

ALBIT Board Meeting Minutes May 21, 2010

The Alabama Licensure Board for Interpreters and Transliterators regular Board meeting was held at the Board office in Montgomery and called to order at 1:09 p.m. with a quorum present.

Present were as follows: Lori Pituk, Vice Chair; Tammy Adams, Member; Steve Hamerdinger; Member; Florence Vance, Member; Lynne Weisman, Member; Patricia Smartt, Member; and Janice Hawkins, Member. Absent was Kathleen Marcopulos, Member. Also present were Paula "Scout" McCaleb, Executive Director; Brandy L. Isenhour Operations Manager and serving as Recording Secretary; and Melvin Walker and Belinda Montgomery serving as Interpreters.

The meeting was advertised in advance on the Secretary of State's web site located at www.sos.alabama.gov in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act. It was also advertised on the Board web site.

- I. **Motion 2010-01** -Steve Hamerdinger made a motion to accept the Minutes for the November 20, 2009, Board meeting as presented. Florence Vance seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- II. The Oath of Office was then administered to new Board members Lynne Weisman and Tammy Adams by Paula McCaleb.
- III. Janice Hawkins entered the Board meeting at 1:23 p.m.
- IV. **Motion 2010-02** -Steve Hamerdinger made a motion to accept the proposed changes to the Rules and Regulations Chapter 488-X-1-.09 Exemptions as submitted. Florence Vance seconded the motion. Lynne Weisman made an amendment to the motion to strike through, "non-career. Janice Hawkins seconded the amendment to the motion. After Board discussion, the Chair called for a vote on the amendment to the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The Chair then called for a vote on the amended motion and the motion passed unanimously with the changes as follows:
488-X-1-.09 Exemptions.

The following persons shall be exempt from licensure or permitting pursuant to this chapter:

- ~~(1) Any student who is enrolled in a formal American sign language program, a formal interpreter training program, or a formal interpreter or transliterator internship program. The student shall be allowed to interpret or transliterate as part of his or her training for a maximum of 16 weeks in an educational setting or 120 hours in an agency or business.~~

(1)The board may grant exemptions status from licensure or permitting for a period of 90 days for only the following reasons:

- a) A catastrophic emergency, including protracted illness under the care of a physician, reasonably precluding the meeting of CEU requirements or compliance of testing in a timely manner to receive certification before March 15th. Failure to receive test results shall not be grounds for this exemption.
- b) Unavailability of a test approved by the Board or lack of sufficient training and preparatory opportunities leading to testing.
- c) Service by a military person on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States, which precludes them from reasonably completing the requirements for licensure or permitting.

(2) Supporting documentation, including documentation specifically requested by the Board, such as a letter from a physician or proof of loss, shall be submitted.

~~(2) Any person who interprets or transliterates solely in a church, synagogue, temple, or other religious setting.~~

~~(3) Any person residing outside of the State of Alabama may provide interpreting and transliterating services for up to 14 working days per calendar year without a license.~~

~~(4) Any person desiring to interpret for remuneration where circumstances do not allow for fulfillment of the stated requirements for licensure or permitting may petition the board for exemption status.~~

~~(5) Those public education personnel and State Department of Rehabilitation personnel, who are not hired as interpreters and transliterators and who are not as a part of their job description responsible for providing interpreting or transliteration services, in circumstances that may necessitate their function as interpreters and transliterators in emergency or incidental situations.~~

~~(6) All other public education personnel hired prior to March 15, 2000, who provide interpreting and transliterating services to students. These personnel shall apply for and receive a permit specifying that their permits are restricted to interpreting and transliteration services provided in the public education setting only. The application for this permit shall be submitted to the board prior to October 1, 2000. It shall be the responsibility of the permit holder to annually renew the permit by earning continuing education units in compliance with the requirements of the interpreters and transliterators licensure law. If personnel, who have been grandfathered in pursuant to this subdivision, for any reason should allow their permits to lapse or expire, those personnel shall lose all privileges of this exemption and shall adhere to all requirements of the interpreters and transliterators licensure law to renew their permits. **Authors:** Belinda Montgomery, Charlene Crump **Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §34-16-4. **History: New Rule:** Filed June 11, 2002; effective July 16, 2002. Amended: Filed March 13, 2008; Effective May 6, 2008.~~

~~**488-X-1-10** Extensions. In order to accommodate the volume of applications for initial testing, extensions to renew permits were granted until October 1, 2000, by written request of applicant. Further extensions after this date will not be considered.~~

- V. **Motion 2010-03-** Janice Hawkins made a motion to approve Shannon Reese's request for an exemption based on the information provided to the Board. Florence Vance seconded the motion. Florence Vance and Steve Hamerdinger abstained from voting. The Motion passed.
- VI. **Motion 2010-04 -** Steve Hamerdinger made a motion to accept Amelia England's request for exemption based on the information provided to the Board. Janice Hawkins seconded the motion. Florence Vance and Lynne Weisman abstained from voting. The motion passed.
- VII. Lynne Weisman nominated Lori Pituk as Chair. Steve Hamerdinger seconded the nomination and the Board accepted Lori Pituk as Chair by acclamation.

- VIII. Lynne Weisman nominated Steve Hamerdinger as Vice Chair. Florence Vance seconded the nomination and the Board accepted Steve Hamerdinger as Vice Chair by acclamation.
- IX. Lori Pituk nominated Patricia Smartt as Secretary. Steve Hamerdinger seconded the nomination and the Board accepted Patricia Smartt as Secretary by acclamation.
- X. **The board updated the committee listing as follows:**
ALBIT Committee List
(Established May 21, 2010)

PR Committee: Steve Hamerdinger, Chair; Lori Pituk

Charge: Increase communication with licensed and permitted Interpreters and Transliterators and consumers of these services with an intent to educate on the processes of ALBIT and public protection.

Testing, Evaluation, Certification and Forms: Steve Hamerdinger, Chair; Lori Pituk, Pat Smartt, Florence Vance

Charge: To respond to requests of additional tests or evaluations to satisfy requirements for permit holders.

Continuing Education: Patti Smart, Chair; and Florence Vance

Charge: To approve CEU requests which are outside of CMP (as established by the procedure in the Board Rules and Regulations)

- XI. There being no further Board business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:06 p.m. and announced that the next Board meeting was scheduled for August 20, 2010, at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Pituk, Chair

Steve Hamerdinger, Vice-Chair

Paula McCaleb, Executive Director

Brandy L. Isenhour, Operations Manager and Serving as Recording Secretary