



Department of Health
Three Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908-5097
TTY: 711
www.health.ri.gov

BOARD OF INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF
MINUTES OF MEETING
February 12, 2014
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:
Carol Fay, Chairperson
Dorothy Hodge, Vice
Chairperson Jonathan Brown
Henry Joseph Batiano

Staff members in attendance:
J. Michel Martineau Amy
Coleman, Esq.

Board members not in attendance:

Others in attendance:
Deanna L. Ammon Gagne, Interpreter

A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 3:35 PM.

Carol Fay addresses the need to reschedule as the March 26, 2014 date is not possible given her current duties. Members briefly reference an audit and state it would be a random sampling of license holders.

Members review the Minutes of the meeting held on January 27, 2014. Jonathan Henry makes a motion to strike two paragraphs and make corrections to a third paragraph, all on page 2, the motion is seconded by Joseph Batiano and is passed unanimously. Dorothy Hodge makes a motion to amend three references to CE and make the correction of referencing the term as CEU; the motion is seconded by Carol Fay, and is passed unanimously. Jonathan Brown makes a motion to pass the amended Minutes; the motion is seconded by Joseph Batiano and is passed unanimously.

Carol Fay states Members will try to finish the conversation on 1) CI, and 2) CT licenses and then propose to combine both as a third license.

A Member states the national organization and DOH are different and directs attention to an extensive listing of credentials in chart form written on the whiteboard on the wall. The left columns represent RID examinations that test for both, interpretation skills and transliteration skills, and the right column represents examinations that test for either one or the other, but not both.

Dorothy Hodge states the current situation is that some have been tested for and have qualifications for both interpretation and transliteration competencies but they are purchasing only one license. They need to apply and get both licenses separately.

Mr. Steven Florio, Executive Director of the RICDHH joins the meeting and introduces himself. Mr. Florio indicates the Law says three licenses and he believes board recommendations to amend could be addressed in the Regulations (without the need to seek amendments to the Law).

Mr. Florio states Members are proposing a third license but not addressing NAD, if we follow MA they don't recognize Level 3, but RI accepts Level 3.

A Member states with a NAD 4 or 5 you could transliterate. Mr. Florio restates much of these recommendations could be addressed in the Regulations.

Mr. Florio suggests RI has three licenses (screened, education) offering four opportunities to be licensed.

Members have discussion of the need for a combination license; a member says we already have a combination license, another Member states yes there is a need for a combination license, indicating a combination license will solve the issue.

Jonathan Brown Henry suggests stating in the Regulations, in a certain category if you possess certain credentials (Ex. CI CT, IC/TC) then you are qualified for a certain license.

Dorothy Hodge indicates the RI license does not indicate the license holders RID status.

Carol Fay reviews adding a fourth category representing Interpreter and Transliterator, the only way to qualify is with a document from RID. Members cite a variety of credentials CSC, CI/CT, IC/TC, and NAD Level 4 or 5.

Carol Fay makes a motion to create a new category representing a combination license including both Interpreter and Transliterator, the motion is seconded by Jonathan Brown Henry, only two vote in favor, and the motion fails.

Dorothy Hodge suggests the board take the position that we agree to a combination license and at a future meeting Members could work to elaborate, adding clarification as to what a combination license represented: Dorothy states clarifying that a combination license means the professional is qualified to provide services for both Interpreter and Transliterator will distinguish for the public what the license holder is qualified to address in their services.

Deanna L. Ammon Gagne, Interpreter states on behalf of Joseph Batiano, are you proposing a new license? Dorothy Hodge mentions states screen (test) for both CI and CT [(meaning interpreters who are awarded state screened status already fall under the combination status (dual screening)]. Screened I and T. Carol Fay states at this time we are addressing Interpreter, we will address Screened at a different time.

Dorothy Hodge states she wants to remind Members that the issue of a combination license was brought up for people who don't want to pay for two licenses. Carol Fay says, but now the cost of a license went from \$60 down to \$25 and the cost is not a significant factor.

Jonathan Brown Henry states not to worry about the Interpreter, but focus on the profession.

Jonathan Brown hands a written note to Carol Fay and states that on the computer, an applicant could fill in or click the credentials they have (Ex. CT, CI, NIC) and the computer would tell them the license for which they are qualified.

Carol Fay states if person A has CT and NIC, the computer could respond that they are qualified as an Interpreter and a Transliterator, whereas person D has only CT, the computer would respond the person can only be licensed as a Transliterator.

Joseph Batiano states do we need to have a dual license? We need to make sure the program does not charge you twice for one combination license.

Dorothy Hodge states she pays for two licenses now, Carol Fay says yes, now, but for a combination license you would pay for just one license. Carol Fay states applicants can be given an option, and can choose one license.

A Member states someone qualified for NIC has been tested for both, but to earn NIC you pay once for NIC, not twice.

Carol Fay indicates we are currently talking about Certification, at a later date we will address the EIPA, and the Screened license categories.

Joseph Batiano indicates the applicant can choose the credential that applies, indicating the most advance / current credential they have.

Carol Fay states we will table this discussion until the next meeting and at this time we will work to set up two meeting dates, one in February and one in March. Jonathan Brown Henry states he cannot schedule a meeting in February.

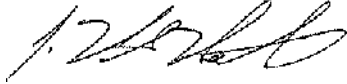
Carol Fay states three dates in March, after discussion, March 27, 2014 is set as the date for the next meeting. The board administrator is directed to send an email message to all board members indicating the new meeting date of March 27, 2014 and stating the March 26, 2014 meeting date has been canceled.

Dorothy Hodge asks why the meeting is limited to one hour. The administrator states he was told by RICDHH staff that based on the duty, a one hour maximum was advised, and if the meeting were to be held for two hours then a team of Interpreters would be required, the administrator indicates significant difficulty was encountered trying to schedule a team of Interpreters to cover the meeting. Carol Fay indicates she supports a one hour meeting, we should be focused.

Adjournment

Having no further business, a motion to adjourn is made by Jonathan Brown Henry, seconded by Joseph Batiano; it was unanimously voted to adjourn. The Open Session of the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Martineau", written in a cursive style.

J. Michel Martineau
Health Policy Analyst