# Minutes

# Iowa Commission for the BlindMarch 31, 2023

1. Call to order and determination of quorum. The quarterly meeting of the Iowa Commission for the Blind was called to order at 12:00 p.m., by Ryan Brems, with the following members present Ryan Brems, acting chair, and Amy Salger. Others in attendance: Emily Wharton, Janice Eggers, Sarah Willeford, Kim Walford, Keri Osterhaus, Michael Hoeing, Amena Thomas, Matt Nemmers, Katy Olsen, Helen Mejia, Connie Mendenhall, Tyler Eason (AAG), Shawn Mayo, Carrie Chapman, and Lisa Schneider.
2. Public Comment — none.
3. Welcome to new Commissioner Amy Salger by Commissioner Brems.
4. Approval of the consent agenda and approval of the September 20, 2022, and December 6, 2022 board minutes. Ms. Salger moved approval of the minutes as written. Mr. Brems seconded, and the motion passed.
5. Agency Director Report - Ms. Wharton shared:
   1. Thank you to Commissioner Brems.
   2. Are there any questions regarding the report submitted?
   3. Update – signing of the realignment bill will be on Tuesday April 4, 2023.
   4. Michael Hoening has been appointed commissioner and will be starting on May 1, 2023 replacing Commissioner Brems.

Commissioner Brems shared that the accomplishments at IDB are incredible and congratulations to all of you.

Ms. Salger moved approval of the Director Report. Mr. Brems seconded, and the motion passed.

1. Approval of Board Approval Policy - Ms. Salger moved approval of the policy as written. Mr. Brems seconded, and the motion passed.
2. Consideration of Closed Session. Mr. Brems had Ms. Eggers read paragraph 1a from the Code of Iowa, Section 21.5(1)(a). Ms. Salger moved to adjourn to closed session. Mr. Brems seconded the motion. There was a roll call vote: Mr. Brems, yes; and Ms. Salger, yes. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned into closed session at 12:31 p.m. The meeting entered into closed session at 12:35 p.m.

On a motion by Ms. Salger and seconded by Mr. Brems to move out of closed session at 12:48 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting entered open session at 12:51 p.m.

1. Closed Session –
2. Ms. Salger moved that request Item #115, from closed session, be approved a grant with conditions. Mr. Brems seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Emily Wharton thanked Commissioner Ryan Brems for his service and appreciation for working with you.

Commissioner Brems thanked Director Emily Wharton and all IDB staff for what you do for all Iowans.

1. Adjournment – Ms. Salger motioned to adjoin the meeting and Mr. Brems seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ryan Brems, Acting Chairperson

Commission for the Blind

Janice EggersSecretary to the Commission/ Executive Secretary

Department for the Blind

/jce