February 20, 2014

Mr. David Robinson

E-mail: drob1946@gmail.com

818 Loomis Street

Jackson, MI 49202

Re: FOIA Response to Request for Information on BSBP Commission Transcripts/Minutes and Reports

Dear Mr. Robinson:

This email is in response to your February 7, 2014, email request for information, received by this office on February 10, 2014. Please be advised that the Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (BSBP) is processing this request under the state’s Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), MCL 15.231 *et seq*. On February 14, 2014, an extension was taken on this request to March 3, 2014, as permitted by Section 5(2)(d) of the FOIA.

You have requested information you describe as:

“I would like to request that your report to the advisory commission along with any additional reports from BSBP staff be forwarded to me in an accessible format for me. I would accept either electronic information in word or in braille. In addition, I would request that the approved minutes of meetings be sent to me as well. Likewise in an electronic or braille format.”

Your request is granted as to existing, nonexempt records that pertain to your request. In regards to the report(s) to the BSBP Advisory Commission on February 7, 2014, attached to this response/email are two reports that were presented to the BSBP Commission for Blind Persons at this meeting.

FOIA Response – D. Robinson

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In regards to the BSBP Commission for Blind Persons approved minutes/transcripts, these are available on our website at [www.michigan.gov/bsbp](http://www.michigan.gov/bsbp), Commission for Blind Persons, Transcripts, 2013 Transcripts, then by meeting date. As of this writing, all approved transcripts/minutes are available on this website.

The FOIA cost to produce the two reports is $7.84 (calculated by using $31.37 which is the hourly wage plus fringe benefits of the Department’s lowest paid employee capable of processing this request multiplied by the amount of time to process this request which is ¼ of an hour = $7.84). As this amount is below the Department threshold of $25.00 for charging costs involved in complying with a FOIA request, this FOIA fee is being waived.

Please note that nothing within the federal American with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (RA), as amended, or the state’s FOIA (MCL 15.231 et seq.) requires a public body to process FOIA requests free of charge. Further, while the ADA and Section 504 of

the RA may mandate that, upon request, material be produced in an accessible format without charge, neither the ADA or Section 504 of the RA preclude a public body from charging costs under the state’s FOIA. Thusly, please note that no labor fee charges have been, or will be, assessed to convert existing, nonexempt public records responsive to your requests into an accessible format to forward to you.

Sincerely,

Carla Miller Haynes, FOIA Coordinator

Bureau of Services for Blind Persons

Attachment: Email Request for Information

cc: Edward F. Rodgers II

Sue Luzenski

Mike Pemble

Katie Belknap

From: David Robinson [mailto:drob1946@gmail.com]

Sent: Friday, February 07, 2014 1:57 PM

To: Rodgers, Edward (LARA)

Cc: NFB of Michigan Internet Mailing List

Subject: request for reports and minutes

Dear Mr. Rodgers,

Having listened to the BSBP meeting of Friday, February 7, I was interested in some additional data. I would like to request that your report to the advisory commission along with any additional reports from BSBP staff be forwarded to me in an accessible format for me. I would accept either electronic information in word or in braille.

In addition, I would request that the approved minutes of meetings be sent to me as well. Likewise in an electronic or braille format.

This is just a request for public documents by a member of the public and not a FOIA request. My e mail is (drob1946@gmail.com) My address is 818 Loomis St. Jackson, Mi 49202.

Thank you for your prompt response to this request.

Cordially,

David Robinson