I. Call to Order
Doug Godfrey called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

II. Reading of the Mission Statement and Introductions
John Knisely read the WVCDHH Mission Statement.

III. Election of the Chair
John Knisely made a motion to elect Doug Godfrey as the WVCDHH chair. Annette Carey seconded. Motion approved.

IV. Minutes
The minutes from the May 17, 2007, meeting were reviewed. James Ennis made the motion to accept the minutes. Pierre Sevigny seconded. Motion approved.

V. Executive Director’s Report
Deanna Stone shared her written report. The Annual Report is finished and is being reviewed. It needs to be submitted to the Governor’s office by September 30.

Old Business

VI. Parent Guide Update
Deanna received an email from Joni Alberg stating that the licensing fee for the whole book is $2400.00. We can make the changes that pertain to West Virginia. After reviewing the contract, John Knisely suggested that the Commission ask BEGINNINGS
if we could pay an additional amount in order to receive a perpetual license instead of the 
three-year license that is in the contract. John made the motion to authorize the 
Commission to spend up to $5000.00 for a perpetual license. Pierre Sevigny seconded. 
Motion approved.

VII. Mentors
Annette Carey updated the board on the mentorship program. The Department of 
Education has hired Jennifer Casto as the lead mentor. Currently there are 32 mentees in 
the program. Jennifer Casto then spoke about what she has been doing and her goals for 
the program. There are eight mentors: Jennifer, Antonia Hall, Tracie Bryant, Shari Loar, 
Claudia Mals, Karen Hott, Roy Forman, and Janelle St. Martin.

VIII. WVAD Conference
Roy Forman shared about the conference held in Charleston on August 3-4, 2007. The 
Commission paid about $2000.00 to sponsor refreshments. On behalf of the Board, Doug 
expressed his appreciation for the work Roy has done in working with WVAD.

IX. Needs Assessment
Doug said the needs assessment has been completed and is currently being distributed. It 
was distributed at the WVAD conference and everyone is encouraged to make it 
available throughout the state.

X. Deaf Awareness Week
Roy shared the list of activities that are planned at Romney for Deaf Awareness Week, 
September 24-28. He will do a presentation on “Knowing Your Rights in Medicine.”

XI. ASL Certification
Annette shared that the process is at a stand-still right now. There are issues regarding 
who is qualified to be a teacher.

XII. Foreign Language Test
Annette’s department is working on developing a test that would allow Deaf or Hard of 
Hearing students to test out of the foreign language requirement. They would receive the 
credits needed for knowing ASL. Barb King suggested that a letter from the Commission 
may be helpful to let WVDE know that the Commission is in support of this test. 
Annette and Deanna will draft a letter. Commission members will have the opportunity 
to add their name to it if they want. Emily Hopta suggested the letter go out in 
September. Emily made the motion to authorize Annette and Deanna to draft a letter. 
Pierre Sevigny seconded. Annette abstained. Motion approved.

XIII. WVU Audiology Issue
Deanna gave an update on an issue that James Ennis brought to the Commission’s 
attention at the May meeting regarding the conduct of an audiologist at WVU with his 
daughter and granddaughter. On June 29 at the Cochlear Implant task force meeting, 
Deanna talked about the issue to Leslie Purcell, a WVU audiologist. Gary Vandevander 
had already brought the issue to her attention. She said WVU had discussed the matter
with the audiologists about the appropriate way to approach families regarding Cochlear Implants. Pat Moss is working with the Center for Disabilities at WVU. They are developing Cultural Diversity trainings to be offered during medical school. The project is being funded by Maternal, Child and Family Health.

XIV. EIPA and workshops updates
Deanna reported that Roy has facilitated 36 EIPA tests. Upcoming workshops include:
- Sept. 14: Working with Your Classroom Interpreter (for teachers and administrators)
- Sept. 15: Professional Conduct and EIPA Test Preparation
- Sept. 16: A session with Frances Beaurivage and our mentors
- Sept. 29: That’s a Wrap
- Oct. 20: Effective Fingerspelling
- Oct. 21: Effective Fingerspelling
- Nov. 10: Basic Skills

XV. Bridging the Gap
Deanna shared about the training that she conducted with the State Division of Personnel on June 28. The evaluations were very positive. The training will be repeated. She is also working on developing a similar course to be presented to the State Police.

XVI. ASL Program at MC&TC
Deanna reported for Molly Simonton. Marshall Community and Technical College has added ASL classes and Molly is the Director of the program. Teachers will be Molly, Jennifer Casto and Leigh Ann Brewer.

XVII. Empowerment Cards
Roy is working on developing a small emergency card that deaf or hard of hearing people can carry with them. He shared several samples that he has received from other states.

New Business
XVIII. RID Conference
Kari Preslar shared about the conference held August 3-8 in San Francisco. About 2500 people attended. Kari and Trudy Ford attended from West Virginia.

XIX. FY 2008 Budget
Deanna shared the budget with the commission.

XX. Office Update
Deanna told the board what her school schedule is for the fall semester. Doug thanked Kari and Roy for keeping the office running so efficiently while Deanna is attending school.

XXI. Civil Service Exams
James Ennis brought a concern regarding the accommodations that are allowed for deaf or hard of hearing persons when taking a civil service exam. Pierre Sevigny made the
motion to table this issue until the next meeting in order to get more information. John Knisely seconded. James, Pierre and Doug will research the issue for the next meeting.

XXII. Division of Rehabilitation Services
Barb King gave an update on DRS. The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Unit is still a viable service with complete staff. Barb distributed a page detailing the program curriculum available.

XXIII. ASL Expo
James announced that the ASL Expo will be held in Pittsburgh on November 3.

XXIV. Adjournment
Pierre made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Gary seconded. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.