



MINUTES

JUNE 2, 2016

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

THE INDEPENDENCE CENTER
729 S. TEJON STREET
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80903

MEETING CALLED BY	Kirk Neuroth, Commission Chair, at 4:20 pm
TYPE OF MEETING	Quarterly Commission Meeting
COMMISSIONERS	Kirk Neuroth, Commission Chair, Auxiliary Service Provider Mary Pat Graham-Kelly, Vice Chair and Deaf Member Amy Beckett, Secretary and Public Member Liz Konkel, Professional in the field of deafness Lucas Marquardt, Hard of Hearing Member Leslie Ralphe, Late-Deafened Member Lisa Weiss, Parent of a deaf or hard-of-hearing person (attending remotely)
INTERPRETERS/CART	Interpreters: Lori Dowds Tricia Frank, Candace Stuck CART: Claudette Mondragon
CCDHH STAFF	Cliff Moers, Administrator; Cheri Davis, Legal Auxiliary Services Manager; Mandy Turner, Auxiliary Services Coordinator; Timothy Chevalier, Outreach and Consultative Services Manager; JoAnne Hirsch, Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program Coordinator; Candice Alder, Outreach Consultant

Agenda topics

1. INTRODUCTIONS & 2. HOUSEKEEPING

DISCUSSION		
Welcome:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Neuroth called the meeting at 4:20 p.m. and thanked the Independence Center for hosting the meeting and auxiliary service providers. He announced the meeting rules. When speaking, please stand and state your name, then speak or sign your comment or question. As a reminder, the format of the meetings has changed; Commissioners can make motions at any time throughout the meeting. After the regular meeting there will be a Community Forum. The speaker is Erica McKiever, Newborn Hearing Screening Program Supervisor, Department of Public Health and Environment 		
Introductions and Roll Call		
Approval of Agenda		
Approval of Minutes		
DECISIONS		
Agenda and Minutes approved		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Chair Neuroth asked the Commissioners to provide feedback for the new meeting format.	Commissioners	As needed

3. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON UPDATES

CHAIRPERSONS AND LIAISONS

DISCUSSION	Legal Auxiliary Services Advisory Council (LASAC), Matthew Ruggles Chair
Cheri Davis made the report. She stated that the rule review for the LASAC was to start about a month ago. The rules are out of date. However, the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) is no longer providing the legal examination for certification. This situation impacts the rules that are under review. Therefore, the rules review period will have to be extended to allow for the decisions to be made by RID.	
The council has four positions available on the Advisory Committee: Representative for the deaf community,	

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Representative for the hard of hearing community, and two legal interpreter representatives. Ms. Davis asked attendees to help spread the word about recruiting for the positions. Terms are for two years, limited to two terms. The Council meets two times per year, with email communication as needed. The Council would like to recruit positions outside the Denver Metro area.

Special recognition and thanks was given to Vickie Pacheco, whose second term is expiring.

DECISIONS

None at this time.

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE

None at this time.

DISCUSSION

Bylaws Committee Report, Amy Beckett, Commissioner

No report at this time. Bylaws are up to date.

DECISIONS

None

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE

None

DISCUSSION

Nominating Committee, Lisa Weiss, Commissioner

Lisa Weiss reported that four commissioners have been nominated to replace the following out-going commissioners.

- Amy Beckett, Public Member, replacing with Deaf-Blind Member
- Liz Konkell, Professional in the field of deafness
- Leslie Ralph, Late-Deafened Member
- Lisa Weiss, Parent of a deaf or hard-of-hearing person

Commissioners Weiss, Graham-Kelly and Marquardt completed the interviews, made the selections, and submitted the recommendations to the Governor's office for appointment.

Commissioner Neuroth recognized and thanked outgoing commissioners Liz Konkell and Lisa Weiss for serving for 4 years, and Leslie Ralph for serving for 8 years. She also served in the role as Secretary and on several committees. Cake will be served during the break.

DECISIONS

None at this time. Awaiting Governor appointments.

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE

None at this time.

DISCUSSION

Grant Report, Cliff Moers, Administrator

Cliff Moers reported that the grant applications were sent out in May this year to encourage more applicants. He noted that the Grant Program was formally recognized by the legislature in 2009.

Grant projects typically ends on June 30. This year the reporting will be due August 31 to give to allow the grant recipients time to conclude the grant and complete the reports. The Committee has allowed an extension of the grant project for the Mental Health Center of Denver. They require a deaf Mental Health First Aid trainer whose certificate has not been renewed and they are working to have two individuals complete their certification. Administrator Moers will share the grant reports from the recipients with the Commissioners through e-mail.

There are five members on the Grant Committee, with two terms expiring. The term for Shirley Gssel, deaf representative, has expired and a replacement is needed. Stephen Wallin's term has also expired; a replacement has been found and will be announced when it is official.

DECISIONS

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None		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None at this time		

DISCUSSION	Deaf Education Liaison Report, Lisa Weiss, Commissioner	
	Cliff Moers gave an update. At the Commissioner’s meeting in March we had a motion to follow up with the original stakeholders of the Seven Agreements (Rocky Mountain Deaf School, Colorado Association of the Deaf, and Hand and Voices). Before we could make formal contact, Sara Kennedy from Hand and Voices told Cliff Moers that Hand and Voices had arranged a meeting with Senator Pat Steadman who is on the Joint Budget Committee.	
	Senator Steadman asked for a proposal of \$300,000 to focus on the deaf education system. Rocky Mountain Deaf School, Colorado Association for the Deaf, and Hand and Voices came up with a plan for a full-time coordinator with an assistant as well as family support services for parents with deaf children. The intent was to include this with the Disabled Telephone Users Fund; JBC did not consider it.	
	The stakeholders want to continue the work to establish a coalition to make changes in the system. The CCDHH Administrative Office will include this effort in the annual report to the legislature.	
DECISIONS		
	None	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Include this item in the annual report to the legislature.	Cliff Moers	By report due date

DISCUSSION	Deaf-Blind Task Force, Mary Pat Graham-Kelly, Commissioner	
	On May 4, the Governor signed the bill House Bill 16-1414 into law (Funding Base For Telecom Relay Services). The bill provides \$178,778 annually for two positions in the Commission: a Deaf-Blind Outreach Consultant and a Coordinator of Deaf-Blind Services for the Support Service Providers, or SSPs, and Orientation and Mobility program.	
	Congratulations were expressed to the Deaf-Blind Task Force for being able to get this bill passed into law after they formed the Task Force more than three years ago.	
DECISIONS		
	None	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None		

4. INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENT WITH CDLE & STATE AGENCY AUXILIARY SERVICES UPDATE

CHERI DAVIS & CLIFF MOERS

DISCUSSION	
	<p>Inter-Agency Agreement with Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o CDLE had a complaint filed against them for not providing interpreter services. Because the CCDHH has the infrastructure in place to provide these services, the CDLE has asked to contract with CCDHH to provide the services and the CDLE will reimburse CCDHH. o However, CCDHH/Department of Human Services does not have the authority to approve this arrangement. o This is under discussion with hope that a cooperative agreement can be made between the CLDE and CCDHH. o This arrangement can also be made for other state agencies, allowing for cost savings in the state. <p>Survey to all State Agency employees regarding their understanding of providing auxiliary services for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind individuals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The survey has been under development for several months and is almost ready to submit. The focus of



the survey is about providing services to state agencies in the Executive Branch.

- o Cliff Moers and Cheri Davis have been making presentations about the survey to various state agencies contacts including Public Information Officers, Deputy Executive Directors, and Human Resource directors. They are also working with the DHS ADA Coordinator. The presentations are to underscore the importance of the survey and have the leaders of the agencies encourage their staff to complete the survey.
- o The plan is to send the survey to state agency employees in July. Prior to sending the survey, a one-page announcement will be sent to the groups previously contacted as a reminder about the survey.
- o The results of the survey will be compiled and the data will be used to document support for the need for the possibility of centralizing axillary services.

DECISIONS		
Spark Institute has been contracted to perform a test of the survey and will be requesting feedback.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Spark Institute will contact the Commissioners for their suggestions and support of the survey.	Spark Institute and Commissioners	Before Survey is submitted

5. AMENDMENT TO THE CCDHH STATUE

CLIFF MOERS

DISCUSSION	Review of the amended statute dated May 27, 2016	
The Commissioners discussed some of the changes to the amendment from the version of February 24, 2016. In general the Commissioners approved the newly revised version.		
There was an extended discussion regarding Section 26-21-106: Powers, functions, and duties of the Colorado Commission of the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf-Blind, Item 10C. The discussion centered on one-on-one system navigation services. If passed, this provision could inundate the Commission with requests from individuals and without proper funding could overwhelm the Commission.		
DECISIONS		
A motion was made to accept the revised statue with revised wording for Item 10C to be, "Community Access Program involves: (C) Advocacy Services for individuals who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind, and Hard of Hearing who encounter barriers in obtaining access to programs, activities or services." The motion passed.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Present the revisions to the DHS for presenting as a bill in January 2017	Cliff Moers	November 1, 2016

6. INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR HEARING AIDS

CANDICE ALDER

DISCUSSION	Update on new initiative regarding insurance coverage for hearing aids	
Due to time constraints, this topic is postponed to the September meeting.		
DECISIONS		
None at this time.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None		

7. ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSMEBLY

CLIFF MOERS

DISCUSSION	High level review of information that will be included in the annual report the general assembly and the Governor's office. Annual report is submitted in September.	
Topics that are currently planned for the report:		
1.	Amendment to CCDHH statute	
2.	Auxiliary services for state agencies, including state employee survey results	
3.	Deaf Education Advancement & Partnerships Coalition	

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4. Communication Access Fund to provide services for access in legal settings
5. Rehabilitation Counselor for the Deaf Coordinator position
6. Update on ASL standards and guidelines work for ASL instructors

DECISIONS		
Administrator Moers will send a draft of the report to the Commissioners for their review. He asked the Commissioners to let him know if there is any other information that should be included.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Create draft of annual report and send to Commissioners	Cliff Moers	By due date

8. OFFICER ELECTIONS

KIRK NEUROTH

DISCUSSION	Election of officers	
Nominations from the floor for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary		
Commissioner Ralphe nominated the current slate of officers to continue in their current officer positions: Kirk Neuroth, Chair Mary Pat Graham-Kelly, Vice Chair Amy Beckett, Secretary (assuming she is reappointed to the Commission)		
DECISIONS		
Nominations voted and passed		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Current slate of officers will continue for another two years.		

9. SUSAN J. ELLIOTT AWARD

MARY PAT GRAHAM-KELLY

DISCUSSION	Presentation of the Susan J. Elliot Award	
The award was presented to the Independence Center of Colorado Springs. This agency has performed a lot of work to serve the deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind individuals. Special recognition went to: Billy Allen, Board Chair for The Independence Center Angela Tenorio, Coordinator for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Department Matthew Ruggles, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Specialist		
Billy Allen and Angela Tenorio were on hand to accept the award.		
DECISIONS		
None		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None		

11. WRAP-UP (PUBLIC COMMENTS INCLUDED)

DISCUSSION	
None	

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Beckett