**Louisiana Commission for the Deaf**

**SFY 20 Regular Commission Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes of September 25th, 2019**

**I. Call to Order –** Meeting was called to order at 9:14 am by Jimmy Gore, Chairperson. Commissioner J. Isch made a motion to postpone until 9:30am. Iva Tullier seconds motion.

**A. Invocation/Silent Prayer**

**B. Pledge of Allegiance** – Led by Dan Arabie

**C. Roll Call** – Nathan Vitale – a quorum of Commissioners was present (10).

**Commissioners Present:**

Dr. Lee Mendoza Jimmy Gore Jay Isch

Kevin Monk Iva Tullier Rebecca Beard

Candice LeBlanc Ernest Garrett Ariel Bumbala

**Commissioners Not Present:**

Sen. Yvonne Colomb Darlene Austin Melissa Bayham

Richie Fraychineaud Rep. Patricia Smith Lisa Potter

**LCD Staff:** Ariel Bumbala Jana Broussard Nathan Vitale

**Interpreters:**

Michael Royer Laura Sicignano Elisabeth Gill Donavan Williams

**Captionist:** Evangeline Langston

**II. Approval of Sept.25th, 2019 Meeting Agenda** – J. Isch/E. Garrett

**III. Approval of June 13th, 2019 Meeting Minutes** – None opposed

**IV. Public Comment**

**I. Dan Arabie –** SSP Program, Deaf Blind Board member/commissioner

**V. Welcoming Remarks**

**I. Special Guest –** Nicholas Boudreaux from state treasury’s office.

A. Spreadsheet providing the budget spending was provided. Talked about the confusion with the prior projected 4.7 million dollar budget. FY19 $3.4 million dollars collected from the telecommunication tax and $2.1 million of that budget was spent. Based on what is left over the current year balance is $2.9 million. Legislature set a 2.7 million dollar budget for FY20

**VI. Business Requiring Commission Action**

**I**. **Nominations for chair, vice chair and secretary –** J. Gore- J. Isch – nominates E. Garrett for Chair/ E. Garrett accepts. J. Isch nominates J. Gore for Vice Chair – J.Gore accepts J. Isch makes motion to postpone election for secretary to next meeting, I. Tullier seconds motion.

**A. Old Business**

**I**. **Emergency Alert Services**-Commissioner J. Isch recommends an emergency preparedness committee to approach necessary people; Seconds by Dr. Mendoza

**II. Website report – Andrea Outhuse from Bureau of Family Health Communications Enrichment Team.**

1. Talked about the progress and the changes of the LCD website as well as plans for the future of the webpage.  **-** Commissioner J. Isch suggests including subtitles for all videos as well.

**B. New Business**

**I. Louisiana Interactive presentation -** Louisiana's digital government partner- mission statement as a company is to make government more accessible to everyone through technology**.**

**a.** Created a fully custom program to house all consumer records, equipment inventory, applications for assistance, and history of all services provided in a modern framework. Potential add – on QR code for SSP services. -Commissioner J.Isch brings up accessibility concerns;

**II. LCD Legislation**- J. Isch moves to open a discussion regarding relegislating LCD and moving LCD under Governor’s office. Iva seconds. - J. Isch moved to create a committee for relegislation for LCD; C. Leblanc seconds.

c. J. Isch motions to set up a committee to look into relegislation of LCD and perhaps relocation of LCD. R. Beard seconds. Open for discussion with no response; J. Isch motions to close vote- one opposition, motion carries

**V. Business for Information Purpose/Reports**

**B. Director’s Report** –Total need for services is estimated at $642,000 based on 77 consumers, with an additional amount added for potential consumers. The law requires contracts to cap at $250,000 or must move to Request for Proposal (RFP).

a. Talked about the importance of tracking the SSP in order to make an accurate RFP. – Director Bumbala stated LCD is encouraging DB to communicate what their needs are. LCD must document these requests to justify further services in the future. They need further access. By filing out this form it is similar to a needs assessment to state how many hours are needed and why.

**C. Relay Administration Board Report**– Ashley Poche resigned

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

**E. Commissioners’ Reports** –

**Jay Isch** – EHDI advisory committee, pleased with handouts parents are receiving, pleased with progress and terminology. Deaf Focus celebrates 10 years October 5 with a gala. J. Isch mentions a free workshop with Jonathon Webb, encourages all to attend.•J. Isch reports he will be attending the National Association for the Deaf (NAD) Leadership conference in Arkansas Oct 17-20. Also reports he recently became president of Lafayette Athletic Association for the Deaf (LAAD) in Lafayette, Louisiana. Looks forward to serving the community

**Jimmy Gore –** with LAD- LAD donated to LRID- LAD looks forward to working with Louisiana registry of Interpreter for the Deaf and their upcoming conference

**Dr. L. Mendoza** – Report on Hepatitis C; Kills more people than all infectious diseases combined; It is treatable and curable; LDH goal is to cure 10,000 people by end of 2020, and 39,000 people by end of 2024. These are people how are both in Medicaid and people who are incarcerated. Second, Opioids have killed 450 people last year in La. 2014 to 2018, 700,000 people died of a drug overdose in the United States. So Louisiana just released its opioid action plan. It's our plan to treat addiction and to prevent overdose deaths in Louisiana. This combines surveillance, prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery all in one package. We just had our first opioid and drug overdose Summit two weeks ago in Slidell. We had over 500 people attend and the governor came and spoke. People from all over the community, both physicians, treatment personnel, and people who are suffering from addiction and are in recovery attended, and it was a great way to get folks from all over the spectrum together to discuss how to conquer this epidemic.

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

Nov 22nd,2019 from 9 am – 1 pm, Bienville Building

**VII. Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 11:10 pm.

Draft of minutes prepared 09/15/2017. Minutes corrected on .

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Recorder Date Secretary Date