

Brain and Spinal Injury Trust Fund Commission

2 Peachtree St NW Suite 26-426 Atlanta, GA

Commission Meeting

March 23, 2017

Minutes

Commissioners attending in person:

Chase Jones (CJ), Rajaunnda Gandy (RG), Cheryl Harris (CH).

Commissioners attending via teleconference:

Bob Bauer (BB), Gwen McKee (GM), Randy Owens (RO), Jane Warnock (JW), Susannah Kidwell (SK), Lisa Dawson (LD), Tim Wall (TW), Andrew Dennison (AD).

Commissioners - Absent:

Barbara Means-Cheeley, Hank Fielding.

Staff:

Craig Young (CY), Leslie Berry (LB), Tyimeka Brown (TB), Dionne Braxton (DB), Keisha Zachary (KZ).

Guests:

Jane Jackson

Chairman's Reports

CY – A quorum of 9 Commissioners are present.

CJ – I call the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. Welcome!

CJ – As some of our attendees have other meetings or obligations we will go directly to our quorum vote items while we have quorum.

A quorum of Commissioners is present.

1. Motion: to approve the February 2017 draft Commission minutes as submitted.

Motion by: TW **Second by:** GM

Vote: Unanimously approved.

Executive committee:

CJ – we will take up the Executive committee's recommendation to approve the proposal of the Georgia Technology Authority to create and build a new BSITFC

website for the initial cost of up to \$13,200 as described in the GTA Statement of Work for the project. Any questions regarding the project or cost? None.

LD and RO join the meeting - a quorum of 11 Commissioners are present.

2. Motion: To approve the GTA Statement of Work for the proposed website build for the Commission.

Motion by: Executive committee **Second by:** CH

Vote: Approved unanimously

Distribution committee:

TW – The applicant grid for February has no denials. There was committee discussion around Appl6652 and Brow9938. CJ – can you tell us what the Firefly electric handcycle is? TW – it is assistive technology, a device that fits on to the back of a manual wheelchair which allows for mobility behind the wheelchair. Any other questions regarding this applicant or any other on the grid? None.

3. Motion: To approve the March 2017 distribution grid as submitted.

Motion by: Distribution committee **Second by:** AD

Vote: Approved unanimously.

Executive committee – Updates:

CY – item #1 regarding Raymond Shields; a demand letter has been sent by the AG's office requesting repayment. Raymond Shields has 30 days to answer. If no answer we will move on to next steps as directed by the AG's office (after April 4th). Item #2 any other questions you may have regarding the GTA website build? None. Item #3 there is a proposed study committee to look at Distracted Driving. #4 CJ – I have spoken with a potential sponsor for a study committee to look at Commission surcharge revenues as it relates to Georgians with traumatic brain and spinal cord injuries. It is rather late in the session to introduce this but if not in time for this session we would reintroduce next year. Also, there is another study committee (HR630) that would look at alternative sentencing for Georgians convicted of misdemeanors. This has the potential to impact our surcharges as DUI convictions up to the 4th one are adjudicated as misdemeanors.

Collections update:

LB – collections were down in February, typically we see an increase in revenue in the spring.

Communications committee:

The committee met and discussed the annual report final. Distribution is complete. GM – please send hard copies to hand out.

Public Policy committee:

CY – committee met and reviewed legislation of interest. The legislative session ends next Wednesday March 30th. CJ – the FY18 budget was agreed to by the House and Senate yesterday. Goes to the Governor for his signature.

CY - also, Central Registry letters went out last Friday and staff has been busy answering calls and sending out new applications. TBI reported for 2016 (ICD-10) is 27,832 as opposed to 2012 (ICD-9) TBI reported of 74,785. This represents a -62.8% change. GM – can DPH provide more detailed data on the total number of injuries based on receipt of all DX TBI codes? CY – I will inquire.

CJ – Craig please send NASHIA links to Commissioners for a summary of Trust Funds in other states.

New Business:

CY - BIAG had their first 5k Fun Run/Walk last weekend. CH – Cathy Floyd with the Aging Council could be a resource around strategic planning for the Commission. ADRC's will hold a conference in Augusta, GA August 6,7, & 8th.

CY - The next Commission meeting is our Strategic Planning Meeting. We will start with a regular Commission meeting and then proceed with the planning component. We should wrap-up by 3:00 p.m. Lunch will be served (Moe's) so please let me know if you are attending in person. I will send a reminder out soon.

The meeting was adjourned by motion (CH) at 11:10 a.m.

The next Commission meeting will be on **Thursday – APRIL 27, 2017** from **10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at the Commission offices at 2 Peachtree St NW Suite 26-426 Atlanta, GA 30303 in conference room 121.