

West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Minutes
April 29, 2013

Teleconference
405 Capitol St., Suite 900
Charleston, WV

Commission Members Present:	Commission Members Absent:	Commission Staff Present:	Visitors:	Interpreters:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paul See • Angela Wilson• Annette Carey• Rachel Gill• Pam Roush• Robin Simmons (proxy for Christina Mullins)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marty Blakely • Jamie Mallory• Tammy Phillips• Chris Curtis• Susan White• Claudia Mals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marissa Sanders• Kari Preslar		

I. Call to Order

Since Marty Blakely was unable to join in the teleconference, Marissa Sanders called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

II. Reading of Mission Statement and Introductions

Annette Carey read the Mission Statement.

III. Minutes

Minutes from the January 25, 2013 meeting were reviewed. Motion made by Annette Carey to approve the minutes. Paul See seconded. Motion approved.

IV. Staff Report

Marissa shared highlights from the written report.

- Legislative Update:
 - The Hearing Aids for Kids bill died in Senate Finance. This bill would have required insurance coverage for hearing aids for children under the age of 18.
 - The Educational Interpreters bill passed. Marissa has requested a signing ceremony but has not been given a date yet.
- Update on Hiring Project Director:
 - Five candidates were interviewed on February 28. Marissa and Doug Godfrey will do second interview with four of the candidates on April 30. Due to the State hiring freeze, Marissa cannot hire anyone right now. All candidates have been informed about the freeze. Hopefully, the freeze will be lifted at the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2013.)
- Emergency Response Conference Plans

- The conference is scheduled for Saturday, June 8 at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Charleston. A keynote speaker, workshops and exhibit tables are all planned. So far 11 registrations have been received.
- Interpreter Registry
 - Marissa has held workshops in Wheeling, Clarksburg, Beckley and Charleston. One more workshop is scheduled for Saturday, May 4 in Fairmont. This one is geared for the Deaf and hard of hearing community.
 - Marissa has received several complaints from interpreters who are upset that there is no consequence for interpreters who do not choose to register.
 - Marissa will request a change order from DRS in order to use \$5,000 of the grant money to send two registered interpreters to the RID conference in August. They will need to provide a workshop for interpreters based on what they learned at the conference.
- Smoke Alarm Project
 - Nineteen applications have been received. Of these 11 were complete and have been referred; 6 were missing information and that information has been requested from the applicant; 2 applications were denied because they rent. One installation has been completed.
- Board Recruitment/Nominations
 - Nominees have not yet been appointed by the Governor.
 - Verena Mullins has been appointed to replace Chris Curtis as our ex-officio from the Secretary's office.

V. Budget

- Because of the Governor's mandate, the WVCDHH budget was cut by 7.5%, amounting to \$20,000. This cut will affect strategic planning.

VI. Facebook Page

- Marissa and Chris Curtis met with Darlene Thomas (Office of Technology) on March 29 and Darlene said that within a week she would have an answer about the process to create a Facebook page. Marissa has not heard from her. Marissa will attempt to follow up.

VII. Teleconferences

- There was discussion about the benefits and drawbacks of having a teleconference. Paul See said that it is very difficult for him due to his rural location. Annette Carey said that her office uses Arkadin and we would be welcome to try it. The general consensus is that a teleconference will only be done if it is absolutely necessary.

VIII. Next Meeting

- The next meeting is June 11 at the DRS office in Beckley with a Community Meeting that evening.

XVII. Adjournment

- Angie Wilson made the motion to adjourn. Annette Carey seconded. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m.