

NC Interpreter and Transliterater Licensing Board
Wednesday April 8, 2020 – 10:00 AM – Zoom

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Board Members Present: Jim Sewell, Pam Smith, Kevin Earp, Donnie Dove, Jaime Marshall, Emily Pope, Lauren Pruett, Dave Littman

Board Members Absent: Jeff Trader

Board Staff Present: John Green and Caitlin Schwab-Falzone

Interpreters: Mark Lineberger and Emily Jones

General Public: Tanya Miller, Tanya Jackson, Karen Whittingham, Karin Butterworth, Erica Harris, Dianne Shearer, Pam King, Lee Williamson, Adeline Riley, Taylor Ofori

Called to order 10:04 am

Conflict of interest statement read, no conflicts heard.

With 8 voting Board members present we have a quorum.

Jim talked about the purpose of the meeting. That this would be to discuss a possible temporary rule change.

John talked about the process for enacting a temporary rule. The Board office has received a number of emails and inquires about the face to face CEUs that need to be obtained each year. Many of the workshops have been cancelled due to COVID-19, and John and Jim have worked on language for a temporary rule to allow the face to face CEU requirement for this licensure year only to be waived. John has been working with the Rules Review Commission (RRC). John read from the proposed temporary rule.

Draft rule text:

(e) For the 2019-20 licensure year only, the Board waives the in-person course requirements of Paragraph (a) and licensees may take all of their CEUs for the 2019-20 licensure year electronically. However, this waiver shall not apply to any surplus CEUs earned during the 2019-20 licensure year and sought by the licensee to be carried over to the 2020-21 licensure year.

John talked about the proposed temporary rule and the rationale behind it. This temporary rule is designed to allow for people who have not gotten their CEUs yet for this year to allow for people who have not taken the face to face CEUs to allow for them to obtain all of their CEUs remotely. John also discussed the executive orders that have been released from Gov. Cooper about the limitations on mass gathers, travel, and shelter in place orders.

John explained the temporary rule process. There are several steps in the process including, public comment, post on the website, public hearing, etc. John went into detail about having a public hearing and the time frames for the temporary rulemaking process. John expressed that due to the COVID-19 situation he would hope and expect that the RRC would approve this temporary rule.

A temporary rule is only effective for a short time and will automatically expire.

1 John then took questions from the Board about the language in the proposed temporary rule. Lauren
2 had questions about the allowable amount of surplus CEUs that could be rolled over. Jim talked about
3 the waiver and possibly posting clarification on the Board’s website about the rule. Pam Smith had a
4 question about the rule and the verbiage. Pam also mentioned that another Board uses the verbiage of
5 “interactive distance learning”. Pam mentioned the possibility about defining “distance learning”
6 course work. Pam talked about verifying workshops and how they are administered.

7 Jim expressed that this rule is temporary and will expire. Caitlin also talked about this rule being
8 temporary and once this rule expires the original rules remain in place. John also clarified the surplus
9 CEUs. Donnie asked questions about surplus CEU roll over. John talked about that the surplus CEUs
10 could roll over provided that they fall within the parameters of up to 1.0 online and up to 1.0 face to
11 face. Dave talked about the idea of sending out letters or something like that to licensees.

12 *Action Item: Caitlin to draft some FAQs she has already received to be shared with licensees.*

**Motion April 2020-01 (Pruett/Earp) I move that the Board propose for adoption temporary Rule, 21
NCAC 25 .0501(e), as written Lauren second Kevin. No discussion. All in favor. Motion carries.**

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14 Dave asked a question about licensure fees being waived this year due to limited number of hours for
15 interpreters working? The Board discussed this and possibly looking at this in the future, and possibly
16 having another emergency meeting if this does need to be addressed.

17 Jim talked about other motions that would need to be voted on.

**Motion April 2020-02 (Earp/Smith) I move that the Board adopt, all necessary action that is needed
so that this rule can go through the necessary steps so that the Board can eventually adopt this
temporary rule Kevin second Pam. All in favor. Motion carries.**

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19 John talked about the next steps for this proposed temporary rule.

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21 *Emily Pope had to leave the meeting to get on another meeting (11:03 am).*

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23 Jim asked about how long this will take for the next steps in the rulemaking process.

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25 This process does take some time and could take several weeks or months for this to be put in place. John
26 did remark that he does expect that the Board will get several questions about this new proposed rule.

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28 Jim did let all Board members know to please let everyone know that that asks them that the Board is
29 working on this matter and they hope to have something in place by June, but to not hold the Board to
30 that specific time frame.

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Motion April 2020-03 (Smith/Pruett) I move we adjourn Pam second Lauren.

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33 Meeting adjourned 11:07 am