

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON
STAFF REPORT
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: October 30, 2003**

REGULAR **CONSENT** **EFFECTIVE DATE** _____

DATE: October 16, 2003

TO: Lee Beyer, Chair
Ray Baum, Commissioner
John Savage, Commissioner

Through: Rick Willis, Executive Director
Victoria McLean, Central Services Administrator

FROM: Damara Paris, RSPF Manager

SUBJECT: TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVICES ACCESS PROGRAM (TDAP):
Commission Approval of TDAP Advisory Committee Candidates.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that Renwick Dayton and Andrea Cabral be approved to fill the vacant positions for two deaf or hard of hearing community members on the Telecommunication Devices Access Program Advisory Committee (TDAPAC). I have attached letters of interest, recommendations and background information on each candidate.

DISCUSSION:

Under Oregon Law, the Commission must have the TDAPAC in place to provide advice for PUC's Telecommunication Devices Access Program (TDAP). TDAP, also authorized by state law, purchases and loans special telecommunication devices at no cost to Oregonians who are deaf, hearing and/or speech impaired, or have other severe physical and mobility impairments that would prevent them from using a standard telephone.

Chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, section 2(1-2d) stipulates that the advisory committee consists of twelve members, including nine consumers with disabilities, one professional in the field of hearing or speech impairment or deafness, one representative from telephone companies and one representative from PUC.

Advisory Committee Candidate

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On September 15, 2003, members of the TDAPAC voted to recommend to the Commissioners Renwick Dayton as a deaf candidate to replace outgoing member Terri Nichols, whose term expires December 31, 2003, and Andrea Cabral as hard of hearing candidate to replace outgoing member Mitchel Turbin, whose term expired December 31, 2002.

Mr. Dayton, from Hillsboro, Oregon, is currently the president of Oregon Association of the Deaf (OAD), a non profit organization for deaf and hard of hearing Oregonians. Mr. Dayton was employed as a printing press technician for Tektronix, then Xerox, before his retirement in 2000. He has provided a variety of volunteer services for various social service agencies, including Deaf and Hard of Hearing Access Program, and was the treasurer who handled funds for Tri County services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing when they operated the Oregon Relay Service from 1989-1992. He is known as an advocate in the community and would serve the committee well.

Ms. Cabral, a resident of Eugene, began losing her hearing as a young adult. She has worked on a variety of task forces to educate people about assistive listening devices for hard of hearing people. Some of her recent activities include coordinating Self Help for the Hard of Hearing (SHHH) meetings, providing training to the Lane County 911 center, and working with schools, churches, concerts and meeting halls to improve access for hard of hearing individuals. She has also served as the Vice President of the Lane county SHHH for six years. Her expertise and knowledge about hard of hearing consumers' issues will help TDAP improve services for this population.

Both candidates would begin service on January 1, 2004 and complete their terms on December 31, 2007.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Appoint Mr. Renwick Dayton and Ms. Andrea Cabral as members of the TDAPAC committee from January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2007.