



Louisiana Commission for the Deaf
SFY 11 Regular Commission Meeting
Meeting Minutes of December 10, 2010

I. Call To Order - The meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM by Brandi Berkeley, Chair.

- A. Invocation – Brandi Berkeley
- B. Pledge of Allegiance – Brandi Berkeley
- C. Roll Call – Diane Anticich

Commissioners present:

Darlene Austin Brandi Berkeley Myron Berzas Brandon Burris
Thelma Covello Elizabeth Deshotel Maegan Guilbeau Dr. Monita Hara
Deanna Hardy Carolyn Jarrels Pauline Wood

Commissioners not present:

John K. Davis Senator Y. Dorsey Rep. Kay Katz Joyce Russo
Danny Theaux Kenneth York

Non-voting Commission Member present:

Naomi DeDual, Executive Director

Commission Staff present:

Diane Anticich, Program Coordinator
Elaine Scivicque, Admin. Program Specialist A

Interpreters: Gayle Burnett, Melissa Hines; Captionist: Lacy Hebert

D. Opening remarks: None

E. Persons Requesting to Address the Board: None

II Approval of Agenda - Motion: T. Covello/P. Wood/D. moved to accept the meeting agenda. Passed

III Approval of Minutes - Motion: B. Burris/M. Berzas moved to accept the meeting minutes of the April 30, 2010 meeting. Passed

IV Business for Informational Purposes

A. Officer's Reports: none

B. Executive Director Report: Naomi DeDual – provided information on SFY 2010 4th quarter budget; 1st quarter of SFY 2011; 7/10 balance of LCD trust; list of current LCD Commissioners; reported on 4th quarter-SFY 2010 and 1st quarter-SFY 2011 totals for state-interpreter certification; qualifications for state certification; provided 4th quarter- SFY 2010 and 1st quarter-SFY 2011 performance reports of consumers served statewide including SSP services; advised that 480 CapTel phones have been purchased and CapTel Relay Services are being provided at a rate of 150 words per minute with over 99% accuracy; and that approximately 15,000 minutes of CapTel Relay Service are being used each month; briefly highlighted the list of statewide resources for consumers with hearing loss and provided an update on the transfer from DSS to DHH; informed of the Consumer Satisfaction Survey and SFY 2010 results – 96%; presented information on an advocacy training session this past summer and various meetings and presentations by LCD Director and staff; presented on the 21st Century Communication and Video Accessibility Act, recently signed into law.

C. Relay Administration Board Report: Thelma Covello – provided additional details regarding the 21st Century Communication Act and how this will affect Relay services nationwide – enhancing captioning availability and providing greater inclusion for persons who are deaf-blind; also advised the next RAB meeting will be in February.

D. Commissioner Reports:

D. Austin/LRID – The LRID conference held in October had 100+ participants; discussion continues about a licensure board.

B. Burris/GODA – Tuesday, the Annual Governor's Leadership Awards ceremony was held at the Old State Capitol. The Secretary of State and other elected officials presented awards. State budget cuts resulted in loss of a GODA staff position which reduces number of staff to 3; a rate cut of 2% for the Early Steps program; and a 10% cut for the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities. GODA also has ~300 open constituent cases.

T. Covello – None

E. Deshotel – she has been advised of some interpreters having difficulty receiving payment from physician offices (Medicaid providers); and provided details to LCD staff for follow-up.

D. Hardy – None

P. Wood (LAD) – LRID meeting was productive and there was a good discussion on Video Remote Interpreting – many people don't like VRI for assignments like emergency room visits. It's impersonal, hard to see two-dimensional signs; problematic. In June, the LA Association of the Deaf will hold their biennial conference in Alexandria. Also, LAD is conducting a membership drive.

M. Berzas (DCFS) – DCFS has conducted a reorganization/office consolidation. The food stamp program is now called SNAP; there are subsidy programs for phone assistance; and the child support enforcement program...

M. Guilbeau (DHH) – Hearing screenings are provided through DHH Early Steps program. Audiology services are also provided through the Children's Special Health Services program which serves ages 0-21 (mostly Medicaid patients).

Dr. M. Hara (LSD) – The School for the Deaf is active and vibrant. Early intervention services are engaged; and LSD offers advanced technologies (Smart Boards) to facilitate education of their visual learners. The Mason/Dixon basketball tournament being held this weekend in Arkansas may be watched online at www.arschoolforthe deaf.org Both boys and girls games will be online as well as cheerleading competitions. LSD is working on collaborations with Gallaudet for video streaming as well as for PTO meetings with parents of LSD students. A cooperative agreement is being developed with LA Technical College-BR to offer vocational training in culinary arts, graphic arts, welding, etc. Over ½ of the graduating seniors at LSD are qualifying for TOPS awards. LSD is establishing an ASL Virtual School which will offer 2 years of credit for ASL. ASL is the fourth most-used language in the U.S. – it's a great job skill; Gallaudet is offering an Academic Bowl; RIT is conducting a large science fair; and LSD is preparing an ORM holiday program. LSD is actively engaging with the Council of American Instructors for the Deaf www.ceasd.org. LSD recently hired ten new Deaf professionals and is working hard to recruit more highly-qualified professionals who are skilled in both ASL and English for academic positions at LSD. Tomorrow at 2 PM in the LSD auditorium, the film, Black Sand, which has deaf actors and is in ASL, will be presented. On 12/17, LSD will hold their holiday program at 9:30 – please come. LSD is working with LSVI to improve services on campus and their motto is "In Journey Together". Information is available on their website at <http://www.lalsd.org>

C. Jarrells (LWC) – none

V Business Requiring Commission Action

A. Old Business –

1. Television captioning – D. Austin/P. Woods moved to delete this item from the agenda. Passed
2. SB 6, 7, 623, and HB 1198, and 626 – B. Burris/T. Covello moved to delete this item from the agenda. Passed
3. LCD SFY 2011 budget – P. Wood/D. Austin moved to delete this item from the agenda. Passed

B. New Business –

1. LCD SFY 2012 budget – B. Burriss/D. Austin moved to accept the LCD SFY 2012 budget as presented. Passed

2. R.S. 47-1061 – expansion – M. Berzas/M. Hara/P. Wood moved to accept draft revisions of L.R.S. 47-1061 (revise from \$.05 to \$.04 and include wireless, pagers, and long distance) and submit for legislative consideration. Passed – one abstention.

3. Election of new officers – B. Burriss/P. Wood moved to nominate and accept B. Berkeley as Chair. Passed; T. Covello/D. Austin moved to nominate and accept T. Covello as Vice-chair. Passed; B. Burriss/D. Hardy moved to nominate and accept John K. Davis as Secretary. Passed.

VI Date, Time, and Place for next Commission Meeting - The next LCD meeting will be on February 11, 2011 at 10:30 AM with a training workshop for Commissioners at 9:00 AM at the DHH Bienville building.

VII Announcements – H. Brinkmann advised that Mobile Communications Services (cellular voice-carryover) will be available through Louisiana Relay Services effective 12/15/10; and the Nokia E5 will be available for purchase (\$165.) online at <http://www.consumercellular.com/mobilecaptions>

VIII Adjournment – T. Covello/D. Austin moved to adjourn the meeting at 3 PM. Passed

Draft of minutes prepared 12/14/10

Minutes corrected on _____


Recorder

4/8/11
Date


Secretary

4.8.2011
Date

- c. LCD master file (original)
- Executive Director
- LCD Board Members
- LCD Staff