

**Telecommunication Access Program (TAP) Advisory Board Meeting
October 13, 2016
KCDHH Conference Room**

Members Present: Ms. Gerry Gordon-Brown, Mr. Jim Timon, Mr. Jeremiah Ziehr, Ms. Marilyn Fenwick, Mr. Johnny Lawson, Mr. Tyler Campbell and Mr. Jim Stevens

Members Absent: Ms. Mindy McGirt, Mr. Lewis Fowler and Ms. Amy Hatzel

Staff Present: Mr. Cole Zulauf, Ms. Jessica Endler Smith, and Ms. Rowena Holloway

Guests: Ms. Beth Slough, Ms. Christa Cervantes and Ms. Shirley Lawson

Communication

Facilitators: Ms. Shannon Grider, Ms. Hunter Bryant, and Ms. Laura Kogut

The Chair, Ms. Gerry Gordon-Brown called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. Mr. Cole Zulauf introduced Ms. Gerry Gordon-Brown as the new Chair of the Board and asked members to introduce themselves. Board members introduced themselves and which entity they represent. Ms. Gordon-Brown asked for a moment of silence for the passing of Ms. Becky Crawford, prior chair of the board. Ms. Smith then called roll and, as there was a quorum, the meeting continued. Minutes from the October 8, 2015 meeting were reviewed and Mr. Lawson (Mr. Timon) moved to accept. The motion passed.

Ms. Christa Cervantes and Ms. Beth Slough, both representatives from Hamilton Telecommunications Relay, were present. They provide a presentation of the services provided by Hamilton Relay to the public and in partnership with the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Kentucky Telecommunications Relay Service. Hamilton now holds the contract through the Public Service Commission.

Mr. Zulauf provided members with a statistical report of Telecommunications Access Program (TAP) activities since the last meeting. TAP received almost 1,200 applications and has ordered 350 wireless devices, 304 landline phones, two deaf-blind communicators and 264 signalers. Some applications are still pending some kind of verification and a few were denied for a variety of reasons.

Members discussed the need for more outreach opportunities, especially with veterans and speech-impaired individuals. Requests for iPads from the speech-impaired community have increased and TAP plans to reach out to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the Disabled Veterans of America (DVA) organizations.

Ms. Endler updated the group on outreach efforts completed since the last meeting, which included Barbeque on the River, the Kentucky State Fair, the Kentucky Speech

and Hearing Association conference, several local fairs and several one-on-one phone installation/trainings with consumers.

Mr. Zulauf informed the group that both the TAP application and TAP brochure have been updated in regards to new vendor contracts and some concerns from consumers about the size of font on the application. Members reviewed the changes and Mr. Lawson (Mr. Timon) moved to accept the changes as presented. The motion passed.

Ms. Holloway reported that she and Ms. Moore attended the National Association of State Relay Administration (NASRA) Conference, which provides updates of actions being taken at the federal level that impact the relay service or TAP. Mr. Stevens added his comments as he was also in attendance at NASRA. Ms. Holloway and Mr. Zulauf also attended the Telecommunication Equipment Distribution Program Administrator's (TEDPA) conference, where they were able to meet with equipment vendors and see and test new telecommunications equipment offered, as well as network with other state's representatives. Kentucky continues to be a leader in TAP as other states have reached out to our staff, questioning how funding is obtained for wireless equipment and how it was added to the TAP in Kentucky.

Ms. Holloway noted that the TAP Board has three positions that will be expiring next year in June. Mr. Ziehr, Mr. Timon and Mr. Lawson were asked if they would like to continue to serve the positions for another term and all agreed. The Board was asked if they had any other concerns, or questions. As there was none, the next TAP Advisory Board meeting was scheduled for April 13, 2017, in conjunction with the Telecommunications Relay Service meeting. Members were asked to turn in their travel vouchers to Ms. Endler. Mr. Ziehr (Mr. Timon) moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.