

**NC Interpreter and Transliterater Licensing Board
Friday August 23, 2019 – Paragon Bank Raleigh, NC**

1 Board Present: Jim Sewell, Jeff Trader, Donnie Dove, Jr, Kevin Earp, Lauren Pruet, Emily Pope, Jaime
2 Staley, Pam Smith (remotely)

3 Board Members Absent: None

4 Board Staff Present: John Green and Caitlin Schwab-Falzone

5 Interpreters Present: Emily Jones, Kirk Fowler, and Mark Lineberger

6 General Public Present: Taylor Engleman, Antwan Campbell

7 Called to order 10: 11 am

8 *Conflict of interest statement read, no conflicts heard.*

9 With 9 voting Board members present we have a quorum.

Welcome and Introductions

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11 Introductions and a welcome was done by Jim.

Approval of Minutes

12
13 Pam asked everyone to review the minutes from June 28, 2019 and let us know if there were any edits
14 that needed to be made.

Motion Aug 2019-01 (Pope/Dove) I move we accept the minutes from the June 28, 2019 meeting minutes with suggested edits Emily, Second Donnie. All in favor. Motion carries.

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DPI Update

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17 Antwan Campbell was invited to the meeting to present a DPI update and will be invited to all future
18 Board meetings to ensure ongoing communication.

19 Antwan gave an update, that DPI has been working with various groups, The work began before he
20 worked with DPI. There is a registry for all interpreters and cued speech transliterators, and they are
21 working on the EIPA score, the average recently is 3.3. There are some recommendations, that they get
22 rid of the 3.0 threshold, and move the threshold to 3.3 with the goal of a 3.5 in the next few years. If the
23 person does not get a score of 3.5 then they will not be able to work, and the end goal would be to
24 move the score threshold up to a 4.0. Antwan also discussed the score ratings for cued speech
25 transliterators. All educational interpreters are required to pass a written test before they can work.
26 DPI has been working on the pay scale for the educational interpreters, and they are working to ensure
27 better quality staff in place. Antwan asked about the Board about adding educational interpreter to the
28 law. Antwan discussed options to have educational interpreters added to the current statute. This
29 would add about 200 interpreters to the current pool of interpreters. He also stated that if licensure
30 was required the interpreters could request higher pay.

1 Jim spoke about the Board not being able to make changes to the law. He talked about DPI possibly
2 reaching out to the legislature to possibly work on making the changes. The Board could discuss
3 supporting this addition.

4 Jaime and Antwan discussed the time frame goals for moving the EIPA score minimums up.

5 Antwan spoke about all interpreters would have to follow the new requirements once the changes are
6 made.

7 The Board discussed the current educational system and the current settings and pay scales that
8 educational interpreters work in and for. Antwan answered the questions the Board asked about the
9 pay grades, number of interpreters, qualifications, etc. Antwan discussed he hopes the pay increase
10 suggested would help interpreters stay in the educational settings. Currently required is a two-year
11 degree minimum. Antwan said there are 58 interpreters with a 2-year degree, 70 with a bachelor's
12 degree and two with a master's degree, and there are 33 who would need to get a high school diploma
13 and could be grandfathered in.

14 Discussion of what happens to current education interpreters if the recommendation of needing a 3.3
15 on the EIPA is not met, how long will they have to meet this new requirement. The interpreters will
16 have some time to meet the requirement, and if they do not meet the standard by then they would be
17 dismissed.

18 The roles of interpreters versus a language facilitator in an educational setting was discussed. Antwan
19 confirmed language facilitators is a term used in an educational setting and talked about that language
20 facilitators should not be working past a third-grade level. Antwan reiterated that the reason they are
21 making the recommendations to the changes is to improve the interpreters that are provided for
22 students who need them.

23 The recommended requirements that DPI was suggesting were discussed. Jim thanked Antwan for
24 coming and asked him to look at the Board as allies. Antwan agreed that he would like to see all K-12
25 educational interpreters licensed.

LRC Report

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27 Donnie gave an LRC update, there were two cases closed. Now we start on the provisional extension
28 requests this time of year. There will be an LRC meeting after this Board meeting.

29 Jim wanted to bring up something about someone who once held a license that maybe working in the
30 eastern part of the state. John recommended filing a complaint, but let Jim know as chair he is welcome
31 to pursue this as an investigation. Jim wanted to check with the Board if they would like to investigate
32 this further, Jim said he would give more details to the LRC. John recommended that if Jim wanted to
33 pursue an investigation, we would have to most likely compensate this investigator. There are
34 investigators who investigate unlicensed activity with their Boards. Donnie agreed and said the Board
35 must be active in this, if we know and we have a name then we should look into it.

36 Pam asked if we need to investigate getting an investigator before we look into this further. John did
37 say we need evidence that we have probable cause that this person is practicing without a license. He
38 also talked about the different steps we can take to get a superior court injunction. John said he can

1 check in with his colleagues who have investigators for their Board to see about borrowing one to see if
2 they could help this Board. John said we could propose a budget for this and find someone willing to
3 pay this. John also urged Jim to see if the person would be willing to file a complaint. Jim said the
4 details are too vague at this time.

5 John asked why people are hesitant to file a complaint if they know someone is interpreting without a
6 license?

7 Jim talked about the history of Deaf culture and that DSDHH is working with the Deaf community to help
8 empower them to advocate for themselves and their community.

9 John discussed the options the Board has when it comes to a licensee and an unlicensed interpreter and
10 the action this Board can take.

11 The Board discussed the complaint process for a licensed interpreter versus an unlicensed interpreter.

12 Jim talked about coming back to this topic later in the meeting.

Action Item Review

13

14 Jeff talked about action item #2. Antwan gave some background on this committee that RID has and
15 that they are looking for another certifying body. RID is looking at the BEI, EIPA, and CASLI. They have
16 been researching for an outside agency and that would approve all certification. They currently have an
17 outside agency looking at these three (BEI, EIPA, and CASLI) outside entities for RID to recognize these
18 certifications. Jeff stated that this would be helpful for the DeafBlind population if people could come
19 from other states and have the short term interpreting apply to them with an RID credential. Antwan
20 talked about the process with NCCA (National Certifying and Credentialing Agency). NCCA has a process
21 the other testing groups must adhere to. If the testing agency passes the criteria for the NCCA body
22 then RID/CASLI would recognize that agency as an accrediting body. Once any of the alternate
23 accrediting tests (BEI, EIPA) for through the NCCA process then RID will accept the test and this would
24 get an RID credential.

25 The Board discussed the current requirements to obtain an RID credential.

26 The Board will be discussing the rest of the action items later.

27 Jim said we have a few minutes before lunch gets here and asked about securing an investigator and if
28 this is something the Board would like to pursue. Donnie said I think we should. John talked about
29 trying to work with another Board to see if their investigator would be willing to work with this Board.

30 *Break for lunch 12:00 pm*

31 *Reconvened at 12:41 pm*

32 The Board talked about securing an investigator. The Board discussed all options for this matter. The
33 Board moved on from this discussion. Lauren talked about the complaint process and how we can make
34 this process easier. So we can encourage consumers to file complaints.

Forum Location 2020 – Eastern NC

35

1 The Board discussed the past forum in June 2019 it being in Greensboro.

Motion Aug 2019 -02 (Staley/Trader) I move we have two public forums in 2020, one in the eastern NC and one in western NC, the exact location to be determined by the Board Jaime, second Jeff. The Board discussed the options for the meetings and the cost of the Board travel. 7 in favor, 2 opposed (Emily and David). Motion carries.

2

3 The Board discussed options for locations and costs.

Motion Aug 2019-03 (Smith/Staley) I move we have the November 22, 2019 board meeting in Morganton, NC at the school for the Deaf and have a public forum at the same location Pam, second Jaime. David suggested an amendment that the motion be changed to I move we have the November 22, 2019 board meeting in Morganton, NC and also hold a public forum at the same location David, second Kevin. Discussion: Jaime will check with the NC school of the Deaf in Morganton to see if we can hold the meeting at their school. If accommodations are needed by members of the public to let the Board know by a certain date. All in favor. Motion carries.

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2020 Meeting Dates

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6 The Board discussed pushing this decision to the next meeting in November 2019. The Board also talked
7 about having a forum in June 2020 in the eastern NC.

Business Cards

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9 The Board discussed the rule and what has been discussed before. Jeff pointed out the license has their
10 name and license number on it, and that is what he carries around. Jeff also recommended that this
11 rule (21 NCAC 0405) be amended to read “a licensure card” and not a business card.

Financial Report

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13 Emily went over the balance sheet as of July 31, 2019. Emily also brought up the budget for the next
14 fiscal year, beginning in October 1, 2019.

Motion Aug 2019- 04 (Staley/Earp) I move we accept the proposed 2019-2020 budget with the suggested edits Jaime, second Kevin. No discussion. All in favor. Motion carries

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Legal Update

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17 John talked about a recent statute that passed in regard to an apprenticeship (NCGS 93B – 8.6). John
18 prepared the letter that can be voted on to determine if the Board agrees with the field of interpreting
19 being a specialized intellectual study and not something that can be learned in an apprenticeship.

20 *Jaime had to leave the meeting*

Motion Aug 2019-05 (Dove/Pope) I move the Board approve this resolution of the North Carolina Interpreter and Transliterator Licensing Board regarding applicability of NCGS 93B – 8.6 (2019) Donnie, second Emily. No discussion. All in favor. Motion carries.

1

2 *Jeff had to leave the meeting*

3 *Senate Bill 478 and Session Law 2019-167*

4 This bill requires that a report be submitted discussing the gender makeup of the Board and the
5 licensees.

6 *CEU bill*

7 John talked about a bill that addresses the Board having to research available options for licensees to
8 obtain CEUs online.

Review of Action Items

9

10 Jim talked about an email we received from Sorenson (from Babetta Popoff) that she requested we
11 possibly discuss the Compass course be recognized to qualify people for a provisional license. The
12 Board has no authority to grant this request. Kevin talked about the compass program being a very
13 good program.

14 *Caitlin and John to draft a letter to respond to this email and let her know we have no statutory authority*
15 *to approve this program.*

#	Owner(s)	Description	Due date	Status
1	Pam and Donnie	Explore with DSDHH about trying to get mediation as an option started, what would that look like? How would the process work?	August 23, 2019	In progress
2	Jeff and Lauren	Ad hoc committee to determine what other options to revise in the statute to recognize for full licensure. Pam King, Jim Sewell, and Pat Hauser will help with that committee.	August 23, 2019	
3	Pam and Dave	Committee to work with NCRID about their conference and see about co-locating with them, work on the specifics, working with NCRID and where the NCITLB Forum should be.	August 23, 2019	
4	Dave and Caitlin	Look into mobile options for having the licensure cards for interpreters to have	August 23, 2019	
5	Jim, Pam, and Caitlin	Research types of learning options for obtaining CEUs and determine options to open up ways for licensees to get the CEUs needed for renewal.	August 23, 2019	

	Kevin and Donnie	Sub committee to have open communication with DSDHH for community outreach.	On Going	On Going
	Caitlin	Update the Website as needed	On Going	On Going
	Pam and Lauren	Ad hoc committee set up for work with DPI and helps go to meetings so they can work toward making the changes.	On going	On going
	Caitlin	Caitlin to compile information about how many of each provisional years there are, and to track the schools that they are from and just have that information to track the schools people are coming from.	On going	On going

1

2 Action Item #1 – Still in progress.

3 Action Item #2 – this item was covered earlier in the meeting.

4 Action items #3 – Reached out in June 2019, but no response.

5 Action items #4 – Dave talked about digital options for a license.

6 Action items #5 - No update at this time.

7 The rest of the action items are ongoing.

Discussion Frequency of Meetings

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9 Jim talked about the Board meeting more frequently. David had talked about possibly meeting via Zoom more often. Jim asked David to work out what a virtual meeting could be.

11 *Break 3:04*

12 *Reconvened 3:09*

Central Office Report

13

NCITLB Central Office Report (as of August 22, 2019 at 2:00 PM)

Type of License	Current Number of Licensees	Percentage
Full	350	63%
Grandfathered	47	8.5%
Provisional	158	28.5%
Total Number of Current Licenses	555	100%

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1 **Licenses issued since last Board meeting (June 28, 2019): 6**

2 **Full: 2**

3 *Qualified for licensure by:*

4 RID Certification: 2 of 2 (100%)

5

6 **Provisional: 4**

7 *Qualified for licensure by:*

8 2-year degree: 2 of 4 (50%)

9 EIPA score of 3 or above: 2 of 4 (50%)

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11 **Licenses Pending Issue: 6** (4 provisional and 2 full)

12 **Comments:**

13 Renewal received and processed: 63 (11%)

Motion Aug 2019-06 (Earp/Dove) I move we adjourn the meeting Kevin, second Donnie. All in favor. Motion Carries.

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15 **Adjourned 3:11 pm**