

COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

November 21, 2019

Via Teleconference

(Draft minutes to be approved at the January 23, 2020 Council meeting)

PARTICIPANTS: This meeting was chaired by Vice-chair, Steven Birkby (Representing an organization of deaf persons)

Council Members: Steven Birkby (Representing an organization of deaf persons), Gretchen Fors (Representing parent of hard of hearing child), Jacob Robison (Representing Physicians) Valerie Player (Representing parent of a deaf child)

Excused: Joelynn Ball, Chairperson (Representing Interpreters) Emilie Banasiak (Representing a hard of hearing individual who represents an organization of persons who are hard of hearing) Kate Savage (Representing Audiologists), and Marva Kubalik (Representing a hard of hearing person over 60)

Others: Cindy Schreiner, Steven Snow, Sierra McIver, Lauren Seale

INTRODUCTIONS:

The meeting was called to order by Steven Birkby and introductions were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2019 MEETING:

As there was no quorum present, the approval of Minutes of September 13, 2019 was tabled until the next meeting.

Action Item: Revision of FY2021 Request:

As there was no quorum present, the approval of Revision of FY2021 Request was tabled until the next meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:

- **Federal Legislation Update:**
 - Steven Snow said due to the Impeachment situation in Washington, D.C., there is no movement in federal legislation. Steven Snow said he will keep the Council apprised of any federal legislation updates.
- **State Legislation Update:**
 - Steven Snow said there are 2 proposed pieces of legislation that are to be presented this session. 1) Changing language in state statutes from “hearing impaired” to “deaf or hard of hearing” and; 2) revisions in CDHH code. Steven Snow said that after talking with the Governor’s office, these bills will be combined into one bill. Steven Snow said the bill is very short and will only effect 5 agencies (CDHH, State Department of Education, Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and the Blind, Idaho Public Utilities

Commission and Idaho Bureau of Occupational Licenses). Steven Snow said he has spoken with all the effected agencies but the Idaho Public Utilities Commission about the bill and Steven Snow said all the agencies he has spoken with have been in contact with their attorneys and there are no objections. Steven Snow said he will contact the Idaho Public Utilities Commission again.

- **Budget:**

- 2020 Budget: Steven Snow said the Governor's office had instructed the Council to adjust our budget by 5% for FY2020 which would have been about \$18,000. Steven Snow said the Governor's office has reduced that adjustment to 1% which would be \$3,688. Steven Snow said the reduction would come from our Indirect Costs from Vocational Rehabilitation and will not affect our Operating or Personnel budget for FY2020.
- 2021 Budget: Steven Snow said the Governor's office has instructed the Council to adjust our budget request by 2% which would be \$7,376, which would come from our Indirect Costs from Vocational Rehabilitation. Steven Snow said the Governor's office has instructed the Council not to request additional line items so the Council will not be requesting an additional .25 FTP or additional monies for our new lease space. Steven Snow said the budget request submitted will be a total of \$368,800. Steven Snow said the budget will need to be voted on by the Legislature at the next Legislative session.

- **Open House:**

- Steven Snow said on October 11th the Council had an Open House in the new location. Steven Snow said there were about 50 to 60 people who attended, and he felt it was highly successful.
- Steven Snow said that there are still 2 issues with the new location: 1) no land line for the phone or 2) no VPN (Video Personal Network) which allows CDHH to connect to other state agencies. Steven Snow said these items have been requested and ordered, however, we are still waiting on the installation.

- **Training for Twin Falls Police Department:**

- Steven Snow said he and Sierra McIver provided training to the Twin Falls Police Department during 4 different sessions. Steven Snow said there were around 20 – 30 attendees at each session. Sierra McIver said the trainings are free. Steven Snow said he has been asked to provide training in Post Falls for their Police Department and he plans to have a 2-day training session in the Spring.

- **Probation and Parole:**

- Steven Snow said he had a meeting with Dylan Hobson, the Director of Probation and Parole to discuss training needs for Probation and Parole officers. Gretchen Fors said she had been contacted by Ada County Commissioner Diana Lachiondo about Juvenile incarceration including deaf and hard of hearing inmates. Gretchen said she had been contacted to review a paper by Gabe Lemus about the prison pipeline. Gretchen Fors said she had been contacted about a Task Force concerning incarceration of

deaf and hard of hearing inmates. Gretchen Fors said she would forward the information to Steven Snow.

- **Idaho Commission of Libraries:**
 - Steven Snow said he has met with the Idaho Commission of Libraries to integrate CDHH's library into the general library system. Steven Snow said this integration will allow our library to be more accessible to more individuals. Steven Snow said this integration will have some costs associated with it, however, Steven Snow said he has been in contact with Anne Flannery, the Chairman of the Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and the Blind Foundation and there could be some grant monies available for this project.
- **Idaho Public Utilities Commission (IPUC):**
 - Steven Snow said the IPUC has recently hired a new Telecommunication Relay Services Administrator, Kelli Toohill. Steven Snow said the previous Administrator, Bob Dunbar retired. Steven Snow said Kelli Toohill was the Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program in Utah's Administrator. Steven Snow said that he will be meeting with her and discussing what steps to start a Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program in Idaho.
- **Christmas Family:**
 - Cindy Schreiner said the Council has received a total of 6 nominations for Christmas family support this year. Cindy said the Council is keeping the nomination time open until November 30, 2019. Cindy said when the families are chosen, she will notify the Board.
- **Osteopathic Medical School Presentation:**
 - Steven Snow said he has been invited to present at the Osteopathic Medical School (ICOM) on the Idaho State University Campus in Meridian medical students. Steven Snow said he will be presenting on integrating access, cultural awareness and other deaf and hard of hearing issues to the students. Steven Snow said the information he presents will be included in the final exams. Steven Snow said he will be co-presenting with Idaho State University professor Elizabeth Schniedewind to about 160 students. Dr. Jacob Robison said he is an adjunct professor at ICOM and these presentation will be provided at a good time in the education of the medical students.
- **Catholic Health Association:**
 - Steven Snow said the Catholic Health Association interviewed and filmed him about how St. Alphonsus provides services to Deaf and hard of hearing individuals. Steven Snow said the Catholic Health Association will be posting the video on social media and will forward it to us for distribution.
- **Welcome:**
 - Steven Snow welcomed new member, Valerie Player who will represent a parent of a deaf child to the Board.
- **Jerry Wilding:**

- Steven Snow said Jerry Wilding, a previous member of the Council's house burned down on Saturday. Steven Snow asked the Board to keep Jerry in their thoughts.
- **Next Meeting:**
 - Steven Snow said the next meeting is the Meet and Greet at the Capitol on Thursday, January 23, 2020 on the first floor of the Capitol from 9 a.m. until noon and then the Board meeting from 1:00 until 4:00 located in the Lewis Clark conference room at 650 West State Street.

ADJOURN:

Meeting adjourned by Vice-chair, Steven Birkby