

**NEW RIVER VALLEY DISABILITY SERVICES BOARD (DSB)
Called Meeting Minutes**

February 9, 2005

Present: Jean Brickey, Maureen Weyer, Sally Quesenberry, Nora Turner, Martha Buchann, Jim Hurt, Cindy Lawson, Judy Harkrader, John Stanley, David Wayne, Nell Doss, Barbara Smith, Aliana Whitaker, and Robert Wright

This meeting was a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting. The meeting was called to order in the Blacksburg Public Library at 10:05AM.

Ms. Brickey, Chair asked if there were any additions to be made to the agenda. Ms. Brickey, Chair announced the addition of the discussion of the Rehabilitative Services Incentive Fund grant opportunity would be added under new business. Ms. Lawson made a motion to pass the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Quesenberry. The motion passed.

Chair Ms. Brickey asked if there were any additions to be made to the minutes of the last meeting (November 10, 2004). A motion was made by Ms. Lawson and seconded by Mr. Wright, to accept the minutes as distributed. The motion was passed.

Mr. Heinline was not present to provide a transportation update. Joint budget review for local funding is scheduled for February 10, 2005.

Mr. Wright, of the Center for Independent Living (CIL) provided an update. Mr. Wright reported that Ms. Vanessa Thompson would be leaving her position with the CIL at the end of February. Mr. Wright reported to his knowledge that there were no consumer complaints during the last quarter. Ms. Whitaker reported that a budget amendment had been made to seek funding for the Christiansburg satellite office of the Blue Ridge Independent Living Center to become independently funded. Ms. Brickey, Chair reported that the DSB sent out letters of support of this amendment to local representative during the last quarter.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS – Ms. Brickey, Chair reported that bill 1803, which seeks to consolidate the Department of Rehabilitative Services (DRS), the Virginia Department of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (VDDHH), and the Virginia Department of Blind Individuals (VDBI), has been tabled. .

Ms. Weyer announced that the products were arriving for the assistive technology lab located on the Virginia Tech Campus. Ms. Brickey, Chair made the suggestion that once the lab is established that the DSB hold a meeting at the lab. Ms. Weyer said that this would be a possibility. Ms. Weyer reported that College Bound is scheduled for June 15-17, 2005. Ms. Weyer also reported that VATS is working hard to collaborate with educators.

OLD BUSINESS – The following items were discussed:

No old business was discussed. During the past quarter, there have not been any consumer complaints.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chair Ms. Brickey announced that the FY06 RSIF funding cycle has been begun. Ms. Whitaker reported that this is a grant opportunity for social service organizations to develop a program that meet the needs identified in the local and state needs assessment. Ms. Whitaker reported that the RSIF grant forwarded by the DSB is due on April 22nd in Richmond, VA. To meet this deadline the local submission deadline is set as April 1, 2005. Ms. Whitaker will compile all responses and email member a summary of the proposal, members will then rank the proposals.

Ms. Whitaker reported that RSIF grants will be solicited using email and possibly newspaper announcements.

The next meeting of the Board was scheduled for Wednesday, May 11, 2005 at 10:00 a.m., location to be in the Blacksburg Public Library.

Chair Ms. Brickey adjourned the meeting at 10:55 am.