AGENDA – Quarterly Council Meeting
COUNCIL FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING
September 13, 2019
Best Western Vista Inn
Boise, Idaho

9:00 Welcome and Review of Agenda
Chairing: Joelynne Ball
Introductions & Welcome
Approve Minutes April 26, 2019 meeting
Perfection of Agenda

9:15 Open Forum/Announcements

9:25 Executive Director's Report — Steven Snow

10:00 Presentation of Award to Majestic Cinema — Steven Snow/Joelynne Ball

10:15 Presentation of Award to Representative Rubel — Steven Snow/Joelynne Ball

10:30 Hearing Aid Insurance Coverage for Children — Weston Trexler, Id. Dept. of Ins.

10:55 Break

11:00 Action Item

- **Revise FY2021 Budget Request**

11:15 Ex-Officio Reports

Infant Toddler/Idaho Sound Beginnings	Brian Shakespeare
IESDB	Brian Darcy
Public Utilities Commission	Bob Dunbar
Idaho Commission on Aging	Deedra Hunt
State Dept. of Education	Renee Miner

12:00 Adjourn

Live Streaming Locations

Twin Falls Location
College of Southern Idaho
Taylor Building, Room 276
Address:
315 Falls Ave.
Twin Falls, ID 83301

Pocatello Location
Idaho State University
Student Union Bldg.
South Fort Street Suite
2nd Floor
921 South 8th Ave.
Pocatello, ID 83209
(RSVP casequire@isu.edu for parking pass)

COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
April 26, 2019

Draft minutes to be approved at September 13, 2019 Council meeting
Note: Full Transcripts are available upon request

PARTICIPANTS: Council Members: Joelynne Ball (Chairing) (Representing Interpreters), Kate Savage (Representing Audiologists), via teleconference, Emilie Banasiak (Representing an organization of hard of hearing persons), Steven Birkby (Representing an organization of deaf individuals), Gretchen Fors (Representing parent of a hard of hearing child), Jacob Robison (representing physicians) Marva Kubalik (Representing hard of hearing individual over the age of 60). Excused: Jerry Wilding (Representing deaf individuals) Heidi Jeffs (Representing parent of a deaf child),

Ex Officio Members: Steven Snow, Doug Clapp, Brian Shakespeare, Betsy Duncan, Deedra Hunt

Others: Cindy Schreiner, Sierra McIver, Fran Bennett, LaVona Andrew, Lisa Doyon, June Flannery, Sheila Robertson, Lauren Searle, Ray Lockary, and Elizabeth Schniedewind

INTRODUCTIONS:

The meeting was called to order by Joelynne Ball and introductions were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 15, 2018 MEETING

There was one correction on minutes "access" to assess". Jacob Robison motioned the minutes be approved as corrected. Gretchen Fors seconded the motion. The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 17, 2019 MEETING

Jacob Robison motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Gretchen Fors seconded the motion. The motion passed.

PERFECTION OF AGENDA:

Joelynne Ball requested to amend the agenda to allow Ex-Officio member, Brian Shakespeare to present the report from Idaho Sound Beginnings first during the Ex-Officio reports. Jacob Robison motioned to accept the agenda with the stated change. Gretchen Fors seconded the motion. The motion passed. Steven Birkby motioned to add CDHH statute change to the action items, Emilie Banasiak seconded the motion. The motion passed.

OPEN FORUM/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Joelynne Ball said there are 4 positions on the Council that are currently expiring. Joelynne said Gretchen Fors and Jacob Robinson will be reapplying to continue their service on the Council. Joelynne said Jerry Wilding and Heidi Jeffs will not be reapplying for their positions.

Steven Snow said he wanted to commend Jerry and Heidi for their service. Steven Snow said the positions will be posted to the Council's website and if anybody knew of somebody who would like to apply, to have them contact the Council.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:

Federal Legislation:

Senate Bill 719 currently in the Judicial Committee establishes guidelines for those individuals in a vulnerable population, including deaf and hard of hearing individuals cannot be held in solitary confinement unless they have committed certain actions that would deem it necessary. Steven Snow said the Council is monitoring this legislation and will report any changes.

Resolution 2026: College Campus Resource and Education Act. This Resolution would enable documentation when persons with disabilities are crime victims to ensure that they are considered when emergency preparedness plans are developed. Steven Snow said this Resolution is in the Education and Labor Committee. Steven Snow said the Council is monitoring this legislation and will report any changes.

U.S. Department of Education budget presentation. Steven Snow said the U.S. Secretary of Education, Betsy DeVos has proposed cutting funding to both the National Institute of Technology (NIT) and to Gallaudet University. Steven Snow said the proposal would have a significant impact. Steven Snow said the Council will be monitoring this proposal and will report any changes.

State Legislation:

Concurrent Resolution 45. Steven Snow said the Department of Insurance worked with the Legislature to provide legislation that would have hearing aids for children be covered by private insurance companies. Steven Snow said under the leadership of Dean Cameron, the Department of Insurance held public forums and received mostly positive input from the public, so when the information was presented to the Legislature, it passed through both the House and Senate. Steven Snow said the legislation covers hearing aids, implants or other assistive listening devices. Steven Snow said the age limits followed the Affordable Care Act which are from 0 to 26. Steven Snow said parent organizations like Hands and Voices have enormous power on the movement of the Resolution. Steven Snow said he would like to commend Representative Ilana Rubel for presenting and supporting this legislation. Steven Snow said this legislation will have a huge impact for children and young adults.

Medicaid Expansion. Steven Snow said he will be meeting with Matt Whimmer, the Director of Medicaid for the Department of Health and Welfare to discuss audiological services to be reinstated as well as hearing aids for adults. Steven Snow said he will keep the Council informed.

Full Time Interpreter: Steven Snow said the Joint Finance and Appropriation Committee (JFAC) approved a full-time interpreter to be employed by the Council to interpret for Steven. Steven Snow said he would like to commend Representative Melissa Wintrow for her efforts of bringing

the issue to JFAC. Steven Snow said the position has been posted and the Council will be receiving applications.

Steven Snow said the Legislature approved $8,000 for interpreter training and the Council has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Idaho Registry for Interpreters for the Deaf to support access to training for interpreters.

Fiscal Year 2019:

Steven Snow said the balance of FY2019's operating budget is just over $9,000 which will be depleted by June 2019 which is the end of FY2019.

Other CDHH Activities:

Steven Snow said the Council has been very busy this year with some of the activities highlighted:

- Captions streaming at the Legislator House and Senate and some committee meetings. Steven Snow said he is hopeful that other committees will be captioned in the future including the Joint Finance and Appropriations committee.

- Interpreting Referral Agencies Accreditation. Steven Snow said he is a member of a task force building accreditation standards for interpreter referral agencies. Steven Snow said there is a need to establish an accreditation process that allows federal contractors who are selecting interpreting agencies to know that the agency is accredited and will provide good service. Steven Snow said he is in discussions with the Idaho Department of Administration to require that any future Request for Proposal for interpreting services through an agency, that the agency be accredited.

- U. S. Department of Justice website is inaccessible. Steven Snow said there have been many complaints filed. Steven Snow said he has been in discussions with attorney, Kate Orowits about how to make the website accessible for filing complaints.

- Partnership with American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). Steven Snow said he was approached by the Idaho Executive Director of the ACLU, Leo Morales. Steven Snow said Mr. Morales wants to be considerate of the needs of the deaf community. Steven Snow said he has met several times to talk about how a partnership would be meaningful. Steven Snow said the ACLU is focusing on 2 main activities concerning the deaf community: One is open captioning and the other is the corrections systems. Steven Snow said they will continue discussions.

- Meetings with Senators and Representatives in Washington, D.C. Steven Snow said he met with Senator Risch, Senator Crapo, Representative Simpson and Representative Fulcher's aid concerning a Telecommunication Equipment Distribution Program. Steven Snow said he discussed with the congressional delegation the need for a telecommunication equipment distribution program in Idaho. Steven Snow said most states already offer that program. Steven Snow said he spoke with them about how they could assist Idaho from a

national level. Steven Snow said they would be willing to work with him on the issue. Steven Snow said they would be willing to reach out to the Public Utilities Commission to inquire about any changes in the future for assistive equipment.

- Leadership presentation at Boise State University. Steven Snow said he was invited by Representative Wintrow to sit on a panel to discuss leadership opportunities that would be available to students in the future. Steven Snow said the panel consisted of a Chief of Police, business CEO and himself.

- Interpreter license issues. Steven Snow said the Council has received several inquiries regarding interpreter license. Steven Snow said there are mainly 3 issues that are of concern: the shortage of licensed interpreters, preschool interpreter requirements and emergency interpreting. Steven Snow said he and Sierra McIver are addressing these issues as they arise.

- Steven Snow said St. Alphonsus Health System's Board has appointed him to their Mission Committee. Steven Snow said this committee looks at ethics concerning different areas and he will be providing information about ethics concerning the deaf community.

- Presentation to Idaho Real Estate Brokers Association. Steven Snow said he was invited by Holly Thomas Mowery to present to brokers, agents and contractors about how to encourage deaf individuals to purchase homes instead of renting.

- Presentation at Twin Falls police department. Steven Snow said he was invited to present some training to the Twin Falls Police Department. Steven Snow said the two topics covered were: personal bias that impact interactions with the deaf and hard of hearing community and training opportunities.

- Expanding office space. Steven Snow said the Council's offices will be expanding with the addition of Sierra McIver and the new interpreter. Steven Snow said he is in negotiations with Health and Welfare where the office will be located and the Department of Financial Management about how to pay for the expansion. Steven Snow said he will keep the Council informed on the progress.

- Steven Snow said the Council will be offering Town Hall meetings in Boise, Idaho Falls, Pocatello and Twin Falls.

ACTION ITEMS:

Legislative: Change all references in the state law/codes from "hearing impaired" to "deaf and hard of hearing."

Steven Snow said he wanted to present to the Department of Financial Management (DFM) a proposal for next year's Legislature the proposed wording changes. Steven Snow said the information needed to be to the DFM by July 12, 2019 for the Governor to consider. Jacob Robison

motioned to accept the proposed language changes, Gretchen Fors seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Change in CDHH Statute:

Steven Snow said he wanted to present to DFM a few changes in CDHH statute. Steven Snow said these were housekeeping changes, and he needed to present them to DFM by July 12, 2019 for the Governor to consider. Jacob Robison motioned to present DFM with the changes, Gretchen Fors seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Approval of Individual Award Nomination:

Gretchen Fors motioned Representative Ilana Rubel receive the award for the Outstanding Individual for her sponsorship of HR45 for insurance coverage for hearing aids for children. Jacob Robison seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Approval of Organization Award Nomination:

Joelynne Ball said Deseret Baker nominated the Majestic Cinema to be presented the award for Outstanding Organization for providing captioned movies. Kate Savage motioned the Majestic Cinema be presented the award. Jacob Robison seconded the motion. Motion passed.

2021 Budget Request:

Steven Snow said the total budget request for 2021 will have some increases from 2020. Steven Snow said the Council, in addition to 2020's budget which has been approved by the Governor, will be requesting Sierra's hours to be increase to 30 hours per week, a new computer for Cindy, travel expenses for the interpreter, a new state car, renovation of office space, and a new video conference system. Steven Snow said the total amount requested for 2021 will be $323,600 in personnel, $61,200 in operating, $57,443 in capital for a grand total of $442,243.00. Jacob Robison motioned to accept the proposed budget to be presented to DFM. Gretchen Fors seconded the motion. Motion passed.

2020 Priorities:

Steven Snow presented priorities to be considered by the Council. Joelynne Ball said she appreciated Steven Snow presenting the priorities as he and his staff are the ones that are on the front lines that know what priorities are desired. Steven Snow listed the following priorities:

- Hearing Aids/Audiological Services
- Promoting Awareness on Sign Language Interpreter Licensure Requirements
- Legislative Actions

Along with sub-priorities

- Telecommunication Equipment Distribution Program

- Law Enforcement Training
- Interpreter Training (in partnership with IRID)

There was discussion concerning these priorities and activities to complete the priorities. Jacob Robison motioned to accept the priorities as presented. Kate Savage seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Set Dates for 2020 Council Meetings:

Cindy Schreiner presented the following dates for upcoming Council meetings:

- Friday, September 13, 2109
- Thursday, November 21, 2019 (Teleconference)
- Thursday, January 23, 2020 (Meet and Greet)
- Friday, April 24, 2020

Jacob Robison motioned to accept the dates as presented. Gretchen Fors seconded the motion. Motion passed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Gretchen Fors nominated *Joelynne Ball* to remain as Chairperson. Jacob Robison seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Gretchen Fors nominated *Steven Birkby* to remain as Vice-Chairperson. Jacob Robison seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Jacob Robison nominated *Marva Kubalik* for Executive Committee. Gretchen Fors seconded the motion. Motion passed.

PRESENTATION:

Elizabeth Schniedewind presented preliminary data on a study she conducted in partnership with CDHH. *"Retrospective Review of Complaint Filed by Deaf Users of ASL Regarding Communication Access to Healthcare"*

Elizabeth Schniedewind presented information about the study and some preliminary results. Elizabeth stated all the data has not been compiled and she will be presenting a final report and is hoping the report can be published in a journal. Elizabeth Schniedewind said she will keep the Council up to date on the project.

EX-OFFICIO REPORTS:

Idaho Sound Beginnings:

Brian Shakespeare said the follow-up rate for children who did not pass a hearing screen has increased from 71% to 78%. Brian Shakespeare said the CARE Project will once again be in Idaho, which is a family retreat free of charge. Brian Shakespeare said there was a need for more volunteers. Brian Shakespeare said the dates are May 31 thru June 2, 2019.

Vocational Rehabilitation:

Doug Clapp said there are some changes in the way hearing aids and other devices are funded. Doug Clapp said there is still some concern about when he needs to hire an interpreter. Steven Snow said the legal counsel for Vocational Rehabilitation has made the determination when an interpreter is needed.

Bureau of Occupational Licenses:

Betsy Duncan said the following are current license in Idaho:

- Hearing Aid Dealer/Fitter – total of 119 current, active licenses in Idaho. There are 9 current provisional permits (working under a supervisor's license)
- Audiologist – total of 125 current, active licenses in Idaho
- Sign Language Interpreters – total of 159 current active licenses
- Sign Language Interpreter Provisional Permits – total of 24 current active permits
- Out of State registrants – total of 5 current registrations
- Deaf Interpreters – total of 5 current
- SLP's total of 977 current, active licenses in Idaho
- SLP Provisional Permits – total of 43 current active permits

Adjourn:

Before adjourning, Steven Snow asked the Board for suggestions for presentations at future Board meetings. Emilie Banasiak suggested a follow up report from Dr. Ruud from the University of Idaho on the food safety classes for deaf students in high school. Steven Snow said if there were any other suggestions, please let him know. Emilie Banasiak motioned to adjourn the meeting, Steven Birkby seconded the motion. Motion passed.