

The RI CDHH Commissioner approved the minutes for the 09/17/2014 meeting on October 15, 2014.

Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

September 17, 2014

MEETING MINUTES

Commissioners Attending: *Julia Gold, Travis Zellner, Betsy Beach, Todd Murano, Timothy Riker, Nico Sedivy, and James Simon*

Commissioner(s) not Attending: *Joshua Pila and Heather Niedbala*

Staff Attending: *Steven A. Florio (Executive Director)*

Public Attending: *Jaime Lyn Knight, Ronda Umphrey, and Neil J. Leahey*

Communication Accommodations:

Interpreters: Christine West (MPA-358)

CART service: Shelley Deming (Allied Reporters)

Location: *Conference Room A at the Department of Administration building, 2nd Floor*

The meeting was called to order by Secretary Jim Simon at 6:07pm.

Secretary Simon conducted a roll call and reported that the quorum was met. He reported that Heather Niedbala could not make it to the meeting tonight so he took her place to facilitate the meeting. He also explained that since they have only one interpreter tonight, the meeting needed to be concluded in one hour.

Ad Hoc "4th FTE" Committee for FTE Staff Interpreter (Zellner-Chair, Sack, Gold, and Niedbala):

Travis Zellner reported that the committee has not received a response from Anthony Bucci, Administrator, Division of Human Resources re: a follow up letter dated August 21, 2014. The committee will send a letter to Stephen Hartford, Director of the Department of Administration to address this concern. If the committee still has not received a response from Stephen Hartford, they would send a letter to the Governor's Office and the Office of Attorney General.

RICDHH's Revised Budget Plan for FY 2015 and Budget Plan for FY2016:

Steve Florio walked through the budget report with the Commissioners. Discussion and questions/answers were occurred. Steve pointed out that the RICDHH shall demonstrate that they are willing to take and give within the budget instead of just adding the funding for 4th FTE without offering any savings.

Travis Zellner **made a motion** that the budget plan for FY2015 and FY2016 be approved with the regular line item reduced in FY2015 and FY2016. For example, in FY2016, from \$25,000 to \$15,000. Todd Murano seconded. The motion was carried 7-0.

Timothy Riker **made a motion** that the EPCAP budget plan for FY2015 and FY2016 be approved. Todd Murano seconded. The motion was carried 7-0.

ANNUAL COFFEE HOUR:

Travis Zellner **made a motion** to set up a Coffee Hour sub-committee. Timothy Riker seconded. The motion was carried 7-0.

Secretary Simon adjourned the meeting at 7:06pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven A. Florio
Acting Secretary