

Due Process Screening Committee Meeting
November 10, 2008
ISBE – Springfield Office

Members in attendance:

Kathy Lyons, Chair (by telephone)
Rick Ramirez (by telephone)
Susy Woods (by telephone)
Christina Denman (by telephone)
Dr. Joseph Vaal (by telephone)

Others in attendance:

Gail ImObersteg, Hearing Officer Performance Evaluator (by telephone)
Andy Eulass, Due Process Coordinator

The meeting was convened at 10:05 a.m.

The meeting began with a review of the minutes from the September 29th meeting. No changes being needed, Rick Ramirez motioned for acceptance of the draft minutes as written and Joseph Vaal seconded. The motion to accept the minutes carried unanimously.

The Committee then turned to a discussion of the current status of the performance evaluations of the hearing officers. Gail ImObersteg reviewed the evaluation work plan with the Committee and address her plans to complete the written evaluation process by April 1, 2009. In addition, the Committee reviewed the current evaluation matrix and a letter Ms. ImObersteg submitted to the hearing officer to describe the current evaluation process. Some additional discussion was had on the handling of the review process by the Committee and it was agreed that meeting times to review those evaluations would be deferred and, if necessary, scheduled as special meetings in the Spring.

Andy Eulass then reported on the status of the search for a new hearing officer training entity. He reported that the Request for Sealed Proposals (“RFSP”) was still pending review and that he would have more to report on the status of the RFSP when the Committee next met in January.

Andy Eulass then discussed a presentation that ISBE was developing for the State Advisory Council on dispute resolution systems in Illinois. He reported that the principal purpose of the presentation would be to outline both strengths and weakness in the dispute resolution system in order to define whether further refinements or revisions to the system ought to be proposed. Mr. Eulass stated that he was in the process of completing an outline of a presentation that would be presented to the ISAC Committee on Dispute Resolution at its meeting December.

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There was no old business to discuss.

As a new matter, Kathy Lyons indicated that her term as Committee chair was expiring and that the Committee would need to consider who would stand as Chair beginning at its next meeting. Rick Ramirez indicated his willingness to serve as Committee chair and the Committee agreed that it would consider a vote on Mr. Ramirez as Chair at its next meeting in January.

No further business being before the Committee, Joe Vaal moved and Rick Ramirez seconded that the Committee adjourn. The Committee voted unanimously to adjourn and the meeting ended at 10:55 a.m.