



DHHSC BOARD MEETING MINUTES
June 12, 2012

- I. Call to Order – **6:32 pm** Rosemary W. Diaz presiding
Board Members Present: Rosemary W. Diaz, President (RWD), Jonathan Silva, VP (JS), Sue Stone, Secretary (SS), David Denton, treasurer (DD), Ronald Reagan (RR);
Board Members Absent: Laura Casuga (LC), Beatrice Bejar (BB), excused
 Honorary Board members: Martha and Reno Coletti
DHHSC Staff Members Present: Michelle Bronson (MB), Executive Director, Jesse Lewis (JL), Operations Director, Susan Coulter, James McGuire;
Visitors: Jill Nolen, Jeremy Thomas, Amanda Sortwell, Bud Breslin, Elizabeth Durham, Jon Ditommaso,
Interpreters: Nikki Wolfe, Razonda Munyaradzi
- II. Public Comments (3 minutes per visitor) –Susan Coulter made note of the cake baked by Pena donated to the meeting tonight. There was a craft class this morning using recyclable materials--please look on Facebook for photos of the crafts.
- III. Approval of Agenda Items – approved by consent
- IV. Approval of **May and April** Board Minutes – April approved via email, ratified; May approved M/S/P
- V. President’s Report – RWD apologized re last month’s meeting and the quorum misunderstanding. The bylaws were not clear and that will be remedied.
- VI. Vice-President’s Report – JS explained what the board is about. The Board supports DHHSC’s operation. We need support from the community. It’s about helping to improve your agency. The meeting is once/month with occasional special meetings.
- VII. Secretary’s Report – SS no report
- VIII. Treasurer’s Report – DD
April to June Financial Report distributed and reviewed.

Checking/savings balance	\$360,521
Accounts receivable, total	\$262,506
AR grants	\$147,884
AR interpreting	\$114,622
Accounts payable (AP)	\$3,724
Mortgage payable	\$134,835
Board fund private balance	\$4,377
P/L overall	\$15,716
DSS grant	\$650,564
Grant spent	\$573,907

Grant unspent

\$76,656

This is the end of the fiscal year. We are working on reducing AR interpreting. AP dropped a lot.

IX. Executive Director's Report – Michelle Bronson

A. Thanks to the Board for participating in the Board training.

B. Some of our staff facilitated activities for the Norseman's end-of-year picnic yesterday and we had a good time interacting with the D/HH children, teachers, interpreters, and aides.

C. Christy is currently undergoing 40-hour Domestic Violence Advocacy training at Marjaree Mason Center and will soon receive her certificate. Once the training is complete, we will resume offering DV workshops as part of Deaf VENUE. I appreciate Christy getting this training so we can provide this valuable service.

D. We had the Video Premiere here last Friday and the videos turned out great! We had more than 40 people in attendance and obtained some excellent feedback. We will do some final editing before release this Friday. Thank you to all who attended last Friday. For those who have not yet seen the videos, when I obtain a copy or the link to the videos, I will be sure to send to send you that information.

E. Cheryl and James had a successful Merced picnic--49 people attended last Saturday. Great job!

F. We got the D/HH Wellness and Independence (D-Well) grant--\$11,414 for the Merced Office.

X. Operations Director's Report – Jesse Lewis

A. I'd like to start my report with some good news. DHHSC has been approved for grant funding we applied for, to begin our new D-Well program, which means Deaf and Hard of Hearing Wellness and Independence. This will be a new program in the Merced office that replaces the DASH program. D-Well will include workshops with topics related to physical, mental, and emotional health as well as independence. United Way Merced is granting us \$11,414 to fund this one-year program, so we are very thankful to them.

B. In the Visalia office, we have been creating what we call P.A.C.K.s. These are Parent and Child Kits. We are creating 20 backpack kits with resources including ASL books and DVDs for parents in the South County area around Visalia that have D/HH children. We'll be giving these packs to those families for free, and they will meet with our Client Services Specialist to get further services. This P.A.C.K. program that includes the kits and the follow-up services is made possible by our large Visalia fundraiser that we did last year. We are dedicating about a third of those funds toward these kits. We decided to start with 20 and see if they are popular. Our goal is to work more closely with parents that have D/HH children in that area. For that reason we are having a special meeting on June 21 in Visalia for local parents, and will be giving out P.A.C.K.s to qualifying families. If you know any families in the South County area that qualify, please have them contact us for details.

C. I am also currently working on other grant development. I've signed up for a Webinar that is about raising funds online, and look forward to learning new ideas that can be applied to DHHSC.

D. On a final note, I am currently pulling together the summer issue of the Deaf Bee, waiting on a few final articles. We hope to have this out for you this month, so keep an eye out. Thanks!

XI. Committee Reports –

- a. Bylaws Committee – SS Revisions to Article 4, Section 4, regarding the quorum, and Article 5, Section 5, regarding the President were presented and approved. M/S/P
- b. Fundraising Committee – JS

July 14-15 is Wonders of the Animal Kingdom. The ticket gives you one admission at one time only. My committee is also talking about having a comedy tour, which I am very excited about. We will have the debut with senior citizens.

- c. Grant Monitoring Committee – RWD: trying to spend down grants; DOR currently provides 7 services. We suggest removing 3 services from DOR and focus on only 4: intake, employment preparation, job coaching and retention. Then clients can be referred to an employment specialist, with an employment agency that has high level of expertise and contacts in this field.
- XII. General Board Comments – none
- XIII. Unfinished Business –
- a. Five questions for the AC to present to the community written or in ASL were approved, with the addition of “Do you attend board meetings?” M/S/P
 - b. ‘Change of time for Board meeting’ was postponed
 - c. We will postpone discussion on some of the ideas regarding improving attendance at the board meetings that were shared last month until we get more feedback.
- XIV. New Business –
- a. The Board retreat is set for July 29. M/S/P
 - b. Handicap parking: JS will check on outside sources of funding so we don’t have to use the board fund.
 - c. Ratification of the new structure of DHHSC. M/S/P MB: We are pleased to announce that Harvey Bradley will be promoted to Services Personnel Director and he will begin the new position on July 1st. Because of his promotion, we will search for a new Employment Specialist. Harvey has done a wonderful job as an Employment Specialist, and in his new position, he will train and closely supervise the new Employment Specialist. Thank you, Harvey.
 - d. Approval community comments date August 25 M/S/P
 - e. Motion to eliminate the extra \$1000 mortgage payment as of July 1 as recommended by the CPA to free up funds for the Employment specialist at DHHSC. M/S/P
- XIV. Public Comments (specific to agenda – 3 minutes per visitor) –Martha Coletti: re the handicap stall we have been waiting for this for years. The current stalls are not safe for her and her husband’s needs. She offered \$1000 to help with this project. James McGuire: re DOR and CAD’s commitment to assist; why don’t we have someone to replace the current DOR counselor? RWD: This is in CADCV’s hands now. JS suggested that we ask CADCV for a progress report. RWD will ask CADCV to join us on August 25 to give a progress report.
- XV. Announcement
- a. Wonders of the Animal Kingdom July13-14
 - b. Summer programs for children 3rd week in July.
 - c. VDF November 3
 - d. Tuesday classes: beat the heat class, skin cancer, preventative care
 - e. This is JL’s last board meeting. RWD thanked him for his participation.
- XVI. Closed Session – for election of new Board members--postponed
- XVII. Adjournment – 7:57 pm

Date of Next Local Board Meeting: July 10, 6:30 to 8:30 @ DHHSC – Fresno