

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF
8th Board Meeting - Utica, IL
Grand Bear Resort at Starved Rock
June 29, 2025

Call to Order

President Marietta Sternke called the meeting to order at 1:26 PM.

Roll Call

Present	Absent (with regrets)	Visitors
Sternke, Marietta (President) Harper, Fara (Vice President) Colón, Carlos I. (Secretary) Vieira, Joseph (Treasurer) Bruhn, Thomas (Membership Sec.) Whipple, Thomas (Illini Rep) Sutton, Leslie (Jacksonville Rep) Modry, Jean (Appointed Member) Russotto, Sam (Appointed Member) Moore, Don (Media Specialist)		

Silent Prayer

Approval of June 29, 2025 Meeting Agenda

Motion to approve June 29, 2025 Meeting Agenda was made by Ivan. Seconded by Sam Russotto. Motion Carried.

Approval of Standing Rules

Motion to approve the Standing Rules was made by Fara Harper. Seconded by Tom Bruhn. Motion carried.

Approval of March 23, 2025 Regular Meeting Minute

Motion to approve March 23, 2025 Regular Meeting Minute was made by Fara Harper. Seconded by Tom Whipple. Motion failed.

Motion to approve March 23, 2025 Regular meeting minute as corrected was made by Fara Harper. Seconded by Jean Modry. Motion carried.

Ratify E-mail Motions

No e-mail motions had been made.

Officers' Reports

President Marietta Sternke

- Worked with Fara Harper on interpreter letter and MOU letter.
- Worked with Don and Fara Harper with conference advertising.
- Worked with Joe Vieira answering questions from CPA.
- Monthly meetings with State Presidents and NAD in April and May and no June meeting.
 - FEMA Regions contact them for emergencies.

Vice President Fara Harper

- Met with Leslie to discuss the conference.
- Set up conference registration on Zeffy - encouraging the IAD Board to transition from CRM to Zeffy.
- Got the raffle baskets together and it's ready for the conference (hoping for more).
- Working on the MOU letter to NAD and letter to the Governor regarding interpreter shortage with President Marietta Sternke.
- Reached out to Paul and Janet Pyers regarding boxes of IAD history.
- Created a video for IAD regarding award nominations and bylaws reviews.
- Continue to work on chapter realignment to meet one of IAD's 2023-2025 priorities.

Secretary Carlos I. Colon

No report filed.

Treasurer Joseph Vieira

- **January 1 - Mary 31, 2025 Statement of Activity Summary:**
 - **Total Income:** \$3049.10
 - This includes Investment Income - Dividends (\$1,154.71), Membership Dues for 2024 (\$23.06), 2025 (\$114.49), 2026 (\$76.69), and 2027 (\$17.77), Membership Associate 2023 (\$283.72), Membership Dues Chapters and Donation General Fund (\$50.00 and \$170.66 respectively), Donation Youth Leadership Camp (\$240.00), Conference Revenue (\$160.00), Conference Registrations (\$240.00), and Conference Sponsorship (\$518.00).
 - **Total Expenses:** \$4086.05
 - Expenses include Others Board Meetings (\$154.50), Postages (\$0.73), Youth Awards (\$28.84), Donations (\$250.00), Sponsorships (\$100.00), Domain Name (\$86.32), Web Hosting (\$109.95), QuickBooks Online (\$495.00), NeonCRM - Membership Database (\$658.77), Sitehost (\$124.95), Conference Expenses (\$2,060.00), and Taxes & Licenses (\$16.99).

- **Net Operating Income:** -\$1,036.95
- **Net Income:** -1,036.95
- **Audit Process Update**
 - The CPA now has all the requested files and has begun the auditing process after logging into our QuickBooks account. I am in communication with them and will soon initiate discussions regarding the filing of our taxes with the IRS.
- **Unexpected Donations**
 - We recently received unexpected donations from two different sources: PayPal Giving and United Way from the Quad Cities. We are very grateful to these organizations for selecting us. I have submitted the necessary paperwork to United Way Quad Cities to formalize the process and will soon receive confirmation of the donation amount. I am curious to understand how we came to the attention of these organizations and what strategies we can employ to increase our visibility and attract more donations.
- **Document Digitization and Accessibility**
 - Going forward, I will begin the process of digitizing and uploading our past financial documents to the IAD Google Drive. This initiative will enhance document access and provide support, enabling another individual to assume responsibility for financial matters in my absence.
- **Current Fund Balances (As of June 28, 2025)**
 - As of June 28, 2025, our fund balance in the bank is \$33,969.09, and our investment with Edward Jones is \$219,015.93.
- **Illinois Filing Requirements**
 - I have completed the annual report with the Secretary of State and the AG990 form for the Attorney General and will obtain the President's signature today to finalize it. I will then mail it immediately.
- **Goals to Strengthen Finances Ahead of the IAD Conference**
 - Review the financial section of the board and policy manual to identify and implement any necessary updates.
 - Migrate the NeonCRM database to Zeffy to eliminate costly monthly fees.
 - ~~File the tax/report with the Secretary of State.~~
 - Complete the audit/tax with our CPA.
 - Prepare a comprehensive transition plan for the next IAD Treasurer.

Membership Secretary Thomas Bruhn

- IAD Membership Data Summary
 - 99 voting members (including 22 lifetime senior citizens).
 - 34 nonvoting members (including 28 associate members).
 - 2 Chapters
 - 1 Affiliates
 - Total number of IAD members: 136.

Chapters' Reports

Illini Chapter of the IAD

- How many active members does your chapter have?
 - As of May 30, 2025, 28 members.
- Specific all your chapter accounts and bank balances:
 - Checking Account - \$6,390.06
- How many meetings, events, or both has your chapter held since the last Board meeting?
 - Last April: Putt-Putt
 - Last May: Chapter meeting.
 - Coming Up:
 - Aug 2 - IAD Conference.
 - Aug 9 - Picnic at Lakes of the Wood in Mahomet, IL.
 - Next Chapter meeting: September 11, 2025

Jacksonville IAD

- How many active members does your chapter have?
 - 24 members.
- Specify all your chapter accounts and bank balances.
 - General Fund - \$808.09
 - Youth Fund - \$511.17
 - Conference Fund - \$1,925.00
 - Total: \$6,072.99
- How many meetings, events, or both has your chapter held since the last Board meeting?
 - We need to have a JIAD meeting soon. It's been awhile.

Motion to have a 5-min break was made by Jean Modry. Seconded by Fara Harper. Motion carried.

President Marietta Sternke recessed the meeting at 2:26 PM.

President Marietta Sternke called the meeting to order at 2:36 PM.

Appointed Members' Reports

Sam Russotto

No report filed.

Jean Modry

- Represented IAD at Alliance, IDHHC SAG (Stakeholders Advisory Group), and met with Maddi/Youth Services/CHS.

- Alliance Meeting Summary
 - Guest Speaker - Julie Speakman, Statewide Accessibility/Accommodations Coordinator - Deaf/Hard of Hearing/DeafBlind, Illinois Dept of Human Services - Division of Mental Health.
 - Role focuses on ensuring mental health access for D/HOH/DB statewide.
 - Alliance members discussed current issues in mental health services.
 - Next meeting: July 10 at 10:00 AM at CHS. Topic addressed: EHDI/Early Intervention and DeafBlind Services. Now open to public.
- IDHHC Stakeholders Advisory Group (SAG) Meeting Summaries.
 - Purpose: A taskforce established to discuss interpreter shortages, collection of critical data, and to provide recommendations to the Director.
 - Some topics discussed:
 - ITP's and their policies
 - Difficult for ITP's to provide internship opportunities. Need to look at licensure rules, see how it can be changed to allow more mentorship opportunities.
 - IRID is working hard to be active again.
 - Review Minnesota's Interpreting Forward 2030 plan & give feedback with recommendations.
 - IDHHC will investigate best practices for collecting data from interpreters.

Affiliated Organizations' Highlights

Illinois Telecommunications Access Corporation

No report filed.

Standing Committees' Reports

Education Strategy Team

No report filed.

Finance

See Treasurer's Report.

Membership

See Membership Secretary's Report.

Media

- Completed

- Posted info for Conference: website, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.
- Posted Fara's presentation and vlog about Chapter re-alignment.
- Needs attention
 - Website is out of space and we can no longer post new files or content. For now, I have removed some very old content - I.e. Outdated Bylaws and some old social activity announcements. They have been archived to the Media Google Drive account. More space is still needed!
 - Videos posted on our YouTube channel has no impact on web hosting space.
 - Per research - it is recommended to keep archived info online to help with search indexing and results. Old events and outdated documents (i.e. Bylaws) can be removed.
- Need to consider
 - More space for Bluehost web service and/or upgrade to a larger/new monthly plan - costs involved.
 - Will need to look at hosting plans costs and options.
 - Long term: overhaul the website via WordPress templates - suggest waiting after the conference to ensure no problems with website, conference registration and information.
- Other
 - Update - See IAD_email_resolution.pdf in the meeting folder for resolution to email names.
 - I decline to run for any officer position - however, I can stay on as media and tech advisor.
 - I will not be attending the IAD Conference - need a team member or two to take pictures and videos for us to post/share later.
 - Will be attending the DSA conference in KC in July/August on my own. I can wear my IAD shirt and talk to / pass out cards to Illinois residents etc. I won't be speaking or presenting at the conference on behalf of the IAD.
 - Our media channels are: Website, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube
- Any questions?

Family Program

No report filed.

Senior Citizens

No report filed.

Election

No report filed.

Archives & History

No report filed.

Deaf Youth

No report filed.

Conference

- Sponsors
 - 5 Star Interpreting
 - ITAC/T-Mobile
 - DHS-DRS
 - IDHHC
 - Illinois Department of Human Rights (said they were interested in participating, but I never received sponsorship form from them. I emailed this past week to follow up.)
- Presenters
 - Ben Daniels (from 5 Star Interpreting).
 - Rosemary Parker (CHS) expressed interest but the confirmation has not been made yet. I emailed her this past week to follow up.
 - Asked Octavio Cuenca Maldonado if he would give presentation about the 988 Videophone Suicide Crisis Line.
 - Tom Chance does the keynote speech? In a panel type style?
- Registration Info (pre Zeffy emails)
 - 19 people registered so far.
 - We need more!
- Hotel Info
 - Tyson Rogers is not longer with Grand Bear Lodge so my POC has been bounced around a little.
 - 8 Rooms are currently reserved.
 - Make reservations soon because we're losing the conference rate soon.

Legislative

No report filed.

Bylaws

No report filed.

Fundraising

No report filed.

Special Committees' Reports

None

Discussions/Forums

IDEA Part D

Email Address Issues

NeoCRM → Zeffy

Interpreter Shortages

Website Hosting Issues

Unfinished Business

All motions from the previous meeting had passed. Therefore, there is no unfinished business.

New Business

A motion to write a letter of support to preserve funding for IDEA Part D was made by Jean Modry. Seconded By Fara Harper. Motion Carried.

Motion to close the new business was made by Fara Harper. Seconded by Tom B. Motion carried.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Fara Harper. Seconded by Ivan Colon. Motion Carried.

President Marietta Sternke adjourned the meeting at 3:27 PM

Announcement