

**National Association of the Deaf  
57th Biennial Conference  
Sheraton Grand Chicago Riverwalk - Chicago, Illinois  
Council of Representatives Business Meeting  
July 2 - 5, 2024**

**Tuesday, July 2, 2024  
COR Session I**

President Jenny Buechner called the Council of Representatives (COR) business meeting to order at 1:00 PM CST.

President Buechner welcomed all participants.

President Buechner introduced to the delegates:

- Dr. Joseph Murray, President of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD)
- WFD Board members
- NAD Board members
- Interim CEO Bobbie Beth Scoggins

Lisa Rose, Region III Board Member and Credentials Chair, reported there were 99 delegates present.

Lisa Rose, in her role as the COR Co-Chair, reviewed the housekeeping rules, including the location of LGBTQIA2S+ and BIPOC lounges.

President Buechner presented the State of the NAD video address, which included video accomplishments and reports on the top five priorities from the 2022 Conference narrated by executive board members, Stephanie Hakulin, Vice President; Milmaglyn Morales, Secretary; and Michelle Cline, Treasurer.

President Buechner explained that our work is not done and we will continue to do our work with the priorities decided this week and the search for the next CEO of the NAD.

President Buechner shared appreciation for the NAD Board and Staff.

President Buechner shared her reports including the plans for strategic planning and CEO Search after the conference.

President Buechner introduced Milmaglyn Morales, Secretary, who provided a refresher of the "Microaggression" training to the delegates by providing multi-choice questions related to this training.

President Buechner introduced Mark Apodaca, Parliamentarian for the Council of Representatives meetings. Mark Apodaca provided multi-choice questions related to parliamentary procedure.

President Buechner presented the 2022 COR minutes for approval.

**Motion:** Chris Haulmark (Kansas), moved that we approve the 2022 COR Minutes. Seconded by Tommy Minch (LGBT Section). The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

**Motion:** Eugenio Ravelo Mendoza (DeafBlind Section) moved to take a 5 minute break. Seconded by Thomas Green (Missouri) **CARRIED.**

President Buechner called for a recess at 2:55 P.M. CDT.

President Buechner resumed the meeting at 3:00 PM CDT.

Lisa Rose, Region III Board Member and Credentials Chair, reported that there were 97 delegates present.

President Buechner presented the 2024 COR standing rules for approval.

**Motion:** Jerry Nelson (DSA) moved to to remove the COR Standing Rule #12 and replace with: Five final priorities as presented, by the people, not the board, shall be voted upon and approved by the COR. Therefore, board priorities are deemed out of order and removed from the list of proposed priorities. Seconded by Christopher Patterson (GAD).

**Amendment:** Randy Pituk (RAD) moved to amend to replace “by the people” with “NAD members. Seconded by Martina Moore-Reid (NBDA). **CARRIED.**

**Amended Motion:**

Five final priorities as presented, **NAD members**, not the board, shall be voted upon and approved by the COR. Therefore, board priorities are deemed out of order and removed from the list of proposed priorities. **CARRIED.**

**Motion:** Tar Burt (RAD) moved to change from 2 minutes to 3 minutes in COR Standing Rule #13. Seconded by Joshua Beckman (PSAD). **CARRIED.**

**Motion:** Joshua Beckman (PSAD) moved to approve the COR standing rules as amended and to accept it as whole. Seconded by Sheri Ann Farinha (NorCal). **CARRIED.**

Lisa Rose, Region III Board Member and Credentials Chair, reported there were 93 delegates present.

## **COR Agenda**

President Buechner requested permission from the Council of Representatives to extend the meeting until 5:00 PM CDT and start the Caucuses at 5:15 PM CDT. The revised COR agenda was approved.

## **Election Committee**

Election Committee Chair Chris Estrin reported that the committee members were:

- Chris Estrin
- Ben Soukup
- Melissa Draganac-Hawk
- Cody Littlepage
- Jackie Correa-Alley
- Dawnmarie Caggiano

Election Committee Chair Chris Estrin explained the roles and responsibilities and shared the Slate of Candidates and the 2024 Election Schedule.

## **General Forum Standing Rules**

**Motion:** Dominic Harrison (NMAD) moved to approve the 2024 Forum Standing Rules as read. Seconded by JoJo Lopez (NMAD). **CARRIED.**

Lisa Rose, Region III Board Member and Credentials Chair, reported that there were 97 delegates present.

## **Regional and Affiliate Caucus Standing Rules**

**Motion:** Tommy Minch (LGBT Section) moved to approve the 2024 Caucus Standing Rules as read. Seconded by Martina Moore-Reid (NBDA). **CARRIED.**

**Motion:** Jerry Nelson (DSA) moved to remove the Board Priorities from the COR II schedule. Kavita Pipalia seconded. **CARRIED.**

**Motion:** Dominic Harrison (NMAD) moved to move agenda items starting with selection of the Conference Minutes Review team and all others to Wednesday, July 3rd. Seconded by JoJo Lopez (NMAD). **CARRIED.**

**Motion:** JoJo Lopez (NMAD) moved to approve the revised 2024 COR agenda. Seconded by Dominic Harrison (NMAD). **CARRIED.**

President Buechner called for a recess at 4:49 PM CDT.

**Wednesday, July 2, 2024**  
**COR Session II**

President Buechner called COR Session II to order at 8:32 AM CDT.

Lisa Rose, Region III Board Member and Credentials Chair, reported that there were 85 delegates present.

Lisa Rose, in her role as the COR Co-Chair, reviewed the housekeeping rules, including the location of LGBTQIA2S+ and BIPOC lounges.

President Buechner explained the collaboration between the Maine State Association of the Deaf and the White House. President Buechner acknowledged that the NAD was not trying to take over, and apologized to the Maine State Association of the Deaf for any issues caused by the NAD.

CEO Interim Bobbie Beth Scoggins reminded the delegates about the importance of being mindful of microaggressions and requested their civility and respect. She asked the delegates to mentor first-time attendees and to refrain from making disrespectful comments or displaying disrespectful attitudes. She also mentioned that past Presidents and Board members are available to provide support.

During his remarks as Parliamentarian, Mark Apodaca reminded delegates to pretend that he was not present when they came up on stage. He stated that he only supports President Buechner. Additionally, he reviewed the procedures with the delegates and discussed his role and responsibilities.

**Conference Minutes Review Team**

President Buechner called for one volunteer from each region as well as one volunteer from the Affiliates/Sections to be part of the Conference Minutes Review Team. The following people volunteered and were approved to be on the Conference Minutes Review Team:

- Steve Lovi (ESAD, Region I)
- Katy Hagmeyer (WAD, Region II)
- Christopher Patterson (GAD, Region III)
- Dominic Harrison (NMAD, Region IV)
- James Zellner (Jr. NAD, Affiliates/Sections)

## **Steering Committee**

Jacob Leffler, Region I Board Member and Steering Committee Chair announced the Steering Committee members as follows:

- Tiasha Bera (MDAD, Region I)
- Lisa Demmon (WAD, Region II)
- Derrick Horne (FAD, Region III)
- Karen Atwood (WSAD, Region IV)
- Ari Latino (NADYS, Affiliates/Sections)

Delegates were provided with reports on the Priorities, the Code of Conduct, and Interpreting Standards. Delegates were given the opportunity to ask questions.

## **2022-2024 Priority Reports**

Reports for the 2022-2024 Priorities were provided to delegates in advance of the Council of Representatives meeting. Delegates were given the opportunity to ask questions. Several questions and clarification requests regarding the five priorities were asked by delegates and provided with clarified answers by Board Liaisons and Committee Chairs.

## **Standing Committee Reports**

### ***Governance Committee Report***

Lisa Rose, Chair presented the Governance Committee report which covered the development of the short-term CEO succession plan, the Disaster Relief Fund Criteria and Application, the NAD Section Logo Criteria, the Zero Tolerance Policy, and the use of Canvas for training delegates before the Council of Representatives meeting.

### ***Finance Committee Report***

Michelle Cline, in her role as Treasurer, announced the Finance Committee members as follows:

- Michelle Cline, Board Treasurer
- Philippe Montalette
- Chris Estrin
- Earl Allen
- Jenny Buechner, President
- Bobbie Beth Scoggins, Interim CEO - Ex Officio

Treasurer Michelle Cline explained the financial review process, FY 2024 is being under audit review. The final audit is expected to be finalized in Fall 2024. She announced the auditors as follows:

- Boden Klein & Sneesby.

Treasurer Michelle explained the formulation of the NAD budget and FY 2023 Profit and Loss, including revenue and expenses. She also shared the total assets and the corrected version with a QR code. She responded to delegates' questions regarding the QR code, the restricted funds, 501c3, and the timeline of posting the updated information.

**Motion:** Eugenio Ravelo Mendoza (DeafBlind Section) moved to take a recess for 1 minute. Seconded by Robyn Miller. **Carried.**

Lisa Rose, Region III Board Member and Credentials Chair, reported there were 102 delegates present.

### **Bylaws Amendment Proposals**

James "Dino" Christianson, Region IV Board Member and Bylaws Board Liaison worked with the Bylaws Committee Chair Jackie Correa-Alley, Taurean Burt, Tracy Ivy and Treasurer Michelle Cline. There were 15 proposed amendments (13 modified, 1 removed and 1 added) to the NAD Bylaws, as follows:

- [24-01 - Article II Section 1 - Object](#)
- [24-02 - Article II Section 4 - Definition of Deaf \(NEW\)](#)
- [24-03 - Article III Section 1.I - State Association Affiliate](#)
- [24-04 - Article III Section 1.2 - College Student Affiliates \(REMOVE\)](#)
- [24-05 - Article III Section 1.4 - Sections](#)
- [24-06 - Article III Section 2.1.i Regular Members](#)
- [24-07 - Article III. Section 2.1.ii Senior Members](#)
- [24-08 - Article III Section 2.3 - International Members](#)
- [24-09 - Article IV Section 10.2 - Vice President Duties](#)
- [24-10 - Article IV Section 10.5 - Region Representatives](#)
- [24-11 - Article IV Section 14. - Conflict of Interest](#)
- [24-12 - Article V Section V.I.iv - Forums](#)
- [24-13 - Article VI Section 1 - Standing Committees](#)
- [24-14 - Article VIII Section 1 - Amendments](#)
- [24-15 - Article IV Section 10.1 - President's Duties](#)

Each of these bylaws amendment proposals were presented and discussed by the delegates as follows:

#### **24-01 - Article II. Section 1. - Object.**

[Youtube Video](#)

Proposed by: NAD Bylaws Committee

<b>Current Language:</b> The object of the Association shall be to preserve, protect, and promote the civil, human and linguistic rights of deaf and hard of hearing individuals in the United States of America.	<b>Proposed Changes:</b> The object of the Association shall be to preserve, protect, and promote the civil, human and linguistic rights of deaf and hard of hearing individuals in the United States of America <b>and U.S. Territories.</b>	<b>If Adopted:</b> The object of the Association shall be to preserve, protect, and promote the civil, human and linguistic rights of deaf and hard of hearing individuals in the United States of America and U.S. Territories.
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**Rationale:**

U.S. Territories were added to the 2022 bylaws, and want to make sure language is uniform throughout the bylaws. The object is to focus on helping deaf and hard-of-hearing people in places such as Puerto Rico and Guam, not just within the United States. This way, individuals and organizations within those boundaries gets the support they need, no matter where they live.

**Bylaws Committee Recommendations:**

Last conference, someone made a motion to add U.S. Territories to the NAD Bylaws.

**NAD Board's Recommendations:**

The board is in agreement with the proposed language.

**24-02 - Article II. Section 4. - Definition of Deaf. (NEW)**

[Youtube Video](#)

Proposed by: NAD Bylaws Committee

<b>Current Language:</b> None - NEW	<b>Proposed Changes:</b> <b>The definition of "Deaf" shall be the umbrella to representing the diverse communities including Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, Deaf BIPOC, Deaf LGBTQIA2S+, New Americans, and Late-Deafened.</b>	<b>If Adopted:</b> The definition of "Deaf" shall be the umbrella to representing the diverse communities including Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, Deaf BIPOC, Deaf LGBTQIA2S+, New Americans, and Late-Deafened.
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**Rationale:**

For a long time, NAD has included the term "Deaf" in the bylaws as a footnote. However, its use has sparked controversy in past conferences due to differing perspectives. It is a recommended solution for the time being, signaling our commitment to inclusivity while seeking a more fitting

term. It's time to formally recognize its definition to represent who we are within NAD.

**Bylaws Committee Recommendations:**

Introducing "Deaf" in our bylaws unifies and respects the diverse aspects of Deaf culture/community, avoiding past controversies over using the term "Deaf" to define us. The bylaws committee strongly feels there should be a language that represents all sections of the deaf communities and is in favor of the language used supporting the positivity of "Deaf".

**NAD Board's Recommendations:**

The board is in agreement with the proposed changes.

**24-03 - Article III. Section 1.1. - State Association Affiliates.**

[Youtube Video](#)

Proposed by: NAD Bylaws Committee

<b>Current Language:</b> One (1) State Association Affiliate per state, with twenty (20) or more members, shall be recognized. The District of Columbia and the American territorial entities shall be considered states under this category.	<b>Proposed Changes:</b> One (1) State Association Affiliate per state, with <del>twenty (20)</del> <b>fifteen (15)</b> or more members, shall be recognized. The District of Columbia and the American territorial entities shall be considered states under this category.	<b>If Adopted:</b> One (1) State Association Affiliate per state, with fifteen (15) or more members, shall be recognized. The District of Columbia and the American territorial entities shall be considered states under this category.
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**Rationale:**

To help support state associations, recruit members to establish their organization.

**Bylaws Committee Recommendations:**

The Bylaws committee is in support of the proposed language.

**NAD Board's Recommendations:**

The board is in agreement with the proposed changes.

**24-04 - Article III. Section 1.2. - College Student Affiliates. (REMOVE)**

[Youtube Video](#)

Proposed by: NAD Bylaws Committee



<b>Current Language:</b> Twenty (20) or more student members of a post-secondary educational program may organize for the purpose of forming a NAD College Student Affiliate.	<b>Proposed Changes:</b> <b>REMOVE</b>	<b>If Adopted:</b> <b>DELETED</b>
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Rationale:

We have not had any College Student Affiliates for a long time.

Bylaws Committee Recommendations:

The bylaws committee is in full support of this removal.

NAD Board's Recommendations:

The Board is in agreement with removing the College Student Affiliates.

#### **24-05 - Article III. Sections 1.4. - Sections.**

[Youtube Video](#)

Proposed by: NAD Bylaws Committee

<b>Current Language:</b> The Association shall, within its corporate structure and criteria, allow for the formation of Sections to focus on specific areas of interest consistent with the overall <b>aims</b> of the Association.	<b>Proposed Changes:</b> The Association shall, within its corporate structure and criteria, allow for the formation of Sections to focus on specific areas of interest consistent with the overall <b>aims goals</b> of the Association.	<b>If Adopted:</b> The Association shall, within its corporate structure and criteria, allow for the formation of Sections to focus on specific areas of interest consistent with the overall goals of the Association.
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Rationale:

The proposed change simplifies the language by replacing "aims of the Association" with "goals of the Association." This adjustment still allows for forming Sections focused on specific interests, but it's clearer and more concise.

Bylaws Committee Recommendations:

The committee is in agreement with this proposed amendment.

NAD Board's Recommendations:  
The board is in agreement with the proposed changes.

**24-06 - Article III. Section 2.1.i. - Regular Members.**

[Youtube Video](#)

Proposed by: NAD Bylaws Committee

<b>Current Language:</b>	<b>Proposed Changes:</b>	<b>If Adopted:</b>
Regular membership status in the Association shall be conferred to residents of the United States, upon payment of annual dues.	Regular membership status in the Association shall be conferred to residents of the United States <b>and U.S. Territories</b> , upon payment of annual dues.	Regular membership status in the Association shall be conferred to residents of the United States and U.S. Territories, upon payment of annual dues.

Rationale:

The change is about allowing people from both the United States and U.S. Territories to become regular members by paying annual dues. It's a way to include everyone and make sure they have the chance to join.

Bylaws Committee Recommendations:

To comply with the new change in the bylaws, which includes U.S. Territories.

NAD Board's Recommendations:

The board is in agreement with the proposed changes.

**24-07 - Article III. Section 2.1.ii. - Senior Members.**

[Youtube Video](#)

Proposed by: NAD Bylaws Committee

<b>Current Language:</b>	<b>Proposed Changes:</b>	<b>If Adopted:</b>
Senior citizen membership status shall be conferred to individuals at the age of <b>60</b> and beyond, upon payment of annual dues.	Senior citizen membership status shall be conferred to individuals at the age of <b>60</b> <b>55+</b> and beyond, upon payment of annual dues.	Senior citizen membership status shall be conferred to individuals at the age of 55+ and beyond, upon payment of annual dues.

Rationale:

This will give an opportunity for all senior citizen membership status to people aged 55 and

older instead of 60, making it easier for more people to qualify. Currently other Organizational Affiliates recognize seniors as 50+. Receiving senior citizen membership will provide an opportunity to access various service information and additional perks.

Bylaws Committee Recommendations:

The bylaws committee is in agreement with this proposed amendment

NAD Board's Recommendations:

The board is in agreement with the proposed changes.

#### **24-08 - Article III. Section 2.3. - International Members.**

[Youtube Video](#)

Proposed by: NAD Bylaws Committee

<b>Current Language:</b> International membership status shall be conferred to individuals who do not reside in the United States, upon payment of annual dues. International members shall not vote or hold office.	<b>Proposed Changes:</b> International membership status shall be conferred to individuals who do not reside in the United States, upon payment of annual dues. International members shall not vote or hold office. <b>Exceptions are made for those residing in U.S. Territories.</b>	<b>If Adopted:</b> International membership status shall be conferred to individuals who do not reside in the United States, upon payment of annual dues. International members shall not vote or hold office. Exceptions are made for those residing in U.S. Territories.
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Rationale:

The change clarifies that people living in U.S. Territories are not international members. This is to strengthen the citizens who reside in the US territories and distinguish between the two.

Bylaws Committee Recommendations:

The Bylaws committee felt this was necessary to help strengthen the language and support those who are in US Territories.

NAD Board's Recommendations:

The board is in agreement with the proposed changes for clarity.

#### **24-09 - Article IV. Section 10.2. - Vice President Duties.**

[Youtube Video](#)

Proposed by: NAD Bylaws Committee

<p><b>Current Language:</b></p> <p>The Vice President shall serve at any time the President is unable to serve, or when the office of the President becomes vacant.</p>	<p><b>Proposed Changes:</b></p> <p>The Vice President shall serve at any time the President is unable to serve, or when the office of the President becomes vacant. <b>The Vice-President is responsible for supporting all committees and sections.</b></p>	<p><b>If Adopted:</b></p> <p>The Vice President shall serve at any time the President is unable to serve, or when the office of the President becomes vacant. The Vice-President is responsible for supporting all committees and sections.</p>
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Rationale: Currently it shows the Vice President having to only support the President, whereas there is other work that the Vice President does which supports the Board of Directors.

Bylaws Committee Recommendations:

The bylaw committees agree with this recommendation.

NAD Board's Recommendations:

The board is in agreement with the proposed changes for clarity.

#### **24-10 - Article IV. Section 10.5. - Region Representatives.**

[Youtube Video](#)

Proposed by: NAD Bylaws Committee

<b>Current Language:</b> Regional Board Members shall serve as liaison between the Board of Directors and State Associations within the region, and work with the Board of Directors as a whole.	<b>Proposed Changes:</b> The Regional Board Members shall serve as liaisons between the Board of Directors, <b>and State Associations, and individual members</b> within the region. <del>and work with the Board of Directors as a whole.</del> <b>The Regional Board Members function as facilitators during conferences and virtual State Association meetings. The Regional Board Members act as a resource for State Associations and individuals in their geographical areas.</b>	<b>If Adopted:</b> The Regional Board Members shall serve as liaisons between the Board of Directors, State Associations, and individual members within their region. The Regional Board Members function as facilitators during conferences and virtual State Association meetings. The Regional Board Members act as a resource for State Associations and individuals in their geographical areas.
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**Rationale:**

As stated in Article 2.3 - the Regional Board Members are in support not only of their regional State Associations, but with other individuals who reside in their represented geographical area.

**Bylaws Committee Recommendations:**

The committee is in full support of this revised section.

**NAD Board's Recommendations:**

The board is in agreement with the proposed changes.

**24-11 - Article IV. Section 14. - Conflict of Interest.**

[Youtube Video](#)

Proposed by: NAD Bylaws Committee

<b>Current Language:</b> All persons either elected or appointed to an office (including but not limited to	<b>Proposed Changes:</b> All persons either elected or appointed to an office (including but not limited to	<b>If Adopted:</b> All persons either elected or appointed to an office (including but not limited to
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<p>any Board or Committee members), prior to acceptance and during tenure of that position, shall consider each item of business, where they have a vote or decision authority, to determine if a real or perceived conflict exists with the interests of the Organization. A conflict of interest is defined as any situation in which a member's decisions or votes could substantially and directly affect the member's professional, personal, financial or business interests. In the event that a person nominated for or holding an office finds himself or herself in such a position, he or she shall promptly disclose the conflict of interest to the Board of Directors and recuses himself or herself at any Board or committee meeting from any Deliberations or vote on the matter giving rise to the conflict of interest. A copy of the disclosure statement shall be reviewed by the Governance Committee.</p>	<p>any Board or Committee members), prior to acceptance and during tenure of that position, shall consider each item of business, where they have a vote or decision authority, to determine if a real or perceived conflict exists with the interests of the Organization. A conflict of interest is defined as any situation in which a member's decisions or votes could substantially and directly affect the member's professional, personal, financial or business interests. <del>In the event that a person nominated for or holding an office finds himself or herself in such a position, he or she shall promptly disclose the conflict of interest to the Board of Directors and recuses himself or herself at any Board or committee meeting from any Deliberations or vote on the matter giving rise to the conflict of interest.</del> <b>In the event of encountering such a situation, the concerned member shall promptly disclose the conflict of interest to the Board of Directors and abstain from participating in any deliberations or votes related to the matter at hand during Board or committee meetings.</b></p>	<p>any Board or Committee members), prior to acceptance and during tenure of that position, shall consider each item of business, where they have a vote or decision authority, to determine if a real or perceived conflict exists with the interests of the Organization. A conflict of interest is defined as any situation in which a member's decisions or votes could substantially and directly affect the member's professional, personal, financial, or business interests. In the event of encountering such a situation, the concerned member shall promptly disclose the conflict of interest to the Board of Directors and abstain from participating in any deliberations or votes related to the matter at hand during Board or committee meetings. A copy of the disclosure statement shall be reviewed by the Governance Committee.</p>
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## Rationale

The current language comprises only the binary pronouns of him/she and himself/herself, excluding individuals whose pronouns do not fit within these narrow categories. This oversight creates a loophole that may potentially absolve people of any accountability that could arise due to misgendering.

Bylaws Committee Recommendations:  
Bylaw committee is in agreement not to use gendered pronouns.

NAD Board's Recommendations:  
The board is in agreement with the proposed changes.

**24-12 - Article. Section V.1.iv. - Forums.**

[Youtube Video](#)

Proposed by: NAD Bylaws Committee

<b>Current Language:</b> Individual members and organizational affiliate representatives registered at the biennial national conference shall have the opportunity to participate in and vote at forums.	<b>Proposed Changes:</b> <b>All individuals in the United States and U.S. Territories, will be able to participate in public polling of topics prior to and at Individual</b> <del>members and organizational affiliate representatives registered at the biennial national conference shall have the opportunity to participate in and vote at forums</del> <b>as needed.</b>	<b>If Adopted:</b> All individuals in the United States and U.S. Territories, will be able to participate in public polling of topics prior to and at the biennial national conference, as needed.
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Rationale:  
The process of getting input should be reflected by our diverse communities and shouldn't be exclusionary to only those at the conference.

Bylaws Committee Recommendations:  
The bylaw committee is in full support.  
  
NAD Board's Recommendations:  
The board is in agreement with the proposed changes.

**24-13 - Article VI. Section 1. - Standing Committees.**

[Youtube Video](#)

Proposed by: NAD Bylaws Committee

<p><b>Current Language:</b> The standing committees of the Association shall be the Finance and Governance Committees. The President shall appoint the chair of the Governance committee.</p>	<p><b>Proposed Changes:</b> The standing committees of the Association shall be the Finance and Governance Committees. The President, <b>with the approval of the Board of Directors</b>, shall appoint the chair of the Governance committee.</p>	<p><b>If Adopted:</b> The standing committees of the Association shall be the Finance and Governance Committees. The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint the chair of the Governance committee.</p>
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**Rationale:**

The proposed change requires Board approval to appoint the Governance Committee chair.

**Bylaws Committee Recommendations:**

The bylaws committee is in agreement with the proposed language.

**NAD Board's Recommendations:**

The board is in agreement with the proposed changes.

**24-14 - Article VIII. Section 1. - Amendments.**

[Youtube Video](#)

Proposed by: NAD Bylaws Committee



<p><b>Current Language:</b> These bylaws may be amended by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the Council of Representatives present and voting at the biennial national conference, provided that amendments are submitted to the <b>Law</b> Committee sixty (60) days prior to the conference, that copies are sent to conference delegates thirty (30) days prior to the conference, and that amendments are read during the conference and acted upon immediately thereafter. Amendments may be enacted only by the Council of Representatives.</p>	<p><b>Proposed Changes:</b> These bylaws may be amended by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the Council of Representatives present and voting at the biennial national conference, provided that amendments are submitted to the <b>Law Bylaws</b> Committee sixty (60) days prior to the conference, that copies are sent to conference delegates thirty (30) days prior to the conference, and that amendments are read during the conference and acted upon immediately thereafter. Amendments may be enacted only by the Council of Representatives.</p>	<p><b>If Adopted:</b> These bylaws may be amended by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the Council of Representatives present and voting at the biennial national conference, provided that amendments are submitted to the Bylaws Committee sixty (60) days prior to the conference, that copies are sent to conference delegates thirty (30) days prior to the conference, and that amendments are read during the conference and acted upon immediately thereafter. Amendments may be enacted only by the Council of Representatives.</p>
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Rationale:  
Law shall be changed to Bylaws.

Bylaws Committee Recommendations:  
The bylaws committee is in agreement with the proposed language.

NAD Board's Recommendations:  
The board is in agreement with the proposed changes.

## 24-15 - Article IV. Section 10.1. - President's Duties.

[Youtube Video](#)

Proposed by: Bobby Jackson II  
Seconded by: Jack Ludwig

<p><b>Current Language:</b> The President <b>shall be the chief spokesperson for the Association and</b> shall chair business meetings of the biennial national conference and the Board of Directors. The President, <b>with the approval of the Board of Director, shall appoint the chair of each standing committee, other than the Finance committee, and</b> shall be ex officio member of all committees.</p>	<p><b>Proposed Changes:</b> The President <del>shall be the chief spokesperson for the Association and</del> shall chair business meetings of the biennial national conference and the Board of Directors. The President, <del>with the approval of the Board of Director, shall appoint the chair of each standing committee, other than the Finance committee, and</del> shall be ex officio member of all committees.</p>	<p><b>If Adopted:</b> The President shall chair business meetings of the biennial national conference and the Board of Directors. The president shall be an ex officio member of all committees.</p>
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#### Rationale:

The spokesperson shouldn't be locked to just the President. This could be shared with the Chief Executive Officer. Furthermore, the selection of the chair is clearly stated in Article VI.1, so the section regarding chair selection is struck out.

#### Bylaws Committee Recommendations:

The bylaws committee is in full support of this proposed revision.

#### NAD Board's Recommendations:

The board is in neutral with the proposed bylaw amendment.

### Priority Proposals and Resolutions

Jacob Leffler, in his role as Steering Committee Co-Chair, reported that there were 14 proposed priorities. He also shared an update about the polls and recommendations. Delegates had questions for clarification.

[Title: Access to Resources for DeafDisabled Citizens](#)

[Title: Address Deaf Youth Well-Being](#)

[Title: Deaf Community Needs: Access Emergency Announcements/Notification](#)

[Title: Deaf Seniors Issues](#)

[Title: DECLARE: Deaf Children's Language Rights Everywhere](#)

[Title: Emergency Responders](#)

[Title: Training Mental Health Professionals](#)

[Title: Enhancing Services for DeafBlind Communities](#)

Title: Restructuring the NAD

**Title: Access to Resources for DeafDisabled Citizens**

2024-IL-(PUB)-02

YOUTUBE VIDEO <https://youtu.be/rass9NN2v-k?feature=shared>

Author:

Sitara Sheikh

Seconded by:

Thomas Minch

Problem to be addressed:

There are many systematic barriers that DeafDisabled individuals encounter on a daily basis which includes limited access to resources and services. Many service providers are not equipped to work with DeafDisabled due to the lack of knowledge of their communication needs. As a result, they are highly likely to experience a shortage of services to meet their needs. We have many DeafDisabled citizens who deserve equality in accessing services as other community members and their peers.

Proposed Solution:

NAD will develop and implement the following:

1. Work with the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) to ensure that their requirements are being strengthened and adapted to current issues/crises.
2. Develop a training module to educate the interpreter interpreting agencies and Interpreters Training Programs to ensure the interpreters will be knowledgeable with interpreting/providing equitable communication access with the DeafDisabled community.
3. Develop a training module to educate the agency professionals to ensure that they will be knowledgeable with providing equitable communication access and support to the Deaf/Disabled community.
4. Promote solutions that are not already addressed in the above-mentioned list.

Rationale:

There are many barriers such as:

1. Delayed in determination of eligibility for state-based long-term services (limited number of appropriate culturally competent evaluators and assessments).
2. Limited number of interpreters that are culturally competent in working with DeafDisabled individuals in different situations such as mental health crises, domestic violence, and other related emergency challenges.

3. Lack of culturally appropriate training for interpreters, providers, and professionals in terms of working with DeafDisabled individuals especially with meeting their communication needs.
4. Not enough providers and professionals know and use ASL and Visual Gesture Communication as well as Deaf Culture.

**Fiscal Impact:**

There are fiscal impacts such as staff time, working with Special Interest groups, and creation/communication of the development of curriculum.

**Board/HQ Response:**

This proposal asks that we work with the Department of Human and Health Services (DHHS), Interpreter Agencies, and Interpreter Training/Education Programs to combat an issue that is much more global than just those areas. There are many strategies that could be implemented, however it would require more than two years to notice a change, as it is a systemic issue, in addition to lack of knowledge among people running government agencies, and entities that should be providing communication access.

Regarding Interpreting Agencies and Interpreter Training/Education Programs being knowledgeable about providing communication access and resources available, the National Association of the Deaf - Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (NAD-RID) Code of Professional Conduct already has this as an expectation, and the Commission on Collegiate Interpreter Education (CCIE) has standards for accreditation which include those expectations. The NAD does not have authority or oversight over both agencies and Interpreter Training/Education programs, however have worked closely with both RID and CCIE in the past to ensure access for all deaf individuals including those who are deaf disabled.

The NAD supports this proposal with modifications to allow a more comprehensive and strategic approach to addressing this important issue.

**Title: Address Deaf Youth Well-Being**

2024-IL-(PUB)-03

YOUTUBE VIDEO <https://youtu.be/n6fWh94dSA8?feature=shared>

Author:

Ari Latino

Seconded by:

DT Bruno

Problem to be addressed:

Given the time needed to establish the committee and raise awareness, the initial two-year timeframe has necessitated a renewal of the priority to sustain efforts towards achieving the 'Address Deaf Youth Well-Being' goal, which includes implementing 'NAD Deaf Youth Well-Being First Aid'.

**Proposed Solution:**

Renewing this priority for another two years will empower the committee to sustain their efforts, including ongoing data collection, enhancing community engagement with Deaf Youth Well-Being First Aid, creating a centralized webpage for deaf youth well-being resources, and participating in upcoming conferences and meetings.

**Rationale:**

The priority committee has dedicated the past two years to this endeavor, conducting one webinar, delivering three conference presentations, and engaging in numerous meetings with community members and organizations. To advance our efforts in promoting an inclusive mental health mentorship program for peer-to-peer learning and advocacy, we have initiated the development of a Deaf Youth Well-Being First Aid program, which is still in its early stages and thus requires renewal. This is particularly crucial for the NAD to focus on during the period of 2024-2026, given the stagnant or declining involvement of deaf youth with organizations, which is essential for the future health of our community.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Staff time will be impacted along with the committee's work.

**Board/HQ Response:**

The NAD recognizes the work that the Committee has done in the last two years. If this priority is passed - it just will reaffirm the work that NAD is already committed to.

**Title: Deaf Community Needs: Access Emergency Announcements/Notification**

2024-IL-(PUB)-05

YOUTUBE VIDEO <https://youtu.be/e5hDiTNrXRw?feature=shared>

**Author:**

Tina Joyner

**Seconded by:**

Tiasha Bera

**Problem to be addressed:**

Over the years, members of the Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened Community do not have full access to information when unforeseen circumstances that call for immediate communications from key individuals (i.e., government,

police) via media (i.e., internet, radio, television). For example, when the Francis Scott Key bridge collapsed, Maryland's Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened communities were among the last to be informed.

**Proposed Solution:**

NAD shall develop best practices, and guidelines for the State Associations and Affiliates to use to discuss with their state emergency preparedness offices. The NAD also should develop a letter for the State Association and Affiliate to use. NAD should provide webinars on the importance of emergency preparedness and to help State Associations and Affiliates to connect with the emergency preparedness offices.

**Rationale:**

Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened individuals deserve equal and timely emergency announcements and notifications. We are often the last to receive them.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Staff time will be impacted.

**Board/HQ Response:**

The NAD through its Policy Institute has been working on emergency preparedness. The NAD has resources on its website that are available. The NAD has been updating its position statement on the Emergency Preparedness Position Statement. The NAD supports this proposed priority.

**Title: Deaf Seniors Issues**

2024-IL-(PUB)-06

YOUTUBE VIDEO <https://youtu.be/XlpSwC-fTVw?feature=shared>

**Author:**

Tina Joyner

**Seconded by:**

Tiasha Bera

**Problem to be addressed:**

Deaf Seniors experience barriers and isolation in the facility and staff do not know Deaf Culture or ASL.

**Proposed Solution:**

NAD continues the work of the NAD/DSA Taskforce on Deaf Seniors Issues and to include rentals (assisted living, and nursing homes).

**Rationale:**

Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened seniors face difficulties in obtaining accessibility to meet their needs. This issue is prevalent across the country and occurs every day. It's time to acknowledge this problem and take action to fight for the rights of Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened seniors. They need accessibility in American Sign Language (ASL) or their preferred sign languages in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, rehabilitation centers, centers for the aging, and even for caregivers at home.

Fiscal Impact:

Staff time will be impacted.

Board/HQ Response:

The NAD has had this as a priority for the last three terms. The committee has achieved a lot in the last 6 years. The NAD acknowledges that the committee still has a lot of work to do. The NAD is still committed to the work necessary to achieve barrier-free living for our Deaf Senior Citizens. The NAD encourages the Deaf Senior America (DSA) to take more leadership and responsibility for this proposal, and we will continue to support their efforts.

**Title: DECLARE: Deaf Children's Language Rights Everywhere**

2024-IL-(PUB)-07

YOUTUBE VIDEO <https://youtu.be/LasixxyUkZk?feature=shared>

Author:

Melissa Malzkhun

Seconded by:

Lynette Mattiacci

Problem to be addressed:

Language deprivation, or lack of early sign language acquisition and access for Deaf children from birth through age 8, is a huge constant problem in the U.S. Decades of research, especially from the Visual Language and Visual Learning Center at Gallaudet University, has shown the importance of early and quality sign language acquisition to build foundations for healthy cognitive and literacy development for all deaf children. A majority of our Deaf community members are not fluent bilinguals in ASL and English; instead, they struggle with a myriad of issues that stem from the trauma and adverse impact of language deprivation.

Proposed Solution:

This is a proposal resulting from the 2 years long committee work on the NAD Priority 2022-2024: ASL Resources for Deaf Babies. The committee has worked with 20+ leaders representing U.S.-based organizations involved indirectly and directly in language access and education of our Deaf children. Together, we designed a plan to establish a Community of Practice to end language deprivation. Our approach is a movement called DECLARE: Deaf

Children's Language Rights Everywhere. Through DECLARE, we have strategies and plans to create cohesion among organizations to build change in our systems, from legislation to education, family programming, resource building, and awareness campaigning. Our goal is to end language deprivation in a generation.

**Rationale:**

This work is a continuance based on the past decade-long priorities addressed by the NAD. We need to recognize the fact that this issue has been a huge problem in our community by eroding opportunities and quality of life for our Deaf citizens, starting from when they (and we) were children. This plan developed by the committee brings forth a fresh solution: push for a movement through a Community of Practice mechanism and structure to align our fractured community organizations and allies to create systemic changes our Deaf babies desperately need.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Staff time will be impacted and dealing with the committee as well. The committee got a grant to support this effort.

**Board/HQ Response:**

The NAD recognizes the work that the Committee has done in the last two years on the ASL Resources for Deaf Babies. The NAD is still committed to the work necessary to end language deprivation. If this priority is passed - it just will reaffirm the work that NAD is already committed to.

**Title: Emergency Responders**

2024-IL-(PUB)-08

YOUTUBE VIDEO <https://youtu.be/-Hr5yqkswZs?feature=shared>

**Author:**

James Zellner

**Seconded by:**

Lev Shayman

**Problem to be addressed:**

Most public facilities do not have an emergency response light when notify that there is a shooting situation. Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened will experience a delayed response or do not know when there is a shooting emergency. Additionally, First Responders do not know how to communicate with the Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened people.



Proposed Solution:

The NAD should develop a position statement for each public facility to have a light when there is a shooting. The NAD also should work with federal legislation to strengthen the Americans with Disabilities Act to address First Responders. The NAD also should develop an advocacy letter for the State Associations and Affiliates to use to advocate for first responders to take ASL classes.

Rationale:

Our safety is the most important thing in our lives. Having additional visual cues such as flashing lights, and/or tactile alerts such as vibration on phones or other devices during active shooting will help the community to prepare better and know what to do. First Responders learning ASL will help improve communication between them and Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened people.

Fiscal Impact:

Staff time will be impacted.

Board/HQ Response:

NAD supports this proposed priority.

**Title: Training Mental Health Professionals**

2024-IL-(PUB)-09

YOUTUBE VIDEO <https://youtu.be/SwLuEtLL4KQ?feature=shared>

Author:

Tina Joyner

Seconded by:

Tiasha Bera

Problem to be addressed:

1. Mental health professionals do not know how to provide care to Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened patients who have mental health issues.
2. Mental health professionals lack understanding of Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened patients who need individual accommodations such as on-site American Sign Language (ASL).
3. Mental health professionals often lack an understanding of Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened culture. They may not be sensitive to the unique needs of Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened patients, who face language barriers and may not have knowledge of mental health issues.

Proposed Solution:

The NAD shall create a plan for a series of "Mental Health and the Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened" training for individuals and staff in agencies, clinics and hospitals and to implement them to ensure that service provision is clarified and maximized for Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened individuals in order to have full access to the service and that the accommodations they need are met.

Rationale:

Mental Health has been a great concern in the Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened Community for so long. It is challenging for Deaf individuals to find the right persons to work with them and understand their issues. Thus the frustrations of not focusing on getting better, things get worse. Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened individuals do not have full access to Mental Health services that are offered (i.e., licensed therapists and hospital staff who are fluent in ASL and familiar with the challenges that Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened people face).

Fiscal Impact:

Staff time will be impacted.

Board/HQ Response:

The NAD has been working on the Mental Health Issues for years and years. The NAD also has several position statements on this. Other programs already provide training for professionals to work with deaf communities. Also, services vary by state insurance coverage and other matters. The NAD could develop guidelines for states to use and modify to match their state structures. It will not be feasible for the NAD to do the training actively.

**Title: Enhancing Services for DeafBlind Communities**

2024-IL-(PUB)-11

YOUTUBE VIDEO [https://youtu.be/o2Kh\\_FUc5Nc?feature=shared](https://youtu.be/o2Kh_FUc5Nc?feature=shared)

Author:

Kristy Stellato

Seconded by:

Feta Fernsler

Problem to be addressed:

DeafBlind people do not have a consistent program across the country for transportation with communication access (known as Support Service Provider or Co-Navigator, depending on the state). Funding sources are widely variable, ranging from volunteers to donations to Independent Living Part B grants to legislation actions (see Beth Jordan's research on SSP/CoNav programs).

#### Proposed Solution:

The NAD shall develop a draft letter for state associations to submit to Congress to pass a bill and establish a federal funding program for transportation and communication facilitators for DeafBlind, mobility disabilities, and Blind/LowVision people.

#### Rationale:

A federal funding source with a set of consistent regulations and minimum standards will make it easier for states to comply with and provide consumers with accessible transportation provided by people whom they can understand and trust.

While Administration for Community Living already has a program dedicated to making accessible transportation possible, it does not address:

1. Communication access for DeafBlind during transportation and during errands or events;
2. Long-distance transportation for social events (not possible outside of local transit systems);
3. Scheduling; and
4. Transportation expenses out of pocket.

#### Fiscal Impact:

The fiscal impact will be incurred by:

1. NAD staff time spent on developing the draft letter
2. NAD staff time spent on training state associations and outreach
3. Legislative outreach on the federal level if the proposal has moved on to Congress
4. State Association directors' time spent advocating in their states

#### Board/HQ Response:

The NAD already provides support to state associations through our legislative affairs coordinator when requested. The NAD can provide letters upon request for any state association advocating for bills within their state legislation.

#### **Title: Restructuring the NAD**

2024-IL-(GOV)-01

YOUTUBE VIDEO: <https://youtu.be/mlZ4RqCg90k?feature=shared>

#### Author:

Sheri Farinha

#### Seconded by:

Marla Hatrak

Problem to be addressed:

The current NAD structure is obsolete. The organization needs to revamp the entire structure to be more Member friendly, less layers to successful interaction and results.

**Proposed Solution:**

To work with a Deaf professional consultant, as well as deaf-led non-profit experts to assess different ways to restructure NAD as a whole, including COR, NAD policies, programs, services, and more. This would be similar to the Fulton Munroe I, II, and III work done in the past.

**Rationale:**

NAD has recently experienced a crisis. The current structure of the NAD and its board is dysfunctional at this point and in serious need of restructure. The NPO experts will work with the new or interim CEO to identify areas for restructure and develop recommendations to share with all members by 2026.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Estimated costs for task force meetings, approximately 5k for a one-time in-person meeting. The rest can be scheduled via zoom and emails.

**Board/HQ Response:**

The NAD Board has already begun conversations on reviewing the NAD as a whole and has started working with a Consultant for strategic planning. The NAD is currently in a period of transition with its CEO, and will be doing this work. We support this priority proposal.

**Awards**

The NAD Board of Directors presented a Legislative Award. They were presented to Delegate Harry Bhandari, from Maryland.

**Elections**

President Buechner invited Past President Chris Estrin to share the final slate of candidates as follows:

President: Jenny Buechner and Lisa Rose

Vice President: Stephanie Hakulin

Secretary: Milmaglyn Morales

Treasurer: James "Dino" Christianson, Jr.

Region I Board Member: Jacob Leffler and Ivy Velez

Region II Board Member: Chris Haulmark

Region III Board Member: Lisa Rose and Christopher Patterson

Region IV Board Member: Kimberly Thornsberry and Joseph Lopez

The candidates for the officers positions gave their 3-minute presentations.

President Buechner called for a recess at 11:33 AM CDT.

**July 4, 2024**  
**COR III Session**

President Buechner called COR Session III to order at 8:40 AM CDT.

Nicholas Lalanne, Region I Board Member and Credentials Chair, reported that there were 93 delegates present.

Nicholas, in his role as the COR Co-Chair, reviewed the housekeeping rules.

President Buechner explained the purpose of having Jr. NAD Pages and the rules of Debate Process .

**Bylaws Amendments**

President Buechner invited James “Dino” Christianson, Jr. Board Liaison, Jackie Correa-Alley Bylaws Committee Chair, and Tar Burt

Nicholas Lalanne, Region I Board Member and Credentials Chair, reported that there were 102 delegates present.

**24-01 - Article II. Section 1. - Object.**

President Buechner called for a vote on Bylaws Amendment Proposal 24-01. **CARRIED.**

**24-03 - Article III. Section 1.1. - State Association Affiliates.**

President Buechner called for a vote on Bylaws Amendment Proposal 24-03. **CARRIED.**

**24-05 - Article III. Sections 1.4. - Sections**

President Buechner called for a vote on Bylaws Amendment Proposal 24-05. **CARRIED.**

**Motion:** Joshua Beckman (PSD) moved to approve the Bylaws Amendments:

**24-06 - Article III. Section 2.1.i. - Regular Members.**

**24-10 - Article IV. Section 10.5. - Region Representatives.**

**24-12 - Article. Section V.1.iv. - Forums**

**24-13 - Article VI. Section 1. - Standing Committees**

**24-14. - Article VIII. Section 1. - Amendments**

Seconded by Christopher Patterson (GAD). **CARRIED.**

**24-07 - Article III. Section 2.1.ii. - Senior Members**

**Amendment:** Christopher Patterson (GAD) moved to replace “55+” with “50+”. Seconded by Robyn Miller (DSA). **CARRIED.**

President Buechner called for a vote on Bylaws Amendment Proposal 24-07. **CARRIED.**

**Amendment:** Feta Fernsler (DelAD) moved to remove “+”. Seconded by Valerie Huges (Vermont). **DEFEATED.**

#### **24-08 - Article III. Section 2.3. - International Members.**

**Motion:** Joshua Beckman (PSAD) moved to refer Bylaws Amendment 24-08 to the Bylaws Committee. Seconded by Dominic Harrison (NMAD). **CARRIED.**

President Buechner turned to presenting awards.

#### **Awards**

Regional Board Members presented four State Association Excellence Awards and one Affiliate Award:

- Connecticut Association of the Deaf, Inc
- Oklahoma Association of the Deaf
- Wisconsin Association of the Deaf
- Utah Association of the Deaf
- Deaf Seniors of America

**Motion:** Harvey Corson (CAD) moved that the COR go into the Executive Session to discuss transparency issues. This session will include delegates, current officers, board members, past presidents, former CEOs, and the Interim CEO. It was seconded by James Zellner.

**Amendment:** Chris Haulmark moved to insert “to discuss for 30 minutes” after Interim CEO. Seconded by Fara Harper. **CARRIED.**

**Amended Motion:** Harvey Corson (CAD) moved that the COR go into the Executive Session to discuss transparency issues. This session will include delegates, current officers, board members, past presidents, former CEOs, and the Interim CEO to discuss for 30 minutes. It was seconded by James Zellner. **CARRIED**

President Buechner called to enter the Executive Session at 11:01 AM CDT.

President Buechner called to exit the Executive Session at 11:31 AM CDT.

President Buechner invited Chris Estrin, in the role of the Election Committee Chair, to begin the election process.

**Motion:** Jeff Praill (Arkansas) moved to postpone the Election to tomorrow. Seconded by

Thomas Green (Missouri). It was ruled **Out of Order**

Nicholas Lalanne, Region I Board Member and Credentials Chair, reported that there were 105 delegates present.

Past President Chris Estrin began the election proceedings, starting with the office of the NAD President.

Election result:

for the office of NAD President: Lisa Rosa was elected by ballot.

for the office of NAD Vice President: Stephanie Hakulin was elected by ballot.

for the office of NAD Secretary: Milmaglyn Morales was elected by acclamation with Past President Chris Estrin casting the vote.

for the office of NAD Treasurer: James "Dino" Christianson, Jr. was elected by acclamation with Past President Chris Estrin casting the vote.

for the Region I Board Member: Jacob Leffler was elected by ballot.

for the Region II Board Member: Chris Haulmark was elected by acclamation with Past President Chris Estrin casting the vote.

for the Region III Board Member: Christopher Patterson was elected by ballot.

for the Region IV Board Member: Joseph Lopez was elected by ballot.

President Buechner called for a recess at 11:53 AM CDT.

## **July 5, 2024**

### **COR IV Session**

President Buechner called COR Session IV to order at 8:38 AM CDT.

Nicholas Lalanne, Region I Board Member and Credentials Chair, reported that there were 94 delegates present.

Nicholas Lalanne, in his role as the COR Co-Chair, reviewed the housekeeping rules, including no use of vaping inside the Sheraton room.

President Buechner requested for a moment of reflection.

President Buechner asked for information on the remaining number of bylaws amendments and was informed that there are 5 remaining.

Nicholas Lalanne, Region I Board Member and Credentials Chair, reported that there were 101 delegates present.

**Motion:** Randy Pituk (RAD) moved to suspend a bylaws amendment agenda item and move to priorities agenda item. Seconded by Rosalinda Rendon. **CARRIED.**

**Motion:** Dominic Harrison (NMAD) moved to add the NAD Board's Proposed Priorities into the Priorities. Seconded by Elzbieta Kaminski (JCCD). It was ruled **OUT OF ORDER.**

### **Priority Proposals**

Steering Committee Chair Jacob Leffler reported that the Forums have decided on their top 9 proposed priorities from each track and recommendations, which are as follows:

2024 - IL - PUB-02 -Access to Resources for DeafDisabled Citizens  
2024 - IL - PUB-03 - Address Deaf Youth Well-Being  
2024 - IL - PUB-05 - Deaf Community Needs: Access Emergency Announcement/Notification  
2024 - IL - PUB-06 - Deaf Seniors Issue  
2024 - IL - PUB-07 - DECLARE - Deaf Children's Language Rights Everywhere  
2024 - IL - PUB-08 - Emergency Responders  
2024 - IL - PUB-09 - Training for Mental Health Professionals  
2024 - IL - PUB-11 - Enhancing Services for DeafBlind Communities  
2024 - IL - GOV-01 - Restructuring the NAD

**Motion:** Jerry Nelson (DSA) moved to read each priority one at a time and then vote on all at once for the final five priorities. Seconded by Martina Moore-Reid. **CARRIED.**

**Amendment:** Julia Silvestri (CAD) moved to insert "and outreach needs" to the title 2024 - IL - PUB-03 "Address Deaf Youth Wellbeing". Seconded by Alvin Chege (CAD). **CARRIED.**

**Motion:** Harvey Corsen moved to merge 2024-IL-PUB-02 - Enhancing Services for DeafBlind Communities with 2024-IL-PUB-11- Access to Resources for DeafDisabled Citizens. **CARRIED.**

**Motion:** Phil Aiello (DSA) moved to insert partnership with DSA in the proposed solution for 2024-IL-PUB-06 - Deaf Senior Issues to partner with DSA. Seconded by Robyn Miller (DSA). **WITHDRAWAL.**

**Motion:** Usherla DeBerry (GUAA) moved to merge 2024-IL-PUB-05- Deaf Community needs: Access Emergency Announcements/Notification with 2024-IL-PUB-8- Emergency Responders. Seconded by Martina Moore-Reid (NBDA). **CARRIED.**



**Motion:** Katy Hagmeyer (WAD) moved to refer 2024-IL-PUB-09 - Training Mental Health Professionals to the NAD Headquarters to work with ADARA. Seconded by Denise Johnson (WAD). **CARRIED.**

**Motion:** Thomas Green (Missouri) moved to merge 2024-IL-PUB-03 - Address Deaf Youth Well-Being with 2024-IL-PUB-07 - DECLARE: Deaf Children's Language Rights Everywhere. Seconded by Eugenio Ravelo Mendoza (DeafBlind). **DEFEATED.**

**Motion:** Randy Pituk (RAD) moved to refer 2024-IL-PUB-3 - Address Deaf Youth Well-Being to the 2022-2024 Priorities Committee. Seconded by Joshua Beckman (PSD). It was ruled **OUT OF ORDER.**

**Motion:** Randy Pituk (RAD) moved to refer 2024-IL-PUB-3 - Address Deaf Youth Well-Being to the Youth Section. Seconded by Joshua Beckman (PSD). **DEFEATED.**

**Motion:** Kavita Pipalia (NCDA) moved to replace "DECLARE" with "LEAD-K" and insert the committee shall work with the LEAD-K. Seconded by Christopher Patterson (GAD). It was ruled **OUT OF ORDER.**

**Motion:** Christopher Patterson (GAD) moved to replace "DECLARE" with "LEAD-K". Seconded by Elzbieta Kaminski (JCCD). **DEFEATED.**

Nicholas Lalanne, Region I Board Member and Credentials Chair, reported that there were 107 delegates present.

A vote was called, and delegates engaged in the voting process to select the top 5 priorities.

Delegates engaged in the voting process to select the top 5 priorities.

After tallying the votes, it was determined that the top 5 Priorities for 2024-2026 are:

2024-IL-(PUB)-03: Address Deaf Youth Well-Being and Outreach Needs

2024-IL-(PUB)-06: Deaf Seniors Issues

2024-IL-(PUB)-07: DECLARE: Deaf Children's Language Rights Everywhere

2024-IL-(PUB)-14: Access to Resources for DeafDisabled Citizens and Enhancing Services for DeafBind Communities

2024-IL-(PUB)-15: Deaf Community Needs: Access Emergency Responders and Emergency Announcements/Notifications

President Bucehner shared appreciation for all of the delegates, board members, the Parliamentarian, interpreters, captioners, and NAD staff.

The Oath of Office for the 2024-2026 NAD Board of Directors will be held at a location and time to be determined and will be announced once determined.

President Bucehner declared the Council of Representative session adjourned at 11:42 AM CDT.

## 2024 Delegate Roster

(as of 6/30/24)

### Region 1

#### **Connecticut Association of the Deaf**

Dr. Julia Silvestri - Delegate  
Alvin Chege - Delegate  
Dr. Harvey Corson - Delegate

#### **Delaware Association of the Deaf**

Feta Fernsler - Delegate  
Keith Robertson - Delegate

#### **District of Columbia Association of the Deaf**

Brianne Burger - Delegate  
Phil Wismer - Delegate

#### **Empire State Association of the Deaf**

Steve Lovi - Delegate

#### **Maine Association of the Deaf**

Sitara Sheikh - Delegate  
Meli Stamp - Delegate  
Heather Richards-Kretlow - Alternate Delegate

#### **Maryland Association of the Deaf**

Tina Joyner - Delegate  
Tiasha Bera - Delegate  
Vikki Porter - Alternate Delegate  
Michele Westfall - Alternate Delegate

#### **Massachusetts State Association of the Deaf**

Joseph Karnolisz- Delegate  
Renelle Medard - Delegate  
Ivelisse Velez - Alternate Delegate

#### **New Hampshire Association of the Deaf**

Kristy Stellato- Delegate  
Sheila Coombs - Delegate

#### **New Jersey Association of the Deaf**

Andy Oh - Delegate  
Octavio Maldonado - Delegate  
Kim Arrigo - Alternate Delegate

**Pennsylvania Society Advancement of the Deaf**

Robert Probst - Delegate  
Larry McNulty - Delegate  
Lynn Kay Stroud - Delegate  
Joshua Beckman - Delegate  
Dominic Gordine - Delegate  
Maribeth Zeleski-Emmons - Delegate

**Vermont Association of the Deaf**

Valerie Hedges - Delegate

**Virginia Association of the Deaf**

Donna Viall - Delegate  
Mia Heisly - Delegate

**Region II****Illinois Association of the Deaf**

Marietta Sternke - Delegate  
Fara Harper - Delegate

**Indiana Association of the Deaf**

Felicia Hubbard - Delegate  
Lauren Corda - Delegate

**Iowa Association of the Deaf**

Ron Hovinga - Delegate  
Cassie Alexander - Delegate

**Kansas Association of the Deaf**

Jessica Schultz - Delegate  
Annettee Caraway - Delegate  
Adriana Gonzalez - Delegate  
Chris Haulmark - Alternate Delegate

**Kentucky Association of the Deaf**

Bethany Yance - Delegate

**Missouri Association of the Deaf**

Lawrence Yates - Delegate  
Thomas Green - Delegate  
William Walker - Alternate Delegate

**Minnesota Association of Deaf Citizens**

Kelsey Dahl - Delegate  
Kim Wassenaar - Delegate  
Kathleen Smith - Alternate Delegate

**Nebraska Association of the Deaf**

Jonathan Arteaga - Delegate  
Jessica Smolen - Delegate  
Traci Ivins- Alternate Delegate  
Candice Arteaga - Alternate Delegate  
Michael Fick - Alternate Delegate

**South Dakota Association of the Deaf**

Mark Koterwski - Delegate  
Ben Soukup - Delegate

**Wisconsin Association of the Deaf**

Lisa Demmon - Delegate  
Denise Johnson - Delegate  
Katy Hagmeyer - Delegate  
Anna Dorst - Alternate Delegate

**Region III**

**Alabama Association of the Deaf**

Ryan McDonald - Delegate  
Becky Ripley - Delegate  
Christie Cumbest- Alternate Delegate

**Arkansas Association of the Deaf**

Kitsonia Hancock - Delegate  
Ashley Harris - Delegate  
Tricia Tighe - Alternate Delegate  
LaHollis Hill - Alternate Delegate  
Jeff Prail - Alternate Delegate

**Florida Association of the Deaf**

Calvin Britt - Delegate  
Lisa Myhand - Delegate  
Derick Horne- Alternate Delegate  
Nancy Horne - Alternate Delegate

**Georgia Association of the Deaf**

Phillip Sublett - Delegate  
Christopher Patterson - Delegate

**Louisiana Association of the Deaf**

Sherry Cosby - Delegate  
Jerrod Wingate - Delegate  
Jimmy Challis Gore - Delegate  
Jay Isch - Alternate Delegate

**North Carolina Association of the Deaf**

Gideon Friant - Delegate

**Oklahoma Association of the Deaf**

Alex Gauger - Delegate  
Rosalinda Rendon - Delegate

**South Carolina Association of the Deaf**

Paul LeCroy - Delegate  
Ashley Chism - Delegate

**Tennessee Association of the Deaf**

Bobby Jackson II - Delegate  
Jennifer Dean - Delegate

**Texas Association of the Deaf**

Thumas Lee - Delegate

**Region IV****Arizona Association of the Deaf**

Katie Engelbrecht - Delegate  
Katie Sienko - Delegate

**Montana Association of the Deaf**

Tyler Hansen - Delegate  
Rita Brandborg - Delegate

**New Mexico Association of the Deaf**

Dominic Harrison - Delegate  
Joseph Lopez III - Delegate

**Oregon Association of the Deaf**

Jack Ludwig - Delegate  
Morgan Jericho - Delegate  
Brent Redpath - Alternate Delegate

**Washington Association of the Deaf**

Karen Atwood - Delegate

Mike Izak - Delegate

### **Non-Profit Organization - Membership Based**

#### **American Sign Language Teacher Association**

Matt Andersen- Delegate

#### **Deaf in Government**

Robert Tackie- Delegate

Florence Rapozo - Delegate

#### **Deaf Seniors of America**

Phil Aiello - Delegate

Char Parsley - Delegate

Jerry Nelson - Delegate

Robyn Miller - Delegate

Alfred Sonnenstrahl - Delegate

#### **Gallaudet University Alumni Association**

Usherla DeBerry - Delegate

Thelma Schroeder - Delegate

Jose-Ovi Velaquez - Delegate

#### **Junior National Association of the Deaf**

Lev Shayman- Delegate

James Zellner - Delegate

#### **National Asian Deaf Congress**

Min Cho - Delegate

#### **National Black Deaf Advocates**

Florence Platt - Delegate

Martina Moore-Reid - Delegate

#### **Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf**

Tar Burt - Delegate

Randy Pituk - Delegate

#### **TDIforAcess**

AnnMarie Killian - Delegate

### **Non-Profit Organization - Non-Membership Based**

**Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf**

Luanne Barron - Delegate

John Serrano - Alternate Delegate

**Jacksonville Community Center for the Deaf**

Elzbieta Kaminski - Delegate

**Museum of Deaf History, Arts & Culture**

Chriz Dally - Delegate

**National Association of State Agencies of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

Darlene Zangara - Delegate

Benro Ogunyipe - Alternate Delegate

**National Center for Deaf Advocacy**

Kavita Pipalia - Delegate

Marla Hatrak - Alternate Delegate

**NorCal Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

Sheri Farinha - Delegate

Julie Rems-Smario - Alternate Delegate

**Sections**

**Black, Indigenous, People of Color**

DeAnna Swope - Delegate

**DeafBlind**

Eugenio Ravelo Mendoza- Delegate

**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender**

Tommy Minch - Delegate

Andrew Veith - Alternate Delegate

**National Association of the Deaf Youth**

Ari Latino - Delegate

Kyah Kitchen - Alternate Delegate

**Senior Citizen**

June McMahon - Delegate