



Board Meeting

Meeting Date: October 8, 2025 **Location of Meeting:** ZOOM

Officers Present: Sherry Crosby, Jerrod Wingate, Cammy Gaspar, Ben Wimberly, Katrina Williams, Megan Montet, Rosalyn Watson, and Jay Isch

Meeting called to the order: 6:34PM

MINUTES

1. Approval of Agenda

- 1.1. Jerrod Wingate (Megan Montet) moves to accept. **The motion is PASSED.**

2. Reading & Approval of Minute(s)

- 2.1. **06/28/2025 Conference Meeting:** Jerrod Wingate moves to approve the minute with corrections. **The motion is PASSED.**
- 2.2. **09/17/2025 Board Meeting:** Jerrod Wingate moves to approve the minute without corrections. **The motion is PASSED.**

3. President's Report

- 3.1. **President Crosby** she thanks the Board for attending the retreat. NAD Board unfortunately is having issues within their organization. We are keeping an eye on an update. The treasurer and I are making some small changes with some policies with Deaf Focus. (note about June 4th minutes, ask Katrina)

4. Vice President's Report

- 4.1. **Vice President Wingate** Board retreat was wonderful, I love the vulnerability of everyone sharing their stories. On a personal note, having issues with discrimination with medical care for pregnant wife. Enjoyed the informative workshop given by Thomas Holcomb as well.

5. Secretary's Report

- 5.1. **Secretary Gaspar** in the past month 2 new members have joined LAD which brings the current roster to 128 members. She learned so much from Chris Haulmark and Eliza Kraugh during the LAD Board retreat. The experience was amazing and she appreciates the opportunity. On October 1st she attended the RTA Riders Advisory Committee meeting in New Orleans with Sherry, Katrina, and other members of the Deaf community.

6. Treasurer's Report

As of today [10/08/2025]

Operating fund: \$59,154.97

Savings Account: \$16,516.69

Youth Fund: \$5,615.11

H.J. Soland Jr. Scholarship Fund: \$2,023.61

Apparel Fund: \$1,082.02

Book Drive: \$1,706.38

Toy Drive: \$2,204.69

Emergency Disaster Fund: \$2,471.93

Professional Development Fund: \$1,403.02

Interest Gains: \$9.93

Investments: \$248,309.66

TOTAL: \$323,981.32 (-\$2,901.68 since 09/17/2025)

- 6.1. **Treasurer Wimberly** reports the following:

- 6.1.1. Profit/Loss:

- 6.1.1.1. In September 2025, Deaf Focus earned a total income of \$41,178.04, primarily from interpreting services (\$27,710), consulting (\$3,595). Expenses for the month totaled \$15,734.78, with the largest costs coming from management and operations (\$10,383.03), program functions (\$4,552.97), and investment fees. Other income such as interest and miscellaneous revenue totaling \$82.95, the organization closed the month with a net income of **\$25,526.21**, reflecting strong financial performance and positive cash flow.

6.1.2. Statement of Activity (July-September 2025)

- 6.1.2.1. From July through September 2025, LAD generated a total income of \$134,699.19. This included \$1,076.16 from donations/member dues, \$27,181.34 from investment activity, and \$61,559.29 from program fees. An additional \$44,882.40 was recorded as uncategorized income.
- 6.1.2.2. On the expense side, the organization spent \$194,624.29 overall. Major costs included \$51,426.56 in investment-related fees, \$51,888.56 for program functions, and \$44,239.29 for supporting functions.
- 6.1.2.3. Uncategorized expenses totaled \$45,482.40. After accounting for other income and expenses, the net income for the quarter was -\$59,774.05, reflecting a deficit primarily driven by high investment and administrative costs in July and August. September showed a positive operating margin, helping offset earlier losses.
- 6.1.2.4. This may be resolved once the accounting team updates the categorization, including adjusting from calendar year to fiscal year and reclassifying conference expenses incurred in FY25 that were recorded under FY26.

6.1.3. Balance Sheet:

- 6.1.3.1. As of September 30, 2025, LAD reported total assets of \$491,581.82 and Liabilities at \$11,598.24. Equity stood at \$479,983.58, reflecting a beginning balance of \$551,221.46 and a net loss of \$71,237.88 for the period. Overall, the organization remains financially stable with strong assets and low liabilities.

6.1.4. Investments:

6.1.4.1. As of September 30, 2025, LAD's Merrill Lynch investment account held a total portfolio value of \$247,578.90, reflecting a monthly gain of \$9,038.42. The account earned \$108.94 in dividends and interest. Advisory fees for the month totaled \$198.78.

6.1.5. Conclusion:

6.1.5.1. As of today, the uncategorized income/expense of \$44,882.40 remains unresolved. We were previously informed by the accounting team that this would be updated by September 15, 2025. I have followed up with them to request a status update, along with a copy of Form 3115 for the accounting method change and the mileage reimbursement form. I reiterated our preference to meet via Zoom to discuss these concerns directly, rather than continuing the back-and-forth over email.

7. Member at Large's Report

- 7.1. **Member-At-Large Williams** October 1st attended RTA's Rider Accessibility Committee meeting. The Senior Citizen meeting was Sept 17th. Greatly enjoyed her 2nd Board retreat.
- 7.2. **Member-At-Large Montet** Board retreat was worth it. Left the retreat motivated and ready to tackle new goals. She wants to do a Halloween video.
- 7.3. **Member-At-Large Watson** The Board retreat was a very enriching experience. Developing the Holiday card flyer. LSDAA's DNO was a great opportunity for me to talk about LAD's goals and possibly gain some new members. Recommends a workshop teaching people how to use Zoom or Livestream to access our LAD meeting.

Break 7:43pm-7:51pm

8. Executive's Report

9.1 Executive Director Isch reports that the past month has been extremely busy for us giving us great results financially, bringing in just over \$25,000. We've also renewed several contracts, and written a couple of grant applications; to both the LA Relay Administration Board and the Greater New Orleans Foundation.

Despite the disappointing news coming out of LCD today regarding the SSP program RFP, He has filed a grievance since they never received our RFP, and he is hoping they will give us a chance to submit our RFP since they only received 1. Jay continues to remain optimistic. Additionally, he makes some remarks about the positive experience at the recent Board Retreat with Chris Haulmark and Eliza Kragh from Deaf Gain. Their insights provoked our thoughts and brought us together on a personal level as well, getting to know each other better. This opportunity is appreciated. Lastly, Jay mentions concerns about SSD's Board and the direction they are going. He proposes having a TownHall meeting, bringing the community together to discuss an action going forward to push the district to search for the next Superintendent using the services of Innivee Strategies.

9. Committee's Reports

10.1 Auditing: Per the most recent Finance Committee meeting, it was advised by financial experts and attorneys that LAD not to pursue an external audit. As it would not be beneficial to the organization due to the immense costs of doing so as well as the fact that we currently employ a third party bookkeeping firm with CPA oversight to oversee our books and ensure we stay in compliance.

(10/08/2025)

10.2 Governance: Bylaws are currently being uploaded to fit the software of the website. **(10/08/2025)**

10.3 Finance: 6.1 Next Finance Committee meeting October 20, 2025 **(10/08/2025)**

10.4 Senior Citizen: Refer to 7.1 **(10/08/2025)**

10.5 Youth: No update **(10/08/2025)**

10.6 Investments: Refer 6.1.4. **(10/08/2025)**

10.7 Community Spotlight: Spotlight Committee meeting on 10/10/2025
(10/08/2025)

10.8 2027 Biennial Conference: Co-Chairs Jerrod and Sadie Wingate will produce a video on Saturday, October 18th, about the next LAD Biennial Conference. There is also interest in bringing Dr. Thomas Holcomb back to speak in Louisiana.
(10/08/2025)

10.9 Annual Christmas Toy Drive: Will start collecting items in October. (7/19/2025)

10.10 Holiday Cards: Refer to 7.3 (10/08/2025)

10.11 Annual Book Drive: We have released our new Book Drive flyer! (8/27/2025)

10. Unfinished Business

10.1. None

11. New Business

11.1. LRID sponsorship

Ben Wimberly (Jerrod Wingate) moves to contribute \$500.

The motion is PASSED.

11.2. Executive Session

Cammy Gaspar (Katrina Williams) moves to go into Executive Session.

The motion is PASSED.

Katrina Williams (Jerrod Wingate) moves to exit Executive Session.

The motion is PASSED.

The Board moves to approve June 4th minutes as corrected.

Meeting is adjourned at 8:25PM.

Quarterly meeting will be on October 18, 2025 at 1:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cammy Gaspar

Interim Secretary