# Minutes

# Iowa Commission for the BlindMarch 10, 2020

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 Sandi Ryan, with the following members present: Sandi Ryan, chair, Geneva Jacobsen, member, and Ryan Brems member (telephonically), which was a quorum. Others in attendance: Emily Wharton, Janice Eggers, Helen Stevens, Connie Mendenhall, Cheri Myers, Kim Barber, Al Bickell, Kathy Roat, Sarah Willeford, Keri Osterhaus, Cindy Ray, Ross Pollpeter, Craig Dikeman, Matt Verhuille, Matt Nemmers, and telephonically: Michael Barber.
2. Public Comment— none.
3. Approval of the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Brems moved and Ms. Jacobsen seconded, and the motion passed.
4. Election of the Chair. Ms. Jacobson nominated Ms. Ryan. On a motion by Geneva Jacobson. On a roll call vote, the motion passed 2-1.
5. Election of the Secretary. Ms. Jacobson moved and seconded by Mr. Brems. Roll Call vote, the motion passed.
6. Approval of December 3, 2019 and February 25, 2020 board minutes. Ms. Jacobsen moved approval of the agenda as presented. Mr. Brems seconded, and the motion passed.
7. 4Plus Update – Director Wharton discussed the write-up in the board reports. The Governor did recommend this. We gave a joint presentation to the Education Appropriation Subcommittee with IESVBI. The materials are available on the website. We are awaiting the funding approval.
8. Agency Director Report - Ms. Wharton shared:
   1. Governor declared a state of emergency around the coronavirus. We are planning accordingly.
   2. Procedure and Policy manual update. Working with the DAS Personnel Officer on the manual.
   3. All Staff Meeting on Friday. Will update employees with the changes.

Chair Ryan congratulated Commissioner Brems on his reappointment to serve for another 3 years on the Commission Board. She introduced and congratulated Commissioner Jacobsen, who has been appointed by Governor Reynolds to serve the remainder of Joe Van Lents term. Joe Van Lent resigned at the beginning of February.

1. Consideration of Closed Session. Ms. Ryan had Ms. Eggers read paragraph 1a from the Code of Iowa, Section 21.5(1)(a). Mr. Brems moved to adjourn to closed session. Ms. Jacobsen, seconded the motion. There was a roll call vote: Ms. Ryan, yes; Ms. Jacobsen, yes; and Mr. Brems, yes. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned into closed session at 12:24 p.m. The meeting entered into closed session at 12:26 p.m.

The meeting entered open session at 12:42 p.m.

1. Closed Session –
2. Mr. Brems moved that request Item #001, from closed session, approve a loan. Ms. Jacobsen seconded the motion. There was a roll call vote: Ms. Ryan, yes; Ms. Jacobsen, yes; and Mr. Brems, yes. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Mr. Brems moved that request Item #002, from closed session, approve a loan. Ms. Jacobsen seconded the motion. There was a roll call vote: Ms. Ryan, yes; Ms. Jacobsen, yes; and Mr. Brems, yes. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Adjournment – Mr. Brems moved the meeting adjourn. Ms. Jacobsen seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandi Ryan, Chairperson

Commission for the Blind

Janice EggersSecretary to the Commission/ Executive Secretary

Department for the Blind

/jce