

August 20, 2024

Meeting Opens: 5:35 p.m.

Attendance: AC, DMC, CC, PD, JD, AE, RH (remote, illness), NP, RQ, MR, SRL, SC

Quorum: YES

Approval of Minutes May Meeting:

- **Motion to accept minutes with edits to first bullet point on page 2: Moved: CC; Second: MR. Y, Y, Y, Y, Y, Y, Y, Y, Y, Y, Y, Y. Motion passes unanimously.**

Public Meeting Law Changes:

- Justifications for Absences:
 - Medical/Illness
 - Childcare/Family care
 - Travel/commute related issues
 - Work scheduling conflicts
 - Weather

Language Access Update:

- Contracting newsletter from Administrative Services include a proposed contract related to a statewide language access contract
- A few weeks later Admin Services provides updates with several other agencies included
- The idea at the moment is working with other states (“cooperative project agreement”) to solicit vendors from across the country to provide language access services to different agencies across multiple states
- There are seven vendors that have proposed completing the terms
- The State would then choose one of the vendors to contract with on behalf of the interested agencies
- Right now it appears the contract processing will be in a lull before further action
- Jeremy will continue to monitor the contract as it progresses. A copy of the cooperative project agreement can be provided for the Council to look over
- Participating agencies pay for the services under the agreement, so it is not a flat rate that the state pays but it enables agencies to more easily avail themselves of the process
- Discussion around HIPPA compliance or other confidentiality provisions for the services
- DHHS provided some background to DAS on how language access works and how encompassing it could be and what it would include
 - It could also vary from department to department based upon the needs of the department, so some of the contracts/vendors may not be ideal for agencies with greater needs
- The process enables agencies to contract directly with the vendor to provide the needed or requested services
- Question of how broad the scope of “language access” could be and does it include all necessary services or overlook anything
- Seeing agencies that are interested in language access services

- Discussion of language access needs and obligations under state and federal law and what is our obligation under the law. Are there risks in not providing access?
- SRL to provide info on the agreement – to the extent that it can be done publicly.

Other Updates:

- Legislation updates:
 - HB 1028 – Signed by the Governor and going to be studied in the inter-session period for public input and providing greater protection going forward; question of whether a physician would be included in the Commission
 - SB 353 – Referred to interim study, work session is on 9/12/24; discussion of what a work session is and what comes after a work session
- SRL presentation at “Principal’s Academy” regarding school discrimination and biased behavior in schools; reflected and relied upon the work done in our tool-kit as points for discussion and improvement
- SRL will provide a copy of presentation to the Council
- Announcement regarding “Welcoming School’s Month” proclamation
- SRL discusses study committee on juveniles and hate-motivated behavior with specific responses
 - School safety taskforce could be a good source for information and input
 - Discussion about at-risk youth and how they become indoctrinated into hate-ideology

New Business:

- None

Public Comment:

- None

Next Meeting: September 17, 2024, Department of Safety, 33 Hazen Drive, 5:30 p.m.

Adjourn: 6:25 p.m.