

DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION
BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF

3 CAPITOL HILL
CONFERENCE ROOM 104
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Wednesday, October 15, 2014
3:30 PM

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Carol Fay, CI, CT
Jonathan Brown Henry, CI, CT
Dorothy Hodge, CI, CT, Interim Chairperson

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Joseph Batiano, MA

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Arlene Hartwell, Board Manager

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mary Ellen Baxter Breen, MA, CI, NIC
Steven A. Florio, Executive Director, RICDHH
Rosa Norberg, Paid Interpreter
Christine West, Interpreter

1. Establishment of a quorum

A meeting of the Board of Examiners for Interpreters for the Deaf was held on Wednesday, October 15, 2014, at the Rhode Island Department of Health, Conference Room 104, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908. A quorum was established and the Open Session meeting was called to order at 3:35 PM on a motion by Carol Fay and seconded by Jonathan Brown Henry. Motion carried.

2. Presentation of the September 10, 2014 Open Session Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Carol Fay and seconded by Dorothy Hodge to accept the Open Session Minutes of September 10, 2014. The Board voted unanimously to approve the Open Session Minutes as amended. Motion carried.

3. Board Manager Report

Audit letter

Arlene Hartwell stated that the board does not have the authority to deactivate licenses based on an audit.

Dorothy Hodge states that no one on the board intended for disciplinary action to be taken.

Arlene Hartwell shared an email received on 09/26/2014 from an individual to exemplify confusion surrounding Chapter 5-71 of Rhode Island General Laws.

Follow up Letter

A follow up letter was mailed on October 14, 2014, indicating that no action would be taken against licenses as a result of the audit.

4. Old Business

Certifications

Aligning Interpreter Regulations to RID Standards

Dorothy Hodge stated that there is nothing in the Rules and Regulations for Licensing Interpreters for the Deaf that aligns with Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) standards and she requested that a motion be made to align them. Topic was tabled.

Jonathan Brown Henry offered to amend the new application template to more accurately reflect licensing options with certification qualifications.

Clarification to certifications

National Interpreter Certification

Dorothy Hodge distributed a handout regarding National Interpreter Certification from RID

Johnathan Brown Henry commented that if Interpreters / transliterators are RID certified, they are qualified to interpret and transliterate.

Revisions to Regulations

Arlene Hartwell recommended that this be tabled for a future meeting after board members review and edit proposed changes.

5. New Business

Notification of Rhode Island Rules and Regulations relative to Rhode island General Laws, Title 4, Chapter 5-71.

Dorothy Hodge recommended that the revised Rules and Regulations for Licensing Interpreters for the Deaf be mailed to each individual in possession of a license; however, Arlene Hartwell stated that it would be costly. She will seek input and advice on findings.

Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (RICDHH)

Dorothy Hodge noted that RI General Laws, title 23, chapter 23-1.8, stipulates that the Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (RICDHH) shall be independent of any existing agency or department.

Arlene Hartwell stated that she met with members of RICDHH on October 1, 2014 to introduce herself and to understand their role relative to Interpreters in Rhode Island.

6. Public Comment

Mary Ellen Baxter Breen

Made a statement that she planned to attend future board meetings.

Steve Florio

RICDHH will cooperate with board to improve communication.

7. Adjournment

The next Board of Examiners for Interpreters for the Deaf meeting will be held December 3, 2014 at the Rhode Island Department of Health, Conference Room 104, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908. Motion was made by Carol Fay and seconded by Jonathan Brown Henry to adjourn at 4:43 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Arlene Hartwell
Board Manager
Office of Health Professionals Regulation