

West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Minutes
May 14, 2009

John XXIII Center
100 Hodges Rd., Charleston, WV

Commission Members Present:	Commission Members Absent:	Visitors:
Doug Godfrey	Pierre Sevigny	Mitchell Miller
John Knisely	Gary Vandevander	Luke Hottle
Marty Blakely	Dr. Charles Abraham	Kyle Myers
James Ennis	Annette Carey	Opal Myers
Marsha Dadisman	Pam Roush	John Burdette
Jennifer Burgess		Brandon Hall
Pat Moss	Staff:	Betty Randolph
Barbara King	Marissa Johnson, Ex. Dir.	Antonia Hall
Michael Sullivan	Roy Forman, Deputy Dir.	April Hottle
Patsy Shank	Kari Preslar, Secretary	Scott Hottle

Interpreters: Donna Whittington, Connie Pitman

I. Call to Order

Doug Godfrey called the meeting to order at 1:19 p.m.

II. Reading of the Mission Statement and Introductions

Doug Godfrey introduced the new Executive Director, Marissa Johnson. Marsha Dadisman read the mission statement.

III. Minutes

Minutes from the February 12 meeting were reviewed. Patsy Shank made the motion to approve the minutes. Marty Blakely seconded. Motion approved.

IV. Staff Report

Staff report was reviewed.

Old Business

V. Deaf Child's Bill of Rights

Following discussion, Marty Blakely made the motion to place the bill on the Commission website for a public comment period open until June 30. Barbara King seconded. Motion approved. The bill and comments will be reviewed by the DCBR sub-committee for final approval by the board at the July 30 meeting before going to the Legislature for the 2010 session.

VI. Legislative Rule

Roy Forman reported that the rule was bundled with other bills for DHHR. The Governor has signed it. Roy will be working with Bob Paulson from the Attorney General's office regarding legal aspects of the rule.

VII. DRS

Doug received a letter back from Deborah Lovely (Director, Division of Rehabilitation Services) in response to his letter to the Governor expressing concern over the closure of the Life Skills Unit. Ms. Lovely's response was that due to a lack of referrals, the Life Skills Unit will close at the end of June.

New Business

VIII. Board Update

Kari Preslar reported that we have received some nominations for the vacant parent and teacher vacancies. Nominations are still being accepted. Marsha Dadisman will assist with working with the Governor's office in order to get our vacancies filled and board members reappointed.

IX. Workshops

Kari reported on the workshops that the Commission has recently sponsored. More workshops are planned for the summer.

X. V-Blog

Marty Blakely made the motion to add a V-Blog to the Commission website. James Ennis seconded. Motion approved.

XI. Technology

Barbara King made a motion that the Commission and other representatives from state agencies work with a representative from the Office of Technology to explain the technology that state agencies need in their offices in order to effectively communicate with deaf and hard of hearing clientele (for example, IM, Sorenson, etc.). Marty Blakely seconded. Motion approved. Marsha suggested contacting Kathy Moore from the Office of Technology.

XII. Adjournment

James Ennis made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Marty Blakely seconded. Motion approved. The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.