

# West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

## Minutes

May 19, 2023

WVCDHH Office

100 Dee Drive, Charleston, West Virginia

Commission Members Present:	Commission Members Absent:	Commission Staff Present:	Public Visitors:	Interpreters:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Paul See</li><li>• John Burdette</li><li>• Nancy Gillispie</li><li>• Gwen Bryant</li><li>• Roy Forman</li><li>• Emily Hopta</li><li>• Cyndi Shaver</li><li>• Angela Wilson</li><li>• Mekell Golden</li><li>• W. Clayton Burch</li><li>• Mary Anne Clendenin</li><li>• Crystal Law (Proxy for R. Gill)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gloria Hollen</li><li>• David Blaine</li><li>• Regina Woodcock</li><li>• Dawn Embrey-King</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sarah Lowther</li><li>• Erik Essington</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scott Hottle</li><li>• Paula Forman</li><li>• Rae Bates</li><li>• April Robertson</li><li>• Keith Simmerman</li><li>• Chris Mick</li><li>• Jean Marie Suddreth</li><li>• Christina Vorreyer</li><li>• Christine Firkins</li><li>• Julie Ann Shoeman Lewis</li><li>• Lisa Rimmell</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rachel Cropper</li><li>• Tricia Kestner</li></ul>

### I. Call to Order

- Paul See called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

### II. Reading of Mission Statement and Introductions

- Roy Forman read the Mission Statement.

### III. Public Comments

- Scott Hottle
  - The WV Deaf Service Center will be having a summer camp for kids soon. The camp information, along with other events and information, is listed on the DSC Facebook page.

### IV. Minutes

The minutes from the March 8, 2023, meeting were reviewed. Nancy Gillispie made the motion to approve the minutes. Cyndi Shaver seconded. Minutes were approved.

## **V. Staff Reports**

Erik Essington and Sarah Lowther shared information from the written board report.

- Highlights included:
  - a. Four board member terms will expire on June 30, 2023. Per the Governor's office, others who are interested in serving will be considered as well as the members that are eligible for reappointment. Board applications will need to be submitted from all interested parties, including reappointments and WVAD recommendations.
  - b. WVCDHH is in the process of also becoming a Local Test Administrator for the EIPA to offer both the written and performance portions of the test.
  - c. New office computers were delivered and set up in May 2023.
  - d. The WVCDHH website and social media are updated on a regular basis.
  - e. On the WVCDHH Facebook page, we have gained 84 likes since March 2023 for a total of 1,608. There have been 1,741 page visits. The page reach is 15,951. Audience statistics - Men - 23.1% / Women - 76.9%.
  - f. Deaf Awareness Day 2024 has been reserved and will be held on February 28, 2024. The date will be during the 2024 Legislative Session. The event will take place on both the Senate and House sides of the Upper Rotunda at the Capitol in Charleston.
  - g. WVCDHH is attempting to work with various universities in the state to start a new Deaf Studies program, which will focus on deaf education and interpreting.
  - h. WVCDHH is sponsoring a two-part virtual workshop presented by Allisun Kale. The first session was held on April 15, 2023, and the second session will be held on June 10, 2023. The first session had 92 people in attendance. The second session will be more interactive, so the attendance will be capped at 25-30 people, giving preference to WV interpreters.
  - i. WVCDHH is also sponsoring a virtual interpreting workshop on June 5, 2023. The workshop will be presented by Christine Mitchell.
  - j. WVCDHH hopes to sponsor, organize, and provide more workshops for interpreters and the Deaf/Hard of Hearing community throughout the state in the near future.

## **VI. Committee/Task Force Reports**

- Executive Committee: No report.
- Nominating Committee: No report.

## **VII. Board Member Reports**

- No Reports

## **VIII. Executive Session**

- Paul See made the motion to go into Executive Session at 10:35 a.m. John Burdette seconded. The motion was approved.
- Paul See made the motion to go out of Executive Session at 10:52 p.m. Roy Forman seconded. The motion was approved.

## **IX. Future Meeting dates**

- August 10, 2023 – Charleston, WV
- November 3, 2023 – Charleston, WV
- February 29, 2024 – Charleston, WV

## **X. Adjournment**

Cyndi Shaver made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Roy Forman seconded. The motion was approved. The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.