

**Interstate TRS Advisory Council
Draft Meeting Minutes April 18, 2012
Crystal City, VA**

Attendees:

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Kelby Brick Chair – TRS providers
Sheila Conlon-Mentkowski Vice Chair – deaf and hard of hearing community
Ron Bibler Secretary – TRS users
Jack Cassell – State regulatory-relay administration
Brenda KellyFrey - State regulatory-relay administration
Amy Ignatius - State regulatory
Tim Schram - State regulatory
Toni Acton – Interstate service providers
Mark Tauscher – TRS providers
Andrew Phillips – TRS users
Robert Segalman alternate for Rebecca Ladew – Hearing/Speech disability community

RLSA

David Rolka
Peter Bluhm
Robert Loube

FCC

Greg Hlibok

Convene

Kelby Brick, Chair, called the meeting to order around 9:20 am. Mr. Brick asked council members and other attendees to introduce themselves.

October 19, 2011 Minutes

It was moved, seconded and approved that the minutes of the October 19, 2011 meeting be accepted with the modification of minor typographical revisions.

FCC Update and Discussion

Greg Hlibok, Chief in the Disability Rights Office was introduced as representing the FCC. Mr. Hlibok offered a summary of updates including relay provider certification process, an investigation into the possibility of IP Relay abuse, and the pending expiration of the 2011-2012 TRS rates. Mr. Hlibok regretted that he could not be more specific on VRS issues and rate structure information because the topic was still in active FCC discussion and no final decisions had been made for Council perusal.

Mr. Hlibok then responded to questions from the Council.

RLSA Staff Reports

Dave Rolka and Bob Loube presented the TRS Filing covering the MARS rate, and IP Relay. They said they were asked by the FCC not to discuss Video Relay Service reimbursement at this meeting as it is still in ongoing FCC discussion. Council members noted that the administrator was using the wrong denominator in the calculation of the MARS rate. After discussion and analysis of the formula, the administrator acknowledged the necessary correction and responded that the filing of the annual report with the FCC would reflect this correction.

Dave Rolka presented an overview of RLSA first year as TRS Fund Administrator. He discussed RLSA's role and experience in handling the changes and challenges of the past year. Mr. Rolka then responded to a number of questions from Council members. A discussion ensued on the feasibility of monthly status reports separating total support paid for the reported month into current minutes as well as minutes previously reported but payment withheld for whatever reason.

Ron Bibler requested that RLSA notify the Council whenever a new TRS Fund Performance Status Report has been posted on the RLSA website. Mr. Rolka responded that he would work with staff to possibly do some kind of 'broadcast' and attach the report.

Mr. Rolka informed the Council of the probability that RLSA would likely retain third-party auditors to conduct relay compliance audits of service providers under RLSA's supervision and not the supervision of the FCC, and that such an RFP for services had been issued.

Council Member Agenda Items/New Business

Sheila Conlon-Mentkowski presented proposed bylaw revisions that her subcommittee had developed and circulated among the Council. Discussion ensued on the subject of Council member alternates attending Council meetings and the 30 day advance notice called for in the proposed bylaws. Sheila moved and Jack Cassell seconded that the amended bylaws be approved as presented. Motion passed.

Jack Cassell moved and Brenda Kelly-Frey seconded that going forward the Council be presented with two new reports: a State by State Video Relay Service Originating Call/Minute Summary and a State by State Internet Relay Originating Call/Minute Summary. Discussion ensued that these reports were previously prepared and presented in a terminating minute summary by NECA and that the originating call data needed to generate the requested report was being collected by R-L-S-A. Motion passed.

Sheila Conlon-Mentkowski moved and Jack Cassell seconded that the Council be presented with the data collected prior to the iTRS annual filing report. Motion passed.

Mark Tauscher moved and it was seconded that the Council take a position and send a letter to the FCC supporting a more timely payment schedule for provider reimbursement and also support consideration of additional interest payments made for reimbursements that are significantly delayed. Chair Brick will write the correspondence for distribution within the Council and then forward it to the FCC.

Jack Cassell moved and Brenda Kelly-Frey seconded that the next iTRS Council meeting be held in conjunction with the Fall 2012 NASRA meeting in Orland Florida on October 25. Motion passed.

Public Comment

Mike Maddox from Sorenson and John Goodman from Sprint addressed Dave Rolka during his presentation. A representative of the speech disabled community expressed his appreciation to the Council for the ability to take advantage of STS technology, and encouraged continuing support for the service.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
By Ron Bibler, Secretary