



**Louisiana Commission for the Deaf
SFY 17 Regular Commission Meeting
Meeting Minutes of September 29th, 2017**

I. Call to Order – Meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Pauline Wood, Chairperson.

A. Invocation/Silent Prayer

B. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Dan Arabie

C. Roll Call – Ashley Poche – a quorum of Commissioners was present (10).

Commissioners Present:

Dr. Moses Arriaga	Jimmy Gore	Jay Isch	Mark Martin
Kevin Monk	Rana Ottallah	Jeri Pilk(DE)	Pauline Wood
Jack Vincent	Melodie Sparks (L)		

Commissioners Not Present:

Dr. Donna Allman	Sen. Yvonne Colomb	Katie Potier	Nanette Oliver
Dr. Lee Mendoza	Rep. Patricia Smith	Candice LeBlanc	

LCD Staff: Amy Zapata Ashley Poche Robin Edwards

Interpreters:

Shirley Delahoussaye Laura Sicignano Malachi Mooney Daniel Burch

Captionist: Stephanie Vallet

II. Approval of Sept.29th, 2017 Meeting Agenda – J. Vincent/M. Martin, as amended

Motion: J. Isch/J. Gore – Hold off discussion on Hearing Aid Restoration Budget until next meeting

Put to a vote – motion failed (2Y/5N/1A)

Motion: J. Isch/J. Pilk – Remove Emergency Preparedness from Agenda, replace with Interpreter Crisis (policies for Hospitals/VRI), put to vote – motion carries (8Y/0N)

III. Approval of Aug. 4th, 2017 Meeting Minutes – J. Vincent/K. Monk, as amended

J. Isch – LAD Conference 50, should be 50th. Put to vote – motion carries (8/0)

IV. Public Comment

I. Dan Arabie – SSP Program

II. Dan Arabie – HoH/Blind not included into SSP

III. Dan Arabie – Deaf/Blind Board Member

IV. Cathy Miller - SSP services for HoH/Blind

VI. Melinda Granger – ER issues with VRI/No Interpreter

VII. Lisa Potter – Emergency Preparedness, introduce Jeff Meyer

VIII. Blaise Perry – No VRI in Hospitals

X. Kim LeCour (Governor's Office) – Deaf Awareness Week, proclamation presented to Jay Isch/Jimmy Gore



V. Welcoming Remarks

I. Amy Zapata – Acting Director Presentation

Planning Workgroups

Motion: J. Pilk/R. Ottallah - Establish Telecommunications Workgroup

Amended Motion: M. Sparks/J. Gore - one meeting in Baton Rouge and one in New Orleans or by electronic means,

Put to a vote – motion carries (9Y/0N/1A)

VI. Business Requiring Commission Action

A. Old Business

I. Legislation Update

II. Restoration of Hearing Aid Budget

B. New Business

I. Interpreter Crisis

Motion: J. Vincent/R. Ottallah – Acting Director write a letter to the Hospital Association and to any special hospital with the problems identified today or in the future regarding what obligations are under ADA and any other existing laws.

Put to a vote – motion carries (9Y/0N)

Motion: J. Isch/J. Gore – Meeting with LDH and All Hospital Administrators and coordinators to talk about the Interpreting situation and VRI issues. Put to a vote – motion carries (5Y/4N)

II. ABLE Act – Presentation – Vincenzo Pasquantonio

III. Deaf/Deaf-Blind Nursing Home in Southwest Louisiana

Motion: J. Vincent/M. Arriaga – Acting Director send a letter to all Louisiana Nursing Home Operators, urging them to consider the creation of a full or partial facility for Deaf/Deaf-Blind individuals requiring assisted living or retirement facility needs, put to a vote – motion carries (7Y/0N/1A)

V. Business for Information Purpose/Reports

A. Officer' Reports

Chair, Pauline Wood – No Report

Vice Chair, Jimmy Gore – No report

Secretary, Jack Vincent – No Report

B. Director's Report – N/A

C. Relay Administration Board Report, Pauline Wood – Golden, CO for NASRA

D. Legislators Reports, Rep. P. Smith/Sen. Y. Colomb – Not Present

E. Commissioners' Reports –

Jay Isch – Deaf Focus – Eat/Drink/Sign! At Pelican House, Oct. 24th, ASL Performance by Ian Sanborn from San Francisco, CA.

BESSE Board Meeting Oct. 18th, 9 am at the Claiborne Building

Rana Ottalah – Hands and Voices, Oct. 14th

Jimmy Gore – No Report

Jeri Pilk – Not Present



Katie Potier – Not Present

Melodie Sparks – No Report

Pauline Wood – LAD meeting tomorrow (Sept. 30)

Dr. M. Arriaga – Push for the Federal Government to make it easier to purchase hearing aids without going through a physician

Dr. D. Alleman – Not Present

Candice LeBlanc – Not Present

Nanette Oliver – Not Present

Mark Martin – October is Disability Awareness Month, LRS will be holding a Job Fair across the state in the month of October in conjunction with Louisiana Workforce Commission and Louisiana Rehabilitation Services. Lafayette, Heymann Convention Center Oct. 10th, Lake Charles, Lake Charles Civic Center Oct. 12th, New Orleans, Xavier University Oct. 16th, Baton Rouge, Perkins Rowe Oct. 18th, and Shreveport, Wyndham Garden Inn Oct. 31st. Disability Council Employment Convention, Oct 9th at the Crown Plaza, Baton Rouge.

Dr. L. Mendoza – Not Present

K. Monk – Since last month LRS has taken another thousand people off of the waiting list and hopefully will soon be able to open up category 1 and start helping everyone in category 1

VI. Date, Time, and Place of Next Commission Meeting –

Nov 17th, 2017 from 9 am – 1 pm, Bienville Building

VII. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm.

Draft of minutes prepared 09/15/2017.

Minutes corrected on _____.

Recorder

Date

Secretary

Date