

Interpreter Review Board Meeting  
May 13, 2011  
1:00pm-3:00pm  
4600 Valley Rd  
Conference Room 4A

**A. Call to Order:**

The meeting of the Nebraska Interpreter Review Board was called to order by Chairperson Woodhead at 1:05pm in the Conference Room 4A in Lincoln, NE.

**Board Members present:** Ms. Barb Woodhead (Chair), Mr. Gary Theiler (Vice-Chair), Ms. Tami Richardson-Nelson, Ms. Kelly Brakenhoff, Mr. David Montgomery, Mr. Bob Deaton, Dr. Peter Seiler,

**Absent:** Ms. Vicki Steinhauer-Campbell

**Interpreters:** Ms. Lorelei Waldron and Ms. Margie Propp

**Public attendees:** None

**Staff:** Ms. Traci Cooney, Mr. Ben Sparks

**B. Approval of Agenda:**

**Motion to approve agenda as is.**

**[Ms. Tami Richardson-Nelson/Ms. Kelly Brakenhoff/Motion passed]**

- a. Add under old business – progress on investigation process
  - i. All voted yes, Ms. Vicki Steinhauer-Campbell absent.

**C. Approval of minutes:**

**Motion to approve minutes as corrected.**

**[Ms. Tami Richardson-Nelson/Mr. David Montgomery/Motion passed]**

- a. Date of meeting needs changed to 2011 and Interpreter's present change to Ms. Lorelei Waldron and Ms. Margie Propp
  - i. All voted yes, Ms. Vicki Steinhauer-Campbell absent.

**D. Public Comments – None**

**E. Chairperson's Report**

- a. Ms. Woodhead asked Dr. Seiler to provide an update on the Kansas QAST. Dr. Seiler discussed that Kansas will no longer offer the QAST testing tool after 2015. Nebraska will need to decide what direction to take as to what testing tool will be used, if any, in Nebraska. Dr. Seiler brought up the idea of a group of members traveling to Texas to learn about their BEI testing tool and then contacting Michigan to see how they view the Texas testing tool.

Ms. Woodhead asked if this is a topic for Interpreter Review Board or Full Commission Board. Mr. Montgomery stated that the Full Commission Board is who has the authority to make decisions and Interpreter Review Board can provide recommendations or feedback. Dr. Seiler feels that the Full Commission Board will ask what the Interpreter Review Board recommends. Ms. Brakenhoff recommended that someone from the Interpreter Issues Committee research and decide how certification levels compare in Texas and Kansas and then the Interpreter Review Board look over those results. Discussion ensued regarding the ending of QAST in Kansas.

Ms. Richardson-Nelson recommended that the Full Commission Board create a task force consisting of different members of the community who would be affected by the QAST tool and research what they thought would be the best action to take. Ms. Woodhead mentioned to have the meeting in Nebraska and invite Texas BEI administrators and RID administrators in order to save money and allow everyone in one place. It was further suggested that the BEI staff and the RID staff present the information in an open meeting to allow interpreters and members of the community to attend.

**Motion – recommend NCDHH Full Board to establish a task force to determine how we will license interpreters in the future and examine some state assessment tools. The task force should include at least 2 representatives from each of the following: Interpreter Review Board, Interpreter Issues Committee, Nebraska RID, Nebraska Association of the Deaf, Deaf/Blind Community, Oral/Deaf Community. The task force will be able to add members at their discretion.**

**[Ms. Tami Richardson-Nelson/Ms. Kelly Brakenhoff/Motion passed/Ms. Vicki Steinhauer-Campbell-absent]**

## **F. Old Business**

- a. Update on LB 39
  - i. Dr. Seiler provided an update on the latest language request from Nebraska Department of Education. Discussion ensued regarding the language request and information received from Nebraska Department of Education.

**Motion to recommend to NCDHH Full Board that the current proposal from Nebraska Department of Education be rejected.**

**[Ms. Kelly Brakenhoff/Ms. Tami Richardson-Nelson/Motion passed/Mr. David Montgomery-abstain]**

- b. Progress on Investigation Process
  - i. Dr. Seiler stated that during the previous investigations regarding complaints against an interpreter, both investigations are finished

as no parties wanted to make it a formal complaint. Mr. Sparks thanked Mr. David Montgomery for his assistance and direction on how to handle complaints.

Ms. Woodhead asked if Dr. Seiler and Mr. Sparks had registered for investigator training. Dr. Seiler responded no.

**G. New Business - NONE**

**H. Public Comments – NONE**

**I. Announcements**

- a. Dr. Seiler stated that there is an RID Certified Oral Interpreter in Iowa. Mr. Sparks has been discussing with this interpreter on the possibility of providing a training session to interpreters in Nebraska on how to provide oral interpretation.
- b. Mr. Bob Deaton announced that there will be a public event on June 4, 2011 at the Pedestrian Bridge that connects Omaha and Council Bluffs. The Nebraskan and Iowan Deaf-Blind individuals will meet in the middle and then go to the Iowa side for a picnic. This event will recognize Helen Keller Day and also be a lead-in for the Deaf/Blind awareness week shortly after. (June 7<sup>th</sup>)

**J. Next Meeting**

- a. August 5, 2011

Meeting adjourned 2:39pm