



## APPROVED MINUTES

SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING of the STATE BOARD OF GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND  
Monday, October 24, 2011  
9:00 a.m.

### Special Committee Members

*Eric Holm, President*

*Jeff Neidich*

### Executive Officer

*Antonette Sorrick*

### Legal Counsel

*Laura Freedman Eidson*

#### 1. Call to Order/ Roll Call (E. Holm)

President Holm called the teleconference meeting to order at 9:09 a.m. Roll was taken and a Special Committee of two was established to conduct business.

Individuals present by phone voluntarily identified themselves.

#### 2. Necessity of Meeting with Less than 10 Days' Notice – Whether Compliance Poses a Substantial Hardship to the Board or Immediate Action is Required to Protect the Public Interest

Board Counsel Freedman Eidson explained that to comply with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act as well as the Board's statutory requirements under Business and Professions Code section 7215.6, a finding of necessity to meet with less than 10 days' notice. Board Member Neidich moved to proceed with the meeting based on Board Counsel's advice, finding that there was a substantial hardship to the Board if it did not proceed and immediate action was required to protect the public interest. Board President Holm seconded the motion.

Committee Vote: Motion Passed (unanimous).

#### 3. Explanation of Informal Proceeding Regarding Interim Custody of Guide Dog Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 7215.6 (L. Freedman Eidson)

Counsel explained that the proceeding would be held to determine custody of guide dog pending a request for arbitration by the user. Counsel proceeded to explain the recommended procedures: the proceeding would be informal; that each party would have a certain amount of time to present facts, and the opportunity to rebut the other party's presentation; that no one would be sworn in under oath; and that board members could ask questions. After that procedure, the Special Committee would deliberate in closed session. After deliberation, the decision would be delivered to both parties.

Committee vote to adopt those procedures: Motion passed (unanimous).

4. Closed Session (Government Code § 11126(c)(2)) - Presentation from Parties Regarding Custody of Guide Dog Pending Arbitration Request and Hearing

Minutes of the Closed Session are located in a separate file.

5. Closed Session (Government Code § 11126(c)(3)) -Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Custody of Guide Dog Pending Arbitration Request and Hearing (All)

This item was tabled until Monday, October 31, 2011.

6. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda  
There was no public comment.

7. Adjournment

Board President Holm asked for a motion to adjourn. Board Member Neidich moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:17 a.m.