



**DHHSC BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 13, 2013**  
**Dedicated to Dwayne Weatherby**

- I. Call to Order – 7:07 Amanda Sortwell (AS), president  
Board Members Present: Jonathan Silva , Vice-president (JS), Sue Stone, Secretary (SS), Jill Nolen (JN), Chad Catron (CC)  
Board Members Absent: none  
DHHSC Staff Members Present: Michelle Bronson (MB), Executive Director  
Visitors: 16 visitors signed the visitor’s list and the list is filed with the minutes.  
Interpreters: Pam Warkentin and Nikki Wolfe
- II. Public Comments (3 minutes per visitor) – Marilyn McCallom: Mary Weatherby and family invited Community to graveside service Friday at 10 am at Clovis Cemetery. Lunch here at DHHSC following graveside service. The viewing is Thursday afternoon at Clovis Chapel. Christie: re Jesse Lewis UPSY setting up own web page for crafting group to make money; Justin Blanco: We need additional members for the Advisory Council to support staff and Board. Please contact Justin if interested.
- III. Approval of Agenda Items – approved by consent
- IV. Approval of **January** Board Minutes –approved by consent
- V. President’s Report – AS Recruiting for new Board members is progressing. Volunteer security is out there tonight (Francisco). We had a workshop on parliamentary procedure, roles and responsibilities.
- VI. Vice-President’s Report – JS requirements for a Board member: attend 2 Board meetings. If interested please talk to any of the Board members; goal is to support the community.
- VII. Secretary’s Report – SS no report
- VIII. Treasurer’s Report –  
**January** Financial Report distributed but not reviewed.

Checking/Savings balance	\$220,855
Accounts Receivable total	\$347,413
AR Grants	\$197,904
AR Interpreting	\$149,509
Accounts payable	\$-10,116
Mortgage payable	zero!
Board Private Fund Balance	\$1,302
Per profit and loss	\$12,925
Grant awarded for 12-13	\$650,564
Grant spent	\$385,288
Grant unspent	\$265,275

IX. Executive Director's Report – MB

A. Great news! As I shared with staff and board last Friday, I received notification that DSS will renew our 3-year contract with them. We are thrilled and appreciative of DSS' continued funding. A big thank you to Kyra, Jesse, Paul, and Mike (our CPA) for their assistance with this big task—I appreciate the teamwork.

B. Last Thursday I submitted our Combined Federal Campaign and California State Employee Charitable Contributions annual paperwork to continue receiving monetary contributions from state employees. We receive funds each month, with no strings attached, which means we can use the money wherever and however needed. For example, some of the CFC funds were recently used to cover some of our Holiday Luncheon expenses as well as outreach offices' holiday functions. If you or someone you know is a state employee, please consider selecting DHHSC as your charity. We appreciate everyone's support!

C. We have booked The Grand 1401 as our 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Valley Deaf Festival site for November 2nd. It's a beautiful building, and we are grateful for the non-profit discount they've given us. In return for the discount, we are to list them as one of our sponsors on our flyers, vlogs, posters, etc. We hope you, our Board of Directors and our community, like the new site. We have identified some challenges, which we are currently addressing, so everyone can participate in all activities that will be offered that day at the event. Some access issues due to no elevator for the balcony. We are working on solving those issues. We are considering the top floor of this building for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of DHHSC on the first Saturday in April.

D. We have already sent out donation request letters and have begun receiving some wonderful donations for VDF's silent auction and raffle prizes. We wanted to do this early at the beginning of the year before businesses run out of "donations" and to avoid their time restrictions on requesting donations. However, the interesting dilemma now is that some of these donations have time limits that expire BEFORE November. Our letter clearly states that the event will be held in November, yet the donation expires before then, such as a local water park admission tickets and baseball tickets. Solve one problem then encounter another! We'll figure out the kinks somehow.

E. Some of us, myself included, will be attending The Power Summit this Thursday and Friday. Staff includes those from our Merced and Visalia outreach offices. The summit focuses on advocacy issues and skills, which I think will be of great benefit to us. As you know, advocacy is one of our seven core services, and I look forward to us learning new skills and information.

F. On January 23<sup>rd</sup> Susan Coulter attended National Voter Registration Act training as requested by DSS. She brought back pertinent information on how DSS wants us to encourage our community members to register to vote and ensure that each of our four offices have registration forms readily available. Each time a registration form is submitted, DSS will be informed, which means they will know how many people have become registered voters through DHHSC. In addition, each time a community member moves, we are to proffer a registration form for updated address. DSS really wants each of our sister agencies to keep up with registration forms, through intakes and events/services, to encourage voting. A big thank you to Susan for attending this training on behalf of DHHSC. Please come see us if you have not registered to vote.

G. Last Wednesday I participated on a D/HH panel hosted by the Student Body at Fresno City College. Another community member and I joined three D/HH FCC students to answer various questions about D/HH issues. It was during lunch hour so various students on campus were able to participate and ask questions. I had fun and enjoyed the experience.

X. Committee Reports –

a. Bylaws Committee – SS no report

- b. Fundraising Committee – JN Ideas : 1) Deaf day at the zoo, full day D/HH could see all the animals, provide interpreters 2) lake day 3) motorcycle rally 4) 5K walk/run
  - c. Grant Monitoring Committee – JN no report
- XI. General Board Comments – JS: discussed the time-limit with donations SS: Update on movie accessibility. The Tower Theater/Fresno Filmworks (which shows independent film there) plan to apply for a grant to convert the theater to digital equipment. This is required to use the new captioning system embedded in almost all films released now. This would also improve access for the D/HH GLBT community to the annual Reel Pride Film Festival.
- XII. Unfinished Business
- A. Rummage Sale: Jill is in charge. Money goes into the Board private fund.
- XIII. New Business –
- A. Kaiser grant for senior citizens MB: request Board approve new grant for chronic health issues for senior citizens. Funds will be used for transitional coaching when a D/HH person has been hospitalized, also to go to appointments, take notes, and clarify what happens at the doctor’s office. A few of the staff will have a few of their hours designated as coach. M/S/P
  - B. Grant for families of D/HH. This will be an on-going grant of \$100-150,000 to provide 2 FT family-service specialists to offer parenting services for parents who can’t afford the \$60 for 3 months. Staff will not need much office space as they will be mostly in the home providing services. M/S/P
  - C. Modified GOALS grant for Salinas office. This is a grant that we already have applied for and received. We want to modify it to provide Deaf role models to focus also on younger children. It would then include kindergarten through high school. Salinas has specifically identified problems with motivation among D/HH youth. M/S/P
  - D. Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) conference. This is a conference that DHHSC staff would really like a presence at but do not have the funding for. It is in Arizona in April and Amanda would like to go to represent DHHSC and bring back important information for us, including a presentation at Staff Development Day. The conference is for a wide variety of people who work with early intervention. DHHSC staff feels they need up to date information. The conference covers technology and education. Funding will come from the Board private fund. JS is concerned that we don’t have enough money in the fund. Exact costs will be determined and discussion will continue via email.
- XIV. Public Comments (specific to agenda – 3 minutes per visitor) –James McGuire re GOALS program—good idea to start earlier, concerned re involving parents and teachers. Marilyn: re Kaiser grant would it include a rep to help staff negotiate communication technology? Also again we still need improved lighting in the community room for optimal communication. Kristie: 1) re GOALS program, wondering if it has to do with the teachers. So role models will be very important. 2) re lighting can we ask Lowe’s or home depot if they would provide a donation. \$7000 bid. Sue will apply to the Fresno Rotary Club for financial assistance for this. Coyle: find cheaper lighting? AS: no. [Unidentified woman] offered to donate towards the lights.
- XV. Announcements –
- A. This Saturday is an interpreted performance at Roger Rockas of Monty Python’s Spamalot
  - B. Tax assistance Monday 2/25 8:30 to 5.
  - C. Rummage Sale April 6-7 [Editor’s note: since the meeting the rummage sale dates have been changed to May 10-11 due to a scheduling conflict.]

- D. Martha's Vineyard 4/13 from 10-3
- E. Annual VDWC 10-3

XVI. Adjournment – **8:54**

**Date of Next Local Board Meeting: Wednesday March 13, 2013 DHHSC – Fresno**

Submitted by Sue Stone, DHHSC Secretary