue seconded the motion that the language edits be adopted as noted on page 50 of the Draft Two LB 287. Motion carried with Propp, Hogue, Fitzpatrick, Lomicky, Weverka and Turk voting aye. Ms. Pierce then took up the last comment from the Nebraska Association of the Deaf (NeAD). NeAD's letter is on page F48 of the board package. Ms. Pierce reference the highlighted areas where NeAD requested specific language to be added in the rules. Ms. Pierce also reported that she has spoken to Mr. Robert Cooper of Kansas who stated that NCDHH is permitted to continue the use of the QAST materials indefinitely and that Frances Beurivage and her QAST evaluation team are open to continue to do the evaluations. As result there is no need to have the end date in our rules. Also the Board discussed the clarification that deaf interpreters to renew their license they wouldn't be required to show the proof of qualifications if previously provided. NCDHH didn't have problem with the clarification. The proposed change doesn't change anything just provides clarification. Board Member Propp moved and Weverka seconded the motion that the NeAD recommendations regarding the licensing of Deaf Intermediary Interpreters be accepted. Motion carried with Propp, Hogue, Fitzpatrick, Lomicky, Weverka and Turk voting aye. Board Member Propp also noted it's possible that there could be a greater number of VRI providers than previously thought and we should look at alternating licensing renewal periods for interpreters and VRI providers. Ms. Pierce stated the Board previously discussed it, but had not taken action yet. It would just be a very simple question of changing the wording from odd to even years so that we would have the interpreters renew one year and then the VRI providers the other year. Board Member Propp moved and Hogue seconded motion that, under VRI section of Draft two, license renewal be changed from every odd year to every even year. Motion carried with Propp, Hogue, Fitzpatrick, Lomicky, Weverka and Turk voting aye. Board Member Weverka suggested it would be a good idea to formally move and adopted the proposed draft as amended in its entirety. Board Member Weverka moved and Fitzpatrick seconded the motion that Draft Two Title 96 Chapter 1 with LB 287 edits be adopted as discussed as edited. Motion carried with Propp, Hogue, Fitzpatrick, Lomicky, Weverka and Turk voting aye.

G. Public Comments

Chairman Turk noted that there were no members of the general public present for public comment

H. Adjournment

Board Member Hogue made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 am. Fitzpatrick seconded the motion. Motion carried with Propp, Hogue, Fitzpatrick, Lomicky, Weverka and Turk voting aye.

These minutes were available for public inspection on November 13, 2015 in compliance with Nebraska Statue &84-1413 (5).