

West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Minutes
January 25, 2013

Division of Rehabilitation Services
4701 MacCorkle Ave., SE
Charleston, WV

Commission Members Present:	Commission Members Absent:	Commission Staff Present:	Visitors:	Interpreters:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marty Blakely• Pierre Sevigny• Paul See• Tammy Phillips• Angela Wilson• Annette Carey• Christina Mullins• Rachel Gill• Pam Roush• Chris Curtis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Charles Abraham• Jamie Mallory• Susan White• Claudia Mals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marissa Sanders• Kari Preslar	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connie Pitman• Rhonda Phelps• Tina Shifflett

I. Call to Order

Marty Blakely called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

II. Reading of Mission Statement and Introductions

Tammy Phillips read the Mission Statement.

III. Minutes

Minutes from the August 3, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Motion made by Annette Carey to approve the minutes. Pierre Sevigny seconded. Motion approved.

IV. Staff Report

Marissa shared highlights from the written report.

- Marissa attended the Mid-Atlantic ADA Update September 12-15 in Maryland
- Marissa conducted a "Bridging the Gap" workshop with the Division of Personnel on October 18.
- Marissa met with West Virginia Works at their request on December 4 to discuss how they can better accommodate deaf and hard of hearing clients.

V. Facebook Page

Thanks to assistance from Chris Curtis, a request has been made to MIS to establish a Facebook page for WVCDHH.

VI. Update on Hiring Project Director

- Marissa received an answer from the Director of Employee Relations in the Division of Personnel and it was determined that all Commission employees are classified exempt.

- Marissa received 19 applications for the Project Director position. All applications were scored using a 30 point scale. Marissa will likely interview the applicants that received 20 or above. There were five people in that range (three deaf are included in that five).
- Marissa has been working with Chris Curtis on developing interview questions.
- Marissa will convene an interview panel consisting of: Pat Moss, Barb King, Barry Hill, Jennifer Casto.
- After discussing the option of the new person being allowed to telecommute or not, Angie Wilson made the motion that the preference is for the person to work from the Charleston office but they could work from a field office if the best candidate is not able to move to Charleston. Pierre Sevigny seconded. Motion approved.

VII. Emergency Response Plans

- Marissa met with 911 Directors from several counties on October 16 to discuss emergency notification systems and the need to include text messaging capabilities. At this time, text messaging is not available but it is part of a federal initiative called Next Generation 911.
- Marissa will be meeting with Jerry Rhodes from the Center for Threat Preparedness within DHHR and Toby Wagner, the chair of the committee discussing ways to better communicate during an emergency on Feb. 4.

VIII. Beliefs of the Commission

Annette Carey made the motion to table this discussion until the next meeting. Seconded by Angie Wilson. Motion approved.

IX. Board Recruitment/Nominations Discussion

- Angie Wilson made the motion to renew Tammy Phillips' term. Paul See seconded. Motion approved.
- Annette Carey made the motion for Marissa to send the current nominations for new board members and renewing members to the Governor. Paul See seconded. Motion approved.

X. Interpreter Registry

- A packet was sent to interpreters in October. So far four applications have been received. Several workshops and webinars have been scheduled. Marissa met with 12 people in Wheeling on January 19.
- Jennifer Casto has been approved to be a proctor for the VQAS written exam. Since interpreters will be able to take the test in Charleston, that will eliminate the need for some of the grant money to reimburse interpreters. Marissa will make a request to DRS for some of that money to be used to pay for RID memberships.
- Following a discussion concerning what the Commission is allowed to do and not allowed to do regarding interpreters, Tammy Phillips made the motion to request Marissa to clearly state to interpreters that the Commission does not have the authority to cause interpreters to lose their jobs and to send the power point that she uses at the workshops to the board members for review. Pam Roush seconded. Motion approved.

XI. 2013 Policy Priorities

The 2013 Draft Policy Priorities were reviewed. Changes include:

- Remove the second and third bullets under "Education."

- Remove the third bullet under “Sign Language Interpreters.” Marissa will send a letter to Delegate Mary Poling requesting an update on the Department of Education’s activity on identifying sign language teachers.
- Remove the words “out-of-state” from the fifth bullet under “Sign Language Interpreters.”
- A motion was made by Annette Carey to approve the document as amended. Paul See seconded. Motion approved.

XII. Roles/Responsibilities of Executive Committee

Christina Mullins made the motion to table this discussion until the next meeting. Rachel Gill seconded. Motion approved.

XIII. Strategic Plan

- A draft Strategic Plan that Christina Mullins has been working on was reviewed. Christina made the motion that time be planned in the agenda at a future meeting to discuss the strategic plan. Christina will lead the discussion. Rachel Gill seconded. Motion approved.

XIV. Election of Chair

Angie Wilson nominated Marty Blakely to continue as the chair of WVCDHH. Christina Mullins seconded. Motion approved.

XV. Executive Session

Annette Carey made the motion to go into Executive Session and Marissa and Kari are allowed to stay. Angie Wilson seconded. Motion approved.

Annette Carey made the motion to adjourn the Executive Session. Christina Mullins seconded. Motion approved.

Tammy Phillips made the motion to approve Marissa’s secondary employment request to work part-time at Sorenson. Rachel Gill seconded. Motion approved.

XVI. Meeting Dates

- March 7 in Charleston. Begin meeting at 9 a.m. Community meeting at 6 p.m.
- May 17 in Beckley with a Community meeting in the evening.
- August in Bridgeport. Kari will send out possible dates via Meeting Wizard.

XVII. Adjournment

Paul See made the motion to adjourn. Pierre Sevigny seconded. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.