

**John Bel Edwards**

GOVERNOR

**Lynne Gomez**

CHAIRPERSON

SECRETARY

**State of Louisiana**

LOUISIANA COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF

Interpreter Ad Hoc Committee

**Wednesday August 23, 2023**

3:30PM – 6:30PM

Hybrid (In-person and ZOOM)

**Meeting Minutes**

1. **Call to order** 
   1. Meeting Called to order by Committee Chair Lynne Gomez 3:36pm
2. **Roll Call/Introductions** 
   1. Denise Crochet (Present)
   2. Earl Harden (Present)
   3. Natasha Aymami ( Arrived Late, absent at roll call)
   4. Milissa Welch (Present)
   5. Lynne Gomez (Present)
   6. Walker Estes (Present)
   7. Leslie Knowles (Present)
3. **Approval of Agenda** 
   1. Motion: Walker Estes move to approve the agenda Earl Harden seconds
   2. Amendment to move the agenda item Future Meeting Dates to Roman Numeral V
   3. Motion to approve the Amendment to move the Future Meeting dates to Roman Numeral V (unanimous vote)
4. **Public Comments**
   1. Bianca Shaw – Certified Interpreter in Baton Rouge appreciates the committee.
5. **Future Meeting Dates** 
   1. Sept 6, 2023 at 3:30PM
   2. Sept 20, 2023 at 3:30PM
   3. Oct 4, 2023 at 3:30PM
   4. Oct 18, 2023 at 3:30PM
   5. Motion to accept the future meeting dates. Roll call vote: Denise Crochet (Yes) Earl Harden (Yes) Natasha Aymami ( absent) Milissa Welch (Yes) Lynne Gomez (Yes) Walker Estes (Yes) Leslie Knowles (Yes)
6. **New Business** 
   1. **Interpreter Ad Hoc Committee Overview & Objectives** 
      1. Jana Broussard presented on the purpose and objectives of the Interpreter Ad Hoc Committee
   2. **Rulemaking Timeline** 
      1. Shane Bates from the LDH/BFH Policy Team provided an overview of the Rulemaking timeline
      2. Jazmyne Lemar provided information on the proposed interpreter ad hoc timeline/work plan
   3. **Rulemaking – Educational & Court Interpreter Template** 
      1. No questions
   4. **Educational Interpreter rules section** (Lynne Gomez Motion to move into Committee as a whole Milissa approves, Lesile seconds. Roll call vote: Denise Crochet (Yes) Earl Harden (Yes) Natasha Aymami ( absent) Milissa Welch (Yes) Walker Estes (Yes) Leslie Knowles (Yes)
      1. Section 3 Minimum standards qualification requirements and registration
         1. Motion to come out of committee as a whole
         2. Motion to accept section 3 as follows and to present to LCD. Roll call vote: Denise Crochet (Yes) Earl Harden (Yes) Natasha Aymami ( Yes) Milissa Welch (Yes) Lynne Gomez (Yes) Walker Estes (Yes) Leslie Knowles (Yes)

***Section 3 Minimum standards qualification requirements guidelines***

*Section A: Educational Requirements*

*Each applicant for approval as an educational sign language interpreter shall meet one of the following criteria*

1. *Have completed a minimum of 60 semester hours of college credit from one or more regionally accredited institutions of higher education; or*
2. *Hold a minimum of an associate’s degree issued by a regionally accredited institution of high education.*

*Section B: Performance Requirements*

*Each applicant for approval as a sign language interpreter also shall have:*

1. *Attained a rating of Level 4.0 or above on the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) and passed the Educational Interpreter Performance, Written Test or,*
2. *Maintained a valid certification from the National Certifying body and passed the EIPA, Written Test; or*
3. *Maintained a valid Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (BEI) Advanced Certification or higher by the state that is a licensed user of the BEI system, plus passed the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment, Written Test.* 
   * 1. Section 4 Provisional Educational Interpreter Standards
     2. Section 5 Qualified/Preferred Educational Interpreter Standards
     3. Section 6 Accepted Certificates
4. **Announcements**
5. **Adjourn** 
   1. Lesile Motion to adjourn the meeting Milissa Seconds the motion
   2. Chair Lynne Gomez Adjourned at 6:28pm

Note: The order of the agenda may not be followed as listed in order to accommodate presenter schedules.

American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreters and live/remote captioning will be provided. Presenters, members, and guests may submit requests for additional accessibility and accommodations prior to a scheduled meeting. Please submit a request to **jazmyne.lemar@la.gov** at least **one week** prior to the meeting with details of the requested accommodations.

In lieu of verbal public comment, individuals may submit a prepared statement in accordance with Senate Rule 13.79. Statements should be emailed to **jana.broussard@la.gov** and must be received at least **24 hours** prior to the meeting to be included in the record for the meeting.