



**Louisiana Commission for the Deaf
SFY 2016 Regular Commission Meeting
Meeting Minutes of August 26, 2016**

- I. Call To Order -Meeting was called to order at 9:15 AM by Pauline Wood, Chairperson.
- A. Invocation/Silent Prayer – Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
- B. Pledge of Allegiance – J. Gore
- C. Roll Call –Ashley Poche – A quorum of Commissioners was present.
- D. Public Comments – C. Suggs

Commissioners present:

Dr. Moises Arriaga	Jimmy Gore	Jay Isch	Candice LeBlanc
Mark Martin	Dr. Lee Mendoza	Kevin Monk	Rana Ottallah
Jeri Pilk	State Rep. Patricia Haynes Smith	Naomi DeDual (non-voting)	Melodie Sparks
Jack Vincent	Pauline Wood	Nancy Hicks (arrived @ 10 AM)	
Dr. D. Alleman (arrived @ 10 AM)			

Commissioners not present:

Senator Yvonne Colomb Katie Potier

Commission Staff present:

Ashley Poche Susan Dean

Interpreters: Tammy Bennett

Shirley Delahoussaye Gayle Coronado

LDH Staff present: Michelle Alletto
Sherry King

Stephen Russo Kimberly Humbles
Rebecca Clement

II Approval of August 26, 2016 Meeting Agenda - Motion: J. Vincent /N. Hicks - to amend agenda to include Emergency Response and State Capitol Accessibility Advisory Commission appointment under New Business and approved as amended; passed without opposition or abstention.

III Approval of May 13, 2016 Meeting Minutes – Motion: J. Gore/Dr. D. Alleman – to amend May 13, 2016 minutes to indicate meeting was adjourned as interpreters were not available and to remove 'and/or speech impairment' from motion made by J. Isch and accept as amended; passed without opposition or abstention.

IV Business Requiring Commission Action:

A. Old Business

1. Election of Officer – Member at Large – deferred
2. Review of Existing Legislation – deferred
3. SFY 2017 Budget – Motion: J. Gore – to schedule a meeting to focus on the LCD budget; Substitute Motion: Rep. P. Smith/M. Martin – to allow LCD staff to check commissioners' availability and set the date for the next LCD meeting to review the LCD budget; passed without opposition or abstention.
4. LA Code of Governmental Ethics – Presentation by LDH-Counsel after Roll Call.



B. New Business:

1. LCD Technical Guidance Manual: Motion: M. Sparks/Rep. P. Smith – to defer; passed without opposition or abstention.

2. Frequency of LCD Meetings (every other month/6 hours each) – Motion: R. Ottallah/J. Gore – to hold LCD Commission Meetings every other month for four hours each; and to include special meetings as needed. Roll call:

Yes: Dr. D. Alleman; M. Martin; J. Pilk; K. Monk; Rep. P. Smith; J. Gore; J. Isch; Dr. L. Mendoza; R. Ottallah; N. Hicks; M. Sparks. No: J. Vincent, Dr. M. Arriaga Motion passed.

3. Emergency Response: Discussed

4. State Capitol Accessibility Advisory Commission appointment (2016 SCR 47) – At the request of LCD Commissioners J. Gore, J. Isch, J. Pilk, and R. Ottallah, Chairwoman P. Wood rescinded her designation of Maria A. as the LCD representative to the State Capitol Accessibility Advisory Commission; and Commissioner M. Sparks has agreed to serve as the LCD rep to the SCAAC.

V. Business for Information Purposes/Reports

A. Officers' Reports:

Chairwoman, P. Wood – ZVRS donated two videophones to the LAD office for use by LAD members.

Vice-Chair, J. Gore – LCD must educate TV stations to focus cameras on speaker AND interpreter.

Secretary, J. Vincent – The role of LCD Commissioners is to provide guidance to the state on policy development; and to best use meeting time, I request commissioners submit questions to LCD staff early so a response may be provided and not use meeting time to answer questions.

B. Director's Report – deferred

C. Relay Administration Board Report – deferred

D. Legislators Reports – Rep. P. Smith – I'm glad to serve on LCD – LA School for the Deaf and School for the Blind are in my district; and I request we all work together as public servants.

E. Commissioners Reports:

J. Isch – I want to see videos on the LCD webpage – not only written words.

R. Ottallah – We called TV stations to provide interpreters for public announcements. For persons who lost LCD equipment in the floods; can it be replaced by LCD? LCD staff: yes.

J. Pilk – I appreciate your clarification regarding ethics and who may serve as the LCD representative on the State Capitol Accessibility Advisory Commission (SCAAC)

M. Sparks – Deaf Focus in Baton Rouge has been working with people to fill out FEMA applications and connect them with access to videophones, computers, etc.

Dr. M. Arriaga – Hearing aids are a necessity to many people with profound hearing loss for safety, independence, and activities of daily living.

C. LeBlanc – Next week, LA Dept. of Children and Family Services will begin taking applications for disaster food stamps – also known as DSNAP or Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Dr. L. Mendoza – There are 15 Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) which have indicated they provide interpreting services for applicants.



Dr. D. Alleman –On Monday, a week after the flood, classes at LSD resumed. LSD is not designated as a shelter for Deaf evacuees. Yesterday, representatives with Sorenson Video Relay notified us their staff is volunteering to clean up and assist with temporary videophone services. Contact Dave directly; or contact me and I'll forward your message.

M. Martin – Congress is preparing an initiative to assist persons who were displaced by the floods for re-entry into their homes. Louisiana Rehabilitation Services is working with our state and federal partners to ensure individuals with disabilities are included in this initiative.

Draft of minutes prepared 09/01/16

[Signature] 12/13/16
Recorder Date

Minutes corrected on _____

[Signature] 12/13/16
Secretary Date

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