



**Louisiana Commission for the Deaf
SFY 2014 Regular Commission Meeting
Meeting Minutes of August 2, 2013**

I. Call To Order - Meeting was called to order at 10:20 AM by Brandi Berkeley, Chairperson.

A. Silent Prayer – B. Berkeley

B. Pledge of Allegiance – B. Berkeley

C. Roll Call – Diane Anticich – A quorum of Commissioners was present.

Commissioners present:

Brandi Berkeley	Rep. Regina Barrow	Thelma Covello	John K. Davis
Deanna Hardy	Leslie Knowles	Dr. Lee Mendoza	Gary Montgomery
Secretary Suzy Sonnier		Naomi DeDual (non-voting)	

Commissioners not present:

Dr. Nancy Benham	Dr. Bonnie Boulton	Brandon Burris	Sen. Yvonne Dorsey-Colomb
Carolyn Jarrels			

Commission Staff present:

Diane Anticich, Program Manager	Elaine Scivicque, Admin. Program Specialist
Jairus Methvin, Program Monitor	

Interpreters: Shirley Delahoussaye, Peggy Gray, and Dawn Melendez

II Approval of August 2, 2013 Meeting Agenda – Motion: G. Montgomery/Sec. S. Sonnier motioned to accept August 2, 2013 agenda as presented. Motion passed.

III Approval of February 22, 2013 Meeting Minutes – Motion: Sec. S. Sonnier/G. Montgomery motioned to accept February 22, 2013 minutes as presented. Motion passed.

IV Reports:

A. Officer Reports:

B. Berkeley, Chairperson – I am delighted to report that legislation was approved this past session which provides for \$1 million annually to the LCD to supplement the revenue from the LCD telecommunications tax, which was no longer sufficient to meet the needs for accessibility services to persons with deafness and hearing loss. I am extraordinarily grateful for the collaboration of everyone involved that contributed to this effort.

T. Covello, Vice-Chairperson – The LCD board has three board positions (Deaf representative, hard of hearing representative, and professional in field of deafness) which need to be filled. We need persons who are interested in attending and participating in these discussions.

J. K. Davis, Secretary – none



B. Executive Director's Report – N. DeDual: Reiterated the purpose, authority and responsibility of LCD staff and board for coordination, facilitation and/or provision of accessibility services; provided the balance of the LCD Trust Fund as of August 2, 2013, as well as the revenue and interest collected to date in SFY 2013; and the balance of the Trust Fund after SFY 13 budget. Also provided listing of all SFY 2013 payments for administration, telecommunication equipment, hearing aids, payments to contractors for professional services including equipment distribution; hearing aid administration; ASL interpreting services; and SSP services. Provided SFY 2013 performance reports of consumers served statewide through end of year. Provided SFY 2013 report for state-interpreter certification, the process by which interpreters provide notice of their national certification and pay a \$26 money order to LA State Police for a background check, which certifies them as a state interpreter for four years; and notified that registration for the next four-year cycle will begin in October. Also, provided resources for consumers with hearing loss; LCD RSCs contact info; meetings with/by LCD staff; and information on ADA, HIPAA, and NVRA. Also, requested commissioners provide the LCD office with a copy of their certificate of completion of ethics training which may be found online at the LA Ethics Administration. Also, provided a copy of the Governor's proclamation of June 23-29 as Helen Keller Deaf-Blind Awareness Week.

C. Relay Administration Board Report: N. DeDual – the litigation matter of Stephen Leon and Hilda Jarreau vs. LPSC/RAB is pending at the 19th JDC.

D. Commissioner Reports:

LRID – L. Knowles – In February, an ASL total immersion (silent) weekend was hosted by BAIT – Birmingham Area Interpreter Training. In May, Delgado graduated nine students from their Interpreter Training program; and five passed RID national certification testing on the first try! In June, LRID held a 'Taking Care of Business' workshop in Natchitoches. This summer, Sorenson VRS sponsored two workshops, one in BR and another in New Orleans, with registration proceeds to LRID. From August 9-14th, RID will host their annual conference in Indianapolis. Also, offers kudos to Betty & Leonard Phillips DAC for offering webinar trainings to interpreters for CEUs. Also, reports the LRID fall conference will be held Sept. 28-29 in Harahan. Also, wants numbers or percentages of uncertified interpreters used for assignments by the Regional Service Centers.

Parent – D. Hardy –thanked Commissioner Covello for her service to LCD and for providing her insight into her daughter's hearing loss.

E. State Agency Reports:

DHH – Dr. L. Mendoza – DHH has new leadership - Kathy Kliebert is the new Secretary for DHH, where she has most capably served as the Deputy Secretary, and as Asst. Secretary for OCDD. We are excited to have Secretary Kliebert at the helm.

LRS/VR – G. Montgomery – All but one of the Rehabilitation Counselor for the Deaf (RCD) vacancies has been filled. Vocational Rehabilitation services continue to be restricted to persons determined eligible in Selection Group I – Most Significantly Disabled. The LRS/VR website is under construction in an effort to update the contacts for persons seeking services due to a hearing loss or speech impairment.



DCFS – Sec. S. Sonnier – DCFS is working to ensure safety and wellness of Louisiana’s children and families. Current priorities include providing food and basic nutritional support to families in need; enforcement of child support by non-custodial parents; child care services for parents in training or seeking employment; and monitoring reports of child abuse on the state-hotline.

F. Legislator Reports:

Rep. Regina Barrow – requested the LCD chairperson send a letter of thanks to the Speaker of the House and all legislators who supported the legislation recently passed.

V. Business Requiring Commission Action:

A. Old Business: LCD diminished revenue from land-line telephones – review LCD trust balance; and discuss options for additional revenue sources as needed to prevent reduction in SFY 2014 services – **Motion:** G. Montgomery/Rep. R. Barrow motioned to delete item from agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

B. New Business:

1. SFY 2014 LCD Technical Guidance Manual – Motion: John K. Davis/T. Covello – to retain item on agenda.

2. 2014 Meeting Dates - Motion: Rep. R. Barrow/Sec. S. Sonnier – to remove item from agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Officer Elections - Motion: Sec. S. Sonnier/L. Knowles – to retain item on agenda and offer a slate of candidates for consideration. Motion passed unanimously.

VI Date, Time, Place of Next Commission Meeting – Nov. 1, 2013 – 10 AM – Rm. 118

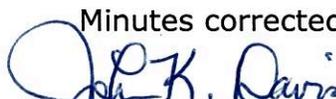
E. Persons Requesting to Address the Board: Michelle LeFors Lisa Chase-Potter Louis Cannon

VII Adjournment – Sec. S. Sonnier/Dr. L. Mendoza motioned to adjourn at 12:10 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Draft of minutes prepared 08/30/13


Recorder
Date 11/25/13

Minutes corrected on _____


Secretary
Date 11/25/2013

c. LCD master file; LCD Board Members; LCD Staff