

Katie Hobbs
Governor



Sherri L. Collins
Executive
Director

**Minutes from the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the
Hard of Hearing, Special Board Meeting.**

Meeting held December 17th, 2024 at 4:30 pm.

The meeting was held at 100 N 15th Ave, Suite 104 Phoenix, AZ 85007.

Commissioners participated in person, and via Zoom

Call to Order & Roll Call

Commissioner Sienko called the meeting to order at 4:34 PM.

Commissioners present in person: Catherine Sienko, Randal Kidd, Harvey Goodstein, Diana Herron, Virginia Thompson, Fred Williams, Scott Madsen, Jennifer Scarborough

Commissioners present via Zoom: Andrew Cohen, Melanie O'Rourke, Sarah Bolmarcich, Lisa Swenson

Commissioners absent: Debbie Venkatesh

AAG: Elise Phalen

Staff Present: Chyla Dalton-Nava

Approval of Minutes- November 7th, November 8th, and December 3rd 2024

Commissioner Scarborough moved to approve the minutes from November 7th, 8th, and December 3rd; Commissioner Kidd seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

Chair's Report

Chair Sienko explained that the interview process will be handled in executive session, however any legal questions that commissioners have for our Assistant Attorney General will need to be postponed until the meeting on Friday, December 20th. She also informed the board that the candidates have requested that any discussions of their qualifications be held in open session.

Candidate Presentations

Sue Kay Kneifel gave a presentation on her qualifications and experience to the board. The board did not have any questions for her at the end of the presentation.

Carmen Green Smith gave a presentation on her qualifications and experience to the board. The board did not have any questions for her at the end of the presentation.

The board took a break at 5:36 PM. The Board returned at 5:47 PM.

Candidate Interviews

602-364-0990 TTY □ 602-542-3323 V □ 480-559-9441 VP □ 800-352-8161 V/TTY □ 602-364-0581 FAX □ info@acdhh.az.gov

The mission of the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing is to ensure, in partnership with the public and private sectors, accessibility for the deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing, and persons with speech difficulties to improve their quality of life.

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Commissioner Herron moved to go into executive session to complete the final interviews for the candidates, Commissioner Kidd seconded, and the board moved into closed session at 5:52 PM.

Commissioner Cohen left the meeting at 6:30 PM.

The board returned from executive session at 8:13PM.

Future Agenda Items

Commissioner Scarborough mentioned that she'd like to discuss the possibility of the commission providing training to the legislature on ADA, and also for the agency to collaborate with DCS (Department of Child Safety) on how we can work with their ADA coordinator to ensure that the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind youth and their families have the access they need. Commissioner Bolmarcich would like agency staff to explore the current shortage of CART providers and create a study focused on this.

Adjournment

Commissioner Kidd moved to adjourn at 8:24 PM, Commissioner Madsen and Thompson seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 PM.

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the attached notice was duly posted this 20th day of December, 2024 at 1:00 pm by Chyla Dalton-Nava, Assistant to the Executive Director.