State of Minnesota

State Rehabilitation Council for the Blind (SRCB)

DeafBlind Committee Notes

Meeting date: 01/14/2025

The SRCB DeafBlind Committee meeting was called to order at 5:12 PM

Members present: Patrick V, Lindsay Escalera, Maya Larson, Hanah Harriman, Hanah Edwards, Kim Johnson, Rocky Hart, Wendy DeVore.

SSB Staff Report:

SSB is currently seeking feedback from the SRCB DeafBlind Committee regarding its recent Request For Proposal (RFP) to hire a pro-tactile instructor, which will include a job description, qualifications, and interview questions. The RVP was provided to the committee in October but has not yet been finalized.

DeafBlindness Script Discussion:

The committee discussed its plans to compile a video featuring the stories of several DeafBlind customers. Each participant will provide either a script or a recording for the video, which will, when completed, be provided to SSB staff and other agency employees to further educate them about DeafBlindness and best practice for working with customers in the community. As of the time of this meeting, no script has yet been provided.

Adult Learning Curriculum Updates:

SSB provides an adult learning curriculum for prospective contracting vendors for the best practices for working with clients. SSB is seeking to update its guidance for vendors related to service animals and their roles based on feedback from customers. This curriculum will soon be revised to reflect these changes.

SSB received DIF grant:

SSB announced in December 2024 that it had been accepted to receive the DIF grant, related to empowering individuals with disabilities. This will be of great benefit to the agency.

Meeting adjourned at 7 PM

Next meeting: 03/11/2025