

**FLORIDA COORDINATING COUNCIL  
FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING  
Quarterly Council Meeting**  
Thursday, February 7, 2019 – Friday, February 8, 2019

**MINUTES**

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CART Captioner: Lisa B. Johnston, RMR, CRR, CRC

**Call to Order and Roll Call:** 9:00 A.M. EST

*Council members present:* Glenna Ashton, Chris Littlewood, Cecil Bradley, John Jackson, Karen Goldberg, Debra Knox, Mary Hodges

*Via phone & Chat:* Cindy Simon, Darlene Laibl-Crowe, Gina Halliburton, Debbe Hagner

*Staff present:* Shay Chapman, Megan Callahan, Shayla Kelly

**Staff Updates:**

*Shay Chapman* – Updated that the Department is still awaiting a State Surgeon General to be appointed by the Governor and the Department is continuing to monitor the legislation as it impacts the Council.

*Megan Callahan* – Update of the previous meeting’s action items progress was provided.

**Committee Reports:**

*Web Committee* – Presented on the website analytics that were found for the Nov. – Feb. quarter

*Education/Medical/Outreach/Technology (EMOT) Committee* – No updated was provided.

*Legislative Committee* – Reported on Legislative Visits that took place the day prior. Information on this discussion is below.

*Budget Committee* – Updated that the Council is on track to have enough funds to continue face-to-face meetings.

*Biennial Report Committee* – Updated that the 2019 Biennial Report was printed and presented to legislators during legislative visits. Discussion on further revisions to be made is below.

**Public Comment:**

*Molly Hollinger (Member of the Florida Rehabilitation Council)* – Molly attended a committee meeting in Tallahassee and a presentation was given by Cecil Bradley regarding Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) through the Department of Education and how services are allocated. The way these services are set up, the deaf population in Florida may not always receive the services or resources needed due to other needs. Molly has a master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling and, upon moving and working in Florida, has concerns regarding the services provided to the high school students in Florida who are deaf because they may not be receiving all the benefits that are provided to them. Ms. Hollinger joined the meeting to discuss VR services in relation to Deaf rights. Cecil Bradley, as well as other Council members, were able to clarify some situations or inquiries Ms. Hollinger had.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held in Pensacola, FL on May 9-10, 2019. Location TBA.

### **Legislative Visits Discussion:**

Glenna Ashton, Debra Knox, and Karen Goldberg went and visited legislators in Tallahassee on Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. Three bills were discussed- HB 289, state emergency communication and warning system sponsored by Stark (related to having a qualified interpreter on the screen at all times during emergencies, like hurricanes), HB441 sponsored by DuBose and SB536 sponsored by Brandes relating to text-to-911, and HB531 sponsored by Brannan and SB572 sponsored by Baxley relating to hearing aid coverage for children. All visits were with either the representative, senator, or their aide and all visits went very well and were very educational.

### **2019 Biennial Report Revision Discussion**

Further revisions to be made to the 2019 Biennial Report was discussed. The report was printed prior to this meeting and was given to the legislators that were visited so the revisions discussed were minor. These minor revisions included changing 2018 in the title of the report to 2019, changing captions/credits under the photos of the Orange County police officer signing about text-to-911 and Darlene pictured with an SSP, revising the first paragraph at the top of the report describing FCCDHH, adding 'Florida' to the Supreme Court in the title, minor grammatical revisions, and revisions to the Council membership and Staff on the last page. Once these revisions have been completed and printed, Council members, as well as the Florida legislature and Governor Ron DeSantis, will receive an updated copy.

### **Action Items:**

1. Submit report revisions to printing company and have new reports printed and mailed – DOH Staff
2. Order personalized FCCDHH business cards by Nov. meeting – DOH Staff
3. Request to add funds to interpreter PO to contract interpreters for legislative visits – DOH Staff
4. Reach out to Jay regarding PSA – Megan Callahan
5. Send thank you letters to legislators visited – Glenna Ashton
6. Continue tracking the bills discussed during legislative visits – Glenna Ashton

7. Register for DeafNation event – Megan Callahan
8. Add the Early Steps resource guide to the website – Megan Callahan
9. Submit a letter with lobbying vs. advocacy questions to DOH Legal Counsel – Karen Goldberg & John Jackson
10. Create a “save the date” for the Pensacola meeting May 9-10 – Megan Callahan
11. Send an email of future meeting dates and locations – Megan Callahan
12. Send any website revisions to Megan – All Council members
13. Send Text-To-911 updated spreadsheet and link monthly – Megan Callahan