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**2023 GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING MINUTES**

**NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF**

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**Opening:**

The regular board meeting of NCAD duly called and held on Saturday, April 29, 2023 at the NCAD-NCASLTA (NC American Sign Language Teachers Association) Conference, Hilton Charlotte University Place, 8629 J.M. Keynes Drive, Charlotte, NC at 3:25 PM.

**Present were:**

President – Craig Blevins	Western Regional Representative – Vacant
Vice President – Mike Lupo	Central Regional Representative – Linda Nelson
Treasurer – Martina Moore-Reid	Eastern Regional Representative – Vacant
Secretary – Jaime Marshall	Social Media Coordinator – Theresa Moss

*20+ NCAD members were in attendance along with 3 Deaf Interpreters for DeafBlind*

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With the approval of the NCAD board members present, President Blevins acted as Chairman of the general assembly meeting and Secretary Jaime Marshall recorded the minutes. Meeting Minutes from the last board meeting (6/22/19) was reviewed and approved.

**Motion by:** Linda Nelson

**Seconded by:** James Ledford

**Vote Count:** All in favor

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**Presidents Report:**

President Blevins delivers a report on NCAD’s progress over the past four years, 2019-2023 as the last scheduled 2021 conference was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic:

A. NCITLB

Addressing NC Interpreters & Transliterators Licensing Board, an email was sent on January 30, 2023:

“Our members, all Deaf represent several ethnic groups and is a non-profit organization for Deaf citizens of North Carolina. It was founded in 1908 when deaf citizens in North Carolina were concerned about the education of deaf children and the residential school. Since that time, NCAD has evolved into a broad organization overseeing important educational, civil, health and social issues of deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind citizens in NC.

The advocacy scope of the NCAD is broad, covering a lifetime and impacting future generations in the areas of early intervention, education, employment, health care, technology, telecommunications, youth leadership, and more – improving the lives of millions of Deaf and Hard of Hearing North Carolinians. The NCAD also carries out its federal advocacy work through coalition efforts with specialized national Deaf and Hard of Hearing organizations, as well as coalitions representing national cross- disability organizations.

The North Carolina Association for the Deaf is in favor of the amendments to Chapter 90D-7 and 90D-8. Deaf North Carolinians, and the hearing parties they interact with, rely on the competency of American Sign Language interpreters in various settings, daily. These interactions include, but are not limited to, employment, banking, medical appointments/procedures, legal system, and public services. Deaf individuals typically do not have an option on which interpreter, if any, will be called to interpret for their appointments. Raising the minimum standard for a Provisional license to include an assessment of interpreting skill, as well as adding multiple pathways to a Full license will increase confidence that a licensee can function in these settings. We support the Board’s goal to expand the pool of qualified interpreters working in North Carolina.

Craig Blevins, President  
North Carolina Association of the Deaf’

#### B. EIPA Score for Educational Interpreters (NC Department of Education - Public Schools)

NCAD EIPA Committee: Jaime Marshall, David Rosenthal and Rachal Ragin worked in collaboration with the NC DPI between 2016 – 2020 where changes were made.

Effective July 1, 2021

All newly hired interpreters must have:

- Minimum EIPA score of 3.3 before hiring and 3.5 EIPA score by the third year of employment
- AA degree in Interpreting or a related field

All interpreters, between 3.0 - 3.2 EIPA score, who are already employed / contracted in the system:

- have three years to reach a 3.3
- and an additional three years to achieve a 3.5, the new minimum standard requirement

C. HB 317

**AGENDA TOPIC: DATA**

team.  
**SECTION 2.** The Department of Health and Human Services and other State agencies and organizations upon the request of the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) shall make databases containing information on children under the age of 22 who are diagnosed as deaf or hard of hearing available to DPI. DPI shall use this information to develop and maintain a statewide data tracking system for the purpose of coordinating with other State agencies and organizations and ensuring literacy achievement for all such children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

According to the HB 317, known as the NC Deaf Child's Bill of Rights (NC DCBOR), DHHS is to develop and maintain a statewide data tracking system on all deaf/hoh children, from age 0 to 22.

The law was passed in 2013 and there is no public data from different divisions on their website: NC Vocational Rehabilitation, NC Department of Public Instruction, NC Early Intervention, NC EHDI, NC DHHS, etc.

Thomas Page, a Speech-Language Pathologist, at University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill is the Program Coordinator for the "Outcomes of Children with Hearing Loss" study for the state of NC. NC Association of the Deaf Board has not yet seen a summary of data that has been collected by his office.

D. NC LEAD K Fundraiser

HB 317 is a similar bill to Lead-K Bill which is why NCAD did not pursue to pass the LEAD-K bill in North Carolina. The fundraiser was started by Deaf Seniors of NC (SDNC). A total of \$,1200 has been raised in which DSNC has in their bank account in the purpose to strengthen the HB 317 law especially the area of database tracking of all Deaf and Hard of Hearing children, age between 0 – 21.

E. Finances --Treasurer Moore-Reid

1. Charitable Solicitation License
2. Heritage Foundation
3. 501 (C)(3)

F. NCAD Representatives Serving on Committees and Sub Committees

1. NC Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing – David Rosenthal
2. North Carolina Interpreter & Transliterator Licensing Board – Alicia Griffin of Greensboro

G. OurNCAD.org website & Monthly e-Newsletters

H. Community Ties

1. Attended quarterly meetings: NC Council for the Deaf/HoH
2. Tillinghast Apartment
3. Continue to build partnerships with NCITLB, NC DSDHH, NCRID & NC DPI

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**AGENDA TOPIC: Treasurer Report**

**Motion:** We, the NCAD members, approve the Treasurer Report.

**Motion By:** James Ledford

**Seconded By:** Linda Nelson of Cary

**Vote Count:** All in favor

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**ELECTION**

**PRESIDENT**

**Motion: open nominations for President**

**Candidate:** Mike Lupo of Wilmington

**Vote Count:** All in favor

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**ELECTION**

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

**Motion: open nominations for Vice-President**

**Candidate:** Sion A. Moss (Sam) of Morganton

**Vote Count:** All in favor

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**ELECTION**

**TREASURER**

**Motion: open nominations for Treasurer**

**Candidate:** Martina Moore-Reid of Fuquay-Varina

**Vote Count:** All in favor

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**ELECTION**

**SECRETARY**

**Motion: open nominations for Secretary**

**Candidate:** Jaime Marshall of Granite Falls

**Vote Count:** All in favor

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**ELECTION**

**WESTERN REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE**

**Motion: open nominations for Western Regional Representative**

**Candidate:** James Ledford of Nebo

**Vote Count:** All in favor

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**ELECTION**

**CENTRAL REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE**

**Motion: open nominations for Central Regional Representative**

**Candidate:** Vacant

**Vote Count:** All in favor

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**ELECTION**

**EASTERN REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE**

**Motion: open nominations for Eastern Regional Representative**

**Candidate:** Linda Nelson of Cary

**Vote Count:** All in favor

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**ELECTION**

**SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR**

**Motion: open nominations for Social Media Coordinator**

**Candidate:** Theresa Moss of Morganton

**Vote Count:** All in favor

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Each elected officer recites: "I do solemnly swear that I shall faithfully service as a (position) of NCAD and will do the best of my abilities, serve as a living example of this organization's philosophy and beliefs and will uphold and enforce the constitution of this organization at all times. So, help me God.

**Meeting Adjourned, 5:01 PM**