

# **BOARD OF INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF**

## **MINUTES OF MEETING**

**December 4, 2013**

**Open Session**

**The Open Session of the Board of Interpreters For The Deaf was held on the above date in Room 104, Cannon Building, Rhode Island Department of Health, Three Capitol Hill, Providence, Rhode Island, pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Open Meeting Law, so called, and other applicable provisions of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, as amended.**

**Board members in attendance: Staff members in attendance:**

**Carol Fay, Chairperson J. Michel Martineau**

**Dorothy Hodge, Vice Chairperson Steve Morris, Esq.**

**Joseph Batiano**

**Jonathan Brown Henry Others in attendance:**

**Elizabeth Nadolski, Interpreter**

**Board members not in attendance:**

**A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 3:37 PM.**

**The administrator suggests electing a chairperson, vice chairperson and possibly other officers. Members discuss the same, some Members indicate they are willing to serve. A motion is made by**

**Jonathan Henry to elect Carol Fay as Chairperson, the motion is seconded by Dorothy Hodge, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed. A motion is made by Carol Fay to elect Dorothy Hodge as Vice Chairperson, the motion is seconded by Jonathan Henry, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.**

**The administrator states this is a very different situation, the Minutes from the last meeting held on December 14, 2010 are available to be voted on. Members state they were not at the meeting and express a preference not to vote on something they did not participate in. The administrator indicates that by mistake these Minutes were posted with the Secretary of State within thirty days of the meeting. Members indicate since the information is already in the public domain, they will refrain from voting.**

**Chairperson Fay indicates they have many documents to read, the Proposed Draft regulations prepared by the Department, proposed changes by Dorothy Hodge, and the letter from Steve Florio suggesting changes. Chairperson Fay indicates they may start by addressing some slippery issues. Jonathan Henry states this is a large task and suggests planning an agenda for the next meeting. Chairperson Fay indicates to start by reading the letter from Steve Florio.**

**Members discuss the meeting time, indicating 3:30 may be better as it allows for adequate time for certain board members to travel from**

**their school employment setting and arrive at the meeting in a timely manner. With input from Atty. Steve Morris Members discuss and determine to set the meeting time from 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM, Jonathan Henry states it is important to schedule an Interpreter and we must be mindful of the length of the meeting. Members determine to schedule two Special Meeting dates, January 27, 2014 and March 26, 2014, Members note we also have the regular meetings already scheduled for February 12, 2014, June 11, 2014 and other regular meeting dates.**

**Members return to reading the letter from Steve Florio. A member indicates #1a addresses three licenses. While reviewing #1b, a Member notes that Carol Fay and others have two licenses but some people have one license and accept work that requires they have two licenses. A Member states what they know is problematic is that some people get only one license but do work that requires both license categories.**

**Chairperson Fay suggests keeping the two licenses we currently have (Interpreter and Transliterator) then a new license that covers both: 1) CI, Certified Interpreter, 2) CT, Certified Transliterator, 3) Both of the above. Atty. Morris indicates the law includes CI, CT and Ed, not a new combination license. The administrator indicates in front of us we have new law and we do not have current regs that match.**

**Chairperson Fay states the law does not address reality, Interpreter**

licensing is not usually broken down as CI or CT. Reality and the law do not necessarily match up.

A member indicates an Interpreter may say they are qualified to address a certain type of work, but if RID says they are not CT certified; they are not competent to address that work.

Joseph Batiano states from a deaf person's perspective, I want a certified Interpreter for example in a hospital setting, or I want to use a Transliterater, but if the language used by the deaf person is addressed, then your classification of three types of licenses, that's good.

Atty. Morris indicates with the regulations you can make determinations and it is best not to be too specific, for example indicate the applicant must meet the national standard, but you do not need to indicate an exact score of 4.0 as a minimum, because if the passing score changes the Regs will be a problem, you do not need to box yourself in with such specifics.

Dorothy Hodge states they must follow our national organization, we must follow RID. The administrator indicates if there are known situations of a licensed Interpreter practicing outside of the scope of their one license, the complaint process is available and should be used.

## **Adjournment**

**Having no further business, on motion of Jonathan Henry, seconded by Dorothy Hodge, it was unanimously voted to adjourn. The Open Session of the meeting was adjourned at 4:37 pm.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**J. Michel Martineau, Health Policy Analyst**