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## COORDINATORS OF STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES TO THE DEAF

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Minutes of the Sectional Meeting of State Coordinators of Vocational Rehabilitation Services to the Deaf held at the Fifth Biennial Conference of Professional Rehabilitation Workers with the Adult Deaf in Tucson, Arizona, Thursday, February 14, 1974.

The first meeting was called to order by Mr. Glenn Mathews. Mr. Mathews gave some background information on formation of State Coordinators for Services to the Deaf.

Jim Hanson, Harry Beasley, and Glenn Mathews were selected to establish coordination between states. Bylaws have been distributed to all members at this time. Now there are 33 to 35 individuals who qualify as state coordinators for services to the deaf.

A reading of the by-laws and sections by Mr. Mathews. Membership is open to individuals who function as coordinators of state services for the deaf. No dues at this time.

Section I. A chairman, vice-chairman and secretary will be elected during this meeting. Those present and representing states are as follows:

Tom Lawrie, Georgia	Ron Reese, California
Robert Sanderson, Utah	Faye Best, Kentucky
Elsie Forrest, Oregon	Al Sonnenstrahl, Massachusetts
Edw. Wilber, Wisconsin	Jerry Christopher, Tennessee
Joe Ziev, Connecticut	Charles Ryals, Alabama
(Commissioner for the Deaf)	Gene Levine, New York
Cindy Guernsey, Nevada	Carl Isbell, Mississippi
Norm Rash, Arizona	Ed Kilcullen, Maryland
Jim Hanson, Iowa	Cliff Lawrence, New Hampshire
Bob Hope, Arkansas	Bud Harrelson, South Carolina
John Ellefson, South Dakota	Rex Purvis, Virginia
George Bond, Rhode Island	

Rex Purvis, Temporary Chairman, then held an open discussion. Bob Sanderson was concerned about the term "Coordinator". He suggested that we include others such as counselors or those who do have *responsibility* of coordinating services rather than the title "Coordinator". "One coordinator from each state that carries administrative or consultant status for services to the deaf" was read as defined in the bylaws. Term "Coordinator" was chosen to include other job titles. If we begin having three or four representatives from each state, then we dilute the purpose of the organization.

## STATE COORDINATORS

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I. *Motion:* A motion was made by Mr. Rash that a committee be selected to look into the possibility of changing the membership criteria and vote on it within six months.

*Second* of motion by David Myers of Louisiana.

*Discussion:* Term "Coordinator".

One of the purposes of developing this organization is to encourage *each* state to appoint a state coordinator. Should we include other agencies?

*Vote:* Unanimously carried —no opposition.

Recommendation was made to elect officers at the end of the meeting. At this time the group requested that the election take place presently. Mr. Hanson offered a slate of officers selected by the Screening Committee. Nominations would also be accepted from the floor.

Three individuals selected for Executive Committee:

Chairman: Rex Purvis, Virginia

Vice-Chairman: Ron Reese, California

Secretary: Bud Harrelson, South Carolina

II. *Motion:* Terry Kemp from North Carolina made the motion we accept the slate appointed by the Screening Committee.

*Second* of motion by Bob Hope of Arkansas.

*Discussion:* None

*Vote:* Unanimously carried.

Officers will serve until 1976. Next meeting to be in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The first duty of the Executive Committee will be to study the membership criteria.

Bill Woodrick made an announcement that PRWAD will have information available as to prospective VR employees. They are in the process of refining this information, and it should be available shortly.

III. *Motion:* Terry Kemp from North Carolina made the motion that we appoint a committee to study the variances that exist between states and report to the Executive Committee of the State Coordinators of Vocational Rehabilitation Services to the Deaf and make recommendations regarding the Federal Coding System for deaf and hard of hearing clients.

*Second* of motion by Glenn Mathews of West Virginia.

*Discussion:* Are there definitions now being developed? Dr. Boyce Williams does not remember. Should be uniformity in state coding.

*Vote:* Unanimously carried.

It was suggested that a master list of members be sent to all members including TTY numbers.

It was also discussed and recommended that the Executive Committee look into the eligibility criteria of the Social Security Disability Determination Division. Example: Deaf, able to talk; Deaf, unable to talk.

IV. *Motion:* Mr. Rash made the motion that the organization have an annual meeting and that a committee be appointed to look into its feasibility.

*Second* of motion by Mr. Mathews.

*Discussion:* Gallaudet College is interested in helping sponsor the annual meeting to be held at Gallaudet College by Mr. Rod Ferrell.

It was suggested that the Executive Committee also consider the idea of meeting after the next NRA meeting.

Mr. Mathews liked the idea of having a separate meeting.

*Vote:* Unanimously carried.

V. *Motion:* A motion was made from the floor that the Chairman of the Executive Committee write a letter to Dr. Boyce Williams to help secure funds for the annual meeting.

## STATE COORDINATORS

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*Second* of motion by Bud Harrelson of South Carolina.

*Discussion:* None.

*Vote:* Unanimously carried.

Also discussed was the Case Difficulty Index of SSI.

The discussion was ended, and Mr. Rex Purvis, newly elected Chairman, adjourned the meeting.