

Due Process Screening Committee Meeting
May 15, 2006
ISBE – Springfield Office (teleconference)

Members in attendance:

Kathy Lyons, Chairperson
Christina Denman
Amy Abele
Dr. Joe Vaal
Terri Devine
Dr. Christopher Koch

Others in attendance:

Andy Eulass, ISBE Due Process Coordinator
Marian McElroy, Due Process Hearing Officer
Janet Kidd, Due Process Hearing Officer
Mary Schwartz, Due Process Hearing Officer

The meeting was convened at 10:10 a.m. After a review of the draft minutes for the Screening Committee Meeting of May 3, 2006, several modifications were discussed. Amy Abele motioned and Christina Denman seconded to accept the minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously. In addition, the minutes of the May 10, 2006 meeting were reviewed and several modifications were also discussed. Joe Vaal motioned and Christina Denman seconded to accept the minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

The Committee then turned to a supplemental response provided by Hearing Officer #2 to that evaluation. The Committee acknowledged the response without further action by the Committee.

Finally, the Committee then turned to the written report supplied by Andy Eulass in connection with the performance evaluation of Hearing Officer #19, per the directive of the Committee during the May 3, 2006 meeting. After discussing the contents of both the performance evaluation and the report supplied by Andy Eulass, an initial motion was offered by Joe Vaal not to renew the contract of the hearing officer. This motion was not acted upon as no second was made. After further discussion, Amy Abele offered a motion to extend the hearing officer a new contract with a requirement that Committee review the hearing officer's caseload on a quarterly basis, which was seconded by Christina Denman. Further discussion, resulted in a new amendment to the motion, in which Amy Abele moved that the hearing be offered a new contract with a condition of quarterly review of the hearing officer's caseload to ascertain whether the hearing officer materially breached the contract due to case management difficulties. Again the motion as amended was seconded by Christina Denman. Amy Abele and Christina Denman

voted aye, while Joe Vaal, Chris Koch and Kathy Lyons voted nay. The motion was not carried.

A final round of discussion ensued in which a further amendment to the motion was proposed, again by Amy Abele. The third amended motion, as proposed by Amy Abele, moved to extend a new contract to the hearing officer with a condition that the hearing officer's caseload would be subject to quarterly review by the Screening Committee to ascertain on-going compliance with timelines and documentation requirements. This motion was seconded by Chris Koch. The motion carried unanimously.

Chris Koch then made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which Joe Vaal seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.