NATIONAL FEDERATION of the BLIND of KANSAS, JAYHAWK CHAPTER

MINUTES FROM MEETING of August 12, 2025

LOCATION: ACAPULCO MEXICAN GRILL, 1520 WAKARUSA DRIVE, LAWRENCE KANSAS and online via ZOOM

Members present

Dustin Disque, Luther Fuller, Brendy Latare, Matt Mitchell, Renee Morgan, Rob Tabor

• Call to order, welcome, and introductions. The meeting was presided by secretary Rob Tabor in the abscence of both president Susan Tabor and vice president Cheryl Miller. Susan was taking a family vacation and Cheryl was ill. There were no guests. A quorum was declared present.

• National report. A transcript of Presidential Release # 551 was read. President Mark Riccobono invites members who were not present for the 2025 national convention to listen to the highlights via one of several available online platforms. The President also gave an update on our legislative advocacy endeavors.

• State report — Rob Tabor. The state board has approved a convention planning committee proposal to create 4 levels of sponsorship for the state convention. The categories are bronze, silver, gold, and platenum, which are determined by designated levels of financial contribution. The higher the sponsorship level, the more platforms sponsors will receive in recognition. Platenum sponsors will be recognized in all platforms and will be given podium time, either during the general session or during the Saturday luncheon. State president Tom Page is drafting a letter we can distribute to potential sponsors.

There is a correction of room rates for the 2025 state convention in Wichita. The actual nightly rate is $137 instead of the originally given amount of $129.

The national representative to the convention will be Ben Dallin, a recently elected national board member and president of the Wisconsin state affiliate.

In addition to the usual convention program, there will be 2 breakout sessions on Saturday afternoon. One session will cover white cane orientation and mobility supplemented by new and emerging navigational technologies. The other session will be an informational workshop pertaining to daily independent living strategies, techniques, and adaptive aids.

KRS update. State president Tom Page informed the board that Dan Decker is no longer director. KRS is under interim management pending appointment of a successor. The directorship of the Business Enterprise (BEP) program is also vacant and a search is under way for a successor.

• May minutes. Upon the call of the presider for additions or corrections and there being none, the May 2025 meeting minutes were approved as posted via email.

• Financial report — Brendy. There were no authorized debits or credits since last report. Therefore, the balance should remain at $1430.70. Unfortunately, a fraudulent withdrawal was made on June 27 for $531.89, leaving an ending balance of $898.81.

The fraud was

not discovered until Brendy reviewed the account in preparation for the financial report. Brendy stated she would visit the bank tomorrow in attempting to restore the mis-appropriated funds to chapter treasury. Upon the call of the presider for additions or corrections, and there being none, the treasurer's report was approved as read.

• BEAM. The consensus of the membership is that we will present a mayoral proclamation to the Lawrence City Commission declaring October as Blind Equality Achievement Month (BEAM) and October 15 as White Cane Awareness Day. This presentation will give us the opportunity to promote the trivia night fundraiser which is still in the planning stage. Brendy and Renee continue to locate a suitable venue for the event. Rob will contact Steve Buckner to inquire of his availability to serve as contest master for a Friday evening event.

• Future meetings — all. Due to changing work assignments for some members, the chapter agrees to move the meeting date to the second Monday of the month at 4-00 p.m. Several restaurants and other venues were suggested. After lengthy discussion we agree to hold our September meeting at Freestate Brewing Company on Massachusetts Street. Renee offered to reserve the beer garden.

• Other old business. There was none.

• New business. Again, there was none.

• Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Submitted by Rob Tabor, secretary

Next meeting Monday, September 8, 2025

Location: Free State Brewing Company, 636 Massachusetts Street, Lawrence Kansasconvened at 4:33 p.m. and was