



**Louisiana Commission for the Deaf  
SFY 2014 Regular Commission Meeting  
Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2014 - Approved**

**I. Call To Order** - Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Brandi Berkeley, Chairperson.

**A. Silent Prayer** – B. Berkeley

**B. Pledge of Allegiance** – B. Berkeley

**C. Roll Call** – Diane Anticich – A quorum of Commissioners was present.

**Commissioners present:**

Dr. Moises Arriaga      Brandi Berkeley

Deanna Hardy      Nancy Hicks

Gary Montgomery      John Vincent

Louis Cannon

Leslie Knowles

Naomi DeDual (non-voting)

John K. Davis

Dr. Lee Mendoza

**Commissioners not present:**

Rep. Regina Barrow      Dr. Nancy Benham

Sen. Yvonne Dorsey-Colomb

Brandon Burriss

Secretary Suzy Sonnier

Thelma Covello

**Commission Staff present:**

Diane Anticich, Program Manager

Elaine Scivicque, Admin. Program Specialist

**Interpreters:** Shirley Delahoussaye, Dawn Melendez, Rose Ray, Sylvie Sullivan

**II Approval of February 7, 2014 Meeting Agenda** – Motion: Dr. L. Mendoza/J. Vincent motioned to accept February 7, 2014 agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**III Approval of November 1, 2013 Meeting Minutes** – Motion: Dr. M. Arriaga/J. Vincent motioned to accept November 1, 2013 minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**IV Business Requiring Commission Action:**

**A. Old Business:**

**1. Apple Technology Project** – Motion: J. K. Davis – to assign a committee to develop parameters for pilot project. Substitute Motion: Dr. L. Mendoza/Dr. M. Arriaga – to include with above motion Mr. Vincent's summary (develop performance evaluation; develop listing of audiologists and ENTs who work with consumers) to inform committee. Motion passed unanimously.

**B. New Business:**

**1. SFY 2015 Budget** - Motion: J. Vincent/G. Montgomery - to accept the SFY 2015 Budget as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**Reports:**

**A. Officer Reports:**

**B. Berkeley, Chairperson** – no report

**J. K. Davis, Secretary** – no report



**B. Executive Director's Report – N. DeDual:** Reiterated the purpose, authority and responsibility of LCD staff and board for coordination, facilitation and/or provision of accessibility services. Also provided listing of SFY 2014 payments (mid-year) for administration, telecommunication equipment, hearing aids, and payments to contractors for professional services including equipment distribution; hearing aid administration; ASL interpreting services; and SSP services. Provided SFY 2014 mid-year performance reports of consumers served statewide through December 31, 2013. Provided SFY 2014 report for state-interpreter certification, the process which includes interpreters apply; provide notice of national (RID) certification; and provide a \$26 money order payable to LA State Police for a public safety background check. Upon receipt of background results, the LCD office then makes a determination regarding applicant's certification as a state interpreter for four years. Also notified that registration for the next four-year cycle (2014-2017) has been completed and a few applications remain pending. Also, provided resources for consumers with hearing loss; meetings with/by LCD staff; and information on ADA and Louisiana Ethics Administration (commissioners' 2013 personal financial disclosure forms (417/Tier 2.1) due to LEA by May 15, 2014).

**C. Relay Administration Board Report: N. DeDual –** Notified as to recent Federal Communication Commission (FCC) activities including adoption of Text-to-911 policy by nation's four largest wireless carriers. Also notified the FCC has issued a 2<sup>nd</sup> notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) for comments on proposed year-end timeframe and implementation aspects, relating to technical ability of 'interconnected' text providers to comply with text-to-911 mandate as well as longer term text-to-911 issues (i.e. bounce-back messages).

**D. Commissioner Reports:**

**LRID – L. Knowles –** Since the Fall conference, a transition team met and the incoming President, Alvina Malcolm, has submitted an application to Boards & Commissions and will serve on the LCD at the next meeting. LRID recently began a new initiative – Interpreter Mingles – an opportunity for interpreters to pursue continuing education units (CEUs) and share ideas/updates. February 22, 2014 in Baton Rouge will be the next interpreter mingles session. Also, the 2015 Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) national conference will be hosted in New Orleans.

**Parent – B. Berkeley –** no report

**Parent – D. Hardy –** no report

**Professional Rep – Dr. Moises Arriaga –** I would like to see development of a database of professionals (physicians and audiologists) and organizations that serve persons with hearing loss, so as to build a clearinghouse or network to share information such as the many innovative technological advances (e.g. middle-ear implantable hearing aids, hybrid cochlear implants).

**Rep w/ Hearing Loss – Jack Vincent –** no report

**LAD – L. Cannon –** I have resigned from LAD; and another representative will be assigned to LCD.

**Deaf – J.K. Davis –** no report





**E. State Agency Reports:**

**DHH – Dr. L. Mendoza** – Two DHH personnel are recipients of the prestigious Dunbar Award – Diane Batts, Medicaid Assistant Director and Hugh Eley, Assistant Secretary, Office of Aging and Adult Services. Both are commended for their career public service to the State of Louisiana.

**DOE – Nancy Hicks** - This Spring, the DOE will begin a pilot project to initiate access points for students with hearing loss. In the Spring 2015, a new statewide assessment will be initiated for grades 3-11. The DOE conducts assessment of educational interpreters. Distance learning pilot project.

**LRS/VR – G. Montgomery** – A state team composed of Dr. Benham, Gary Montgomery, Naomi DeDual, Carol Thibodeaux (VR), and Dr. Kate Reynolds (UNO deaf education program) is serving to identify available resources and build capacity in Louisiana for transition students from high school to post-secondary. A meeting was held last week with state teams throughout the nation. Louisiana Rehabilitation Services continues to serve only persons in Order of Selection Group 1 – Most Significantly Disabled. A recent change to the technical guidance manual was removal of the criteria of a minimum decibel hearing loss (54db) for determination of Most Significantly Disabled. In December, training was conducted with state VR specialists for deafness/hearing loss to enhance service delivery for consumers, particularly those with deafness and hearing loss.

**F. Legislator Reports:**

None

**VI Date, Time, Place of Next Commission Meeting – May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – 10 AM – Rm. 118 - Bienville**

<b>E. Persons Requesting to Address the Board:</b>	Kenneth David	Philomena Wolfe
	Jackie Broussard	Alvina Malcolm
		Michelli LeFors

**VII Adjournment** –motioned to adjourn at 12:20 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Draft of minutes prepared 02/24/14

John K. Davis 8.25.2014  
Recorder **SECRETARY** Date

Minutes corrected on \_\_\_\_\_  
[Signature]  
Secretary **Recorder** 8/25/14  
Date

c. LCD master file; LCD Board Members; LCD Staff