



STATE OF ALABAMA
ALABAMA LICENSURE BOARD
FOR
INTERPRETERS AND TRANSLITERATORS

2777 Zelda Road
Montgomery, AL 36106
Telephone (334) 277-8881
Fax (334) 277-0188
Email: ALBIT.gov@gmail.com
www.ALBIT.alabama.gov

Board Meeting
January 30, 2020
Minutes - Amended

The Alabama Licensure Board for Interpreters and Translators held its regularly scheduled Board meeting on Thursday, January 30, 2020 at the Board's office located at 2777 Zelda Road in Montgomery. The following Board members were present: Mr. Melvin Walker (Board Chair), Mr. Sam Feibelman (member), Mr. Ben Hollingsworth (member), Ms. Patricia Smartt (Secretary) and Ms. Belinda Montgomery (member). Board members absent were Ms. Nancy Adams (member) Ms. Sharon Canada-Emann (member), Ms. Tammy Adams (member) and Ms. Nancy Hayes (Vice Chair). Others present were Mr. Keith Warren (Executive Director), Ms. Leigh Mooror (Board Administrator), Mr. Bill Garrett, (Assistant Attorney General), Mr. Mike Weeks (Legislative Affairs) and Ms. Renee' Reames (recording secretary).

- I. The meeting was called to order at 10:32 a.m. by Mr. Walker, Board Chair. Following a roll call of the Board members by Ms. Reames, Mr. Garrett declared a quorum of the members was present. The meeting was advertised in advance on the Board's website, www.albit.alabama.gov, and the Secretary of State's website, www.sos.alabama.gov, in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act.
- II. A copy of the meeting agenda was distributed before the meeting for the members review and presented at the meeting for the Board's approval.
MOTION 2020-08: Ms. Montgomery made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Feibelman. The Board Chair called for a vote from the Board and voting "aye" were Mr. Feibelman, Mr. Hollingsworth, Ms. Pat Smartt and Ms. Montgomery. The motion was unanimously approved.
- III. Chairman Walker presented the November 14, 2019 Board meeting minutes for the Board's review and approval. A copy of the November minutes was provided to the Board members prior to the meeting. Mr. Hollingsworth recommended modifying the word to *consider* in item IV.E. and adding the words *Other Business* to heading VII.
MOTION 2020-09: Mr. Hollingsworth made the motion to approve the November meeting minutes, with the correction to items IV.E. and VII. as recommended. The motion was seconded

by Ms. Montgomery. The Board Chair called for a vote from the Board and voting "aye" were Mr. Feibelman, Mr. Hollingsworth, Ms. Pat Smartt and Ms. Montgomery. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. Reports

A. Board Chair Report: Chairman Walker reported to the members about the new sign-in policy for everyone having access to the building beyond the Board's reception desk. Also sign-in requirements on the Board members attending meetings which also indicated submission of travel expense report, etc. He asked the public to register when attending Board meetings as well.

B. Executive Director Report: Mr. Warren presented the Executive Director Report, which included financial activities of the Board for the period ending December 31, 2019. He also reported on the current number of licensees, new licensees since the last meeting in November, along with the number of complaints received in FY 2020. Mr. Warren suggested that the Disciplinary Committee meet, when necessary, on the same day as the Board meeting to review any issues.

Also presented to the Board was the Administrator's report of activities performed by staff since the last Board meeting in November. Ms. Moorer reminded the members about the upcoming renewal period for licensing.

C. Legal Counsel Report: Mr. Garrett reported that there was no additional information to report regarding complaints. Mr. Garrett commented on the State Personnel Departments policy about State employees working for other Boards, based on Board discussion at the January meeting (item VII.B.).

D. Certification Committee – BEI Requirements

Ms. Smartt distributed a summary of BEI requirements, type of certificates and Committee recommendations for the Board's review. The Board discussed the requirements for hearing interpreters.

Motion 2020-10: Ms. Smartt made the motion that hearing interpreters applying for a License be required to possess a BEI Master or Level V, with verification of maintenance of CEUs and those applying for a Permit be required to possess a BEI Advanced Level or Level III or Level IV, with verification of maintenance of CEUs. The motion was seconded by Ms. Montgomery.

Following discussion by the Board, Ms. Smartt amended her motion specifying new applicants who were hearing interpreters applying for a License or a Permit. The amended motion was seconded by Ms. Montgomery. The Board Chair called for a vote from the Board on the amendment and voting "aye" were Mr. Feibelman, Mr. Hollingsworth, Ms. Pat Smartt and Ms. Montgomery. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Board Chair called for a vote from the Board on the motion as amended and voting "aye" were Mr. Feibelman, Mr. Hollingsworth, Ms. Pat Smartt and Ms. Montgomery. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Smartt presented licensing requirements for deaf interpreters. The Board discussed the current requirement for deaf interpreters, as Permit holders, to work with a hearing interpreter. Mr. Hollingsworth recused himself from these discussions.

Chairman Walker called a 5-minute recess at 11:26 a.m.

Chairman Walker reconvened the business meeting at 11:32 a.m.

Motion 2020-11: Ms. Smartt made the motion that new applicants who were deaf interpreters applying for License level be required to possess BEI Level V Intermediary and those applying for Permit level be required to possess a BEI Level IV Intermediary or a BEI level III Intermediary, with all levels requiring verification of maintenance of CEUs. The motion was seconded by Ms. Montgomery. The Board Chair called for a vote from the Board on the amendment and voting "aye" were Mr. Feibelman, Ms. Pat Smartt and Ms. Montgomery. Mr. Hollingsworth abstained from voting. The motion was approved by the majority of the Board, with one abstaining from vote.

Chairman Walker thanked Ms. Smartt and the members of the Certification Committee for their work on this matter. The Board discussed the requirement that anyone (both hearing and deaf) holding a BEI certification must maintain 10 CEUs for 5 years to maintain their certification levels.

E. Rules Committee

Chairman Walker reported that the Committee would report at the next Board meeting.

V. Old Business

Chairman Walker reported that there was no old Business to discuss.

VI. New Business

A. Exemption Requests

Ms. Moorer presented two exemption requests for the Board's approval.

Motion 2020-12: Mr. Hollingsworth made the motion to approve the exemption for BO (#CY20E-BO) pending receipt of their audiological assessment. The motion was seconded by Ms. Montgomery. The Board Chair called for a vote from the Board on the motion as amended and voting "aye" were Mr. Feibelman, Mr. Hollingsworth, Ms. Pat Smartt and Ms. Montgomery. The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion 2020-13: Mr. Feibelman made the motion to approve the exemption for BAM (#CY20E-BAM). The motion was seconded by Mr. Hollingsworth. The Board Chair called for a vote from the Board on the motion as amended and voting "aye" were Mr. Feibelman, Mr.

Hollingsworth, Ms. Pat Smartt and Ms. Montgomery. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Continuing Education Request

Ms. Moorer presented a request (#CY20CE-TM&JG) about how to obtain CE credits for training offered by a non-RID certified instructor(s). The Board discussed the lack of documentation needed to make a determination about a PINRA credit and asked Ms. Moorer to contact the individuals for more information.

Ms. Moorer also presented a request (#CY20CE-LM) for CE credits for graduate school courses. Following a review from this non-RID member, the Board agreed that the courses met the 2 CEU requirements.

Motion 2020-14: Mr. Hollingsworth made the motion to accept the college credits for LM (#CY2020-LM) as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Montgomery. The Board Chair called for a vote from the Board on the motion as amended and voting "aye" were Mr. Feibelman, Mr. Hollingsworth, Ms. Pat Smartt and Ms. Montgomery. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. Election of Board Officers

Chairman Walker reported that election of officers was due and called for nominations for Board office of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary.

NOMINATION FOR BOARD CHAIR: Ms. Montgomery nominated Mr. Walker to continue as Board Chair. There were no other nominations from the floor.

NOMINATION FOR BOARD VICE CHAIR: Ms. Smartt nominated Ms. Hayes to continue as Board Vice Chair. There were no other nominations from the floor.

NOMINATION FOR BOARD SECRETARY: Ms. Montgomery nominated Ms. Smartt to continue as Board Secretary. There were no other nominations from the floor.

Chairman Walker announced that the nominations were approved by acclamation.

VII. Other Business and Announcements

- A. Chairman Walker announced that the next meeting of the Board was scheduled Thursday, April 30, 2020 at 10:30 a.m.


VIII. Adjournment

MOTION 2020-15: Mr. Hollingsworth made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Feibelman. There was no further business of the Board and the Board Chair called for a vote from the Board and voting "aye" were Mr. Feibelman, Mr. Hollingsworth, Ms. Pat Smartt and Ms. Montgomery. The motion was unanimously approved. Chairman Walker adjourned the meeting at 12:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melvin Walker

Melvin Walker
Board Chair



Keith E. Warren
Executive Director

/rr