



WASILC QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 9, 2020

Council Members Present:

Alyssa Adwell, Young Adult Representative, Renton
Davi Kallman, Advocate of and for Individuals with Disabilities, Pullman
Dion Graham, Advocate of and for Individuals with Disabilities, Seattle
Jana Finkbonner, VR Tribal Representative, Bellingham
Mark Leeper, Center Director Representative, Pullman
Ryan Nabors, Advocate for Individuals with Disabilities, Tumwater
Sheila Turner, Chair, Parent Guardian Representative, Pasco

Members Absent:

Robert Hines, Ex-Officio, Director of Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

Council Staff Present:

Kim Conner, Executive Director
Jim House, Disability Integration Manager
Jolie Ramsey, Executive Lead

Members and Guests Present:

Tricia Eyerly, Assistant Director of HR, Division of Services for the Blind (DSB)
Von Elison, CIL Director, Central WA Disability Resources (CWDR)
Kimberly Meck, CIL Director, Alliance of People with disAbilities
Leah Velasco, CIL Director, Center for Independence (CFI)
Shelby Satko, Executive Director, WSRC
Mari Heusman, Executive Lead, WSRC
Elizabeth Gordon, Executive Director, GCDE
Joshua Hackney, CWDR
Mandy Wes, Alliance of People with disAbilities
Kelly Boston, Senior Manager, DVR
Shawn Latham, CFI



Jerry Johnsen, Client Assistance Program (CAP)
Kim Canaan, Younger Blind Program Manager, University of WA
Karen Miceli, DVR
Angie Coulter, CTANW
Mayra Colazo, Independent Living Specialist, CWDR
Juanita Perez, Independent Living Specialist, Alliance of People with disabilities
Corina Radford, Okanogan County
Donna Adamson
Angel Bean
Tammy Woodrich, Intertribal VR counselor
Toni Whitman, Coeur d'Alene Tribal VR coordinator
Christymarie Jackson, Department of Health
Christina Martinez, Resource Coordinator Skokomish Tribe

Call to Order & Introductions: Sheila Turner, Chair, called meeting to order at 9:03am

Read Land Acknowledgment

Review and Approve Agenda:

Motion: Approve today's agenda as presented.

First: Jana Finkbonner **Second:** Davi Kallman

Vote: Favor: All **Opposed:** None **APPROVED**

Motion: Approve the April 2020 quarterly meeting minutes

First: Alyssa Adwell **Second:** Mark Leeper

Vote: Favor: All **Opposed:** None **APPROVED**

Motion: Approve the June 2020 special meeting minutes

First: Mark Leeper **Second:** Alyssa Adwell

Vote: Favor: All **Opposed:** None **APPROVED**

Financial Report: Alyssa Adwell and Kim Conner

- Reviewed FFY21 proposed budget for WASILC and CIEP program
- Reviewed budget narrative to submit to DVR

FFY2021 WASILC budget

- Changes from FFY20 to FFY21 include:
 - \$10,500 more for contract services
 - \$4,000 less for technology and office equipment
 - \$14,000 more in CIEP budget for ASL/CART
 - \$5,000 more for IE Admin Fees
- Council stipend
 - Kim is still working on this and will finalize policy to review at the October quarterly meeting

Motion: Approve both budgets and letter to go to Rob Hines

First: Jana Finkbonner **Second:** Ryan Nabors

Vote: Favor: All **Opposed:** None **APPROVED**

DVR Business Development Presentation: Karen Miceli

Partner Updates:

Tribal Report: Jana Finkbonner

- Directors met recently.
- Reviewing MOU with state. They will review MOU again this fall with DVR.

- Some tribes' VR have been closed for 2-3 months due to COVID-19.
- Budgets to be reviewed.

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Report (DVR): Kelly Boston

- DVR employees will not furlough since it won't save the state money since DVR is federally funded.
- Spending is far under-budget due to COVID-19.
- Eliminating a number of vacant positions not in use. Reduced spending on purchased services for customers.
- \$1 million in reductions by eliminating the supported employment proviso.

Division of Services for the Blind (DSB) Report: Tricia Eyerly

- Possibility of reinstating order of selection.
- 20-22 staff have to furlough due to COVID-19 related budgetary cuts.
- Summer programs/classes being held for youth to learn about building credit, budgeting, managing their money, disability protection in the work place.
- Plan in place to return to working in offices by the end of the year.

Washington State Rehabilitation Council (WSRC): Shelby Satko

- Business partner position on the council will be open this fall.
- Helping to plan the ADA celebration.
- Invites to customers in Kent area to have opportunity to meet with council members in a more personalized way for them to share their feedback on customer service.
- They will then report out customer satisfaction at next quarterly meeting.

Developmental Disability Council (DDC): Kim Conner for Jeremy Norden-Paul

- Co-hosting virtual advocacy days with SAIL. Held weekly. Inform, engage advocates to address budget shortfalls due to COVID-19.
- DDC created advocacy toolkits to discuss issues with legislators. Recipients for COVID-19 grants. Staff will provide council with this info. —ACTION

Client Assistance Program (CAP): Jerry Johnson

- Finding creative ways to serve clients and improve communication with their DVR counselors under circumstances of COVID-19.

Governor's Committee on Disability (GCDE): Elizabeth Gordon

- Responding to the needs of the disability community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Looking for nominations of employers who are doing great work helping their employees at this time.
- Retaining employees after challenges or illness program.

Centers for Independent Living

Disability Action Center (DAC): Mark Leeper

- CILs in general remain extremely busy.
- Increase in CARES Act funding and increased needs due to COVID. Providing emergency response services.
- Busy helping to develop new SPIL.
- Disseminating fact sheets to local businesses about ADA guidelines for mask-wearing.

Central WA Disability Resources (CWDR): Josh Hackney and Von Elison

- Part B funds and transition program: Making shift to offering transition education digitally to students instead of in-person.
- Converting lessons to Google classroom, skype, zoom, etc. which allows more flexibility.
- Met with schools.
- Part C funds: increased use of technology has increased opportunities to reach clients.

Center for Independence (CFI): Leah Velasco

- Some staff have transitioned back to working in the office. Office will reopen when county is in Phase 3 of WA State's phased reopening.
- Network for food distribution to customers in need.
- Creating outreach materials.
- Workshop in August.
- CFI staff helped to get federal funding passed—Todd Holloway a key worker in this.
- CILs and SILC staff working with PIDS (Partners in Disaster Strategies)—training in emergency management and two-day conference

Alliance of People with disAbilities: Kimberly Meck

- PCAG working on budget proposals for county.
- Planning workgroups for older adults.
- Working with city and county to increase accessibility to all COVID-19 testing sites.

- Continuing services on a regular basis.
- Two new staff members: Phillip Bradford and Juanita Perez.
- Received a grant to support PWD with system navigation.

Executive Director Report: Kim Conner

- Submitted SPIL FFY2021-23 to ACL
- Attends partners' meetings: SRC for the Blind, WSRC, ACL, AL TSA, DSB, FEMA, etc.
- Collaborating with SILCs and CILs in the Pacific Islands.
- Partnering with Open Doors.
- Working on the ADA 30th anniversary celebration planning committee.
- Negotiated a 20% increase in CIEP for interpreters.
- Partner with IL Network and Partners in Disaster Strategies (PIDS) proposal for WA State. Partnership in Disaster Strategies (PIDS) Conference: Tentative dates are September 23-24, 2020.
- COVID-19:
 - Attend weekly CIEP stand-up and CIEP Advisory meetings
 - Outreach to disability organizations discussing impacts, gaps, best practices
 - Attended DVR management/leadership meetings regarding burgeoning policy/procedures to address COVID-19 both internally and externally

Public Comment:

Shawn Latham: Announced that the ADA 30th anniversary celebration committee has put a call out for two-minute videos of person's lived experiences

Committee Reports:

Chair/Executive Committee: Sheila Turner

- The SPIL was open for inspection for a few weeks, it has since been approved and signed.
- Discussed survey results from the April quarterly meeting
- With staff, we developed a solidarity statement supporting the BIPOC communities

Legislative/Policy Sub-Committee: Alyssa Adwell

- Partnering with GCDE to form a legislative workgroup. Attended first meeting in June.

Membership Sub Committee: Alyssa Adwell

- Reviewed council applicants and approve a slate of applicants to submit to the Governor's Office of Boards & Commissions
- There are three open positions on the council and one tribal
- Reviewed and discussed applicants for council positions

Motion: Approve Council applicants

First: Davi Kallman: "I make a motion for Mona [Fuerstenau] and Ricardo [Funes] to go on to be accepted onto the council".

Second: Dion Graham

Vote: Favor: All **Opposed:** None **APPROVED**

- Council applicants' information will be forwarded to the Governor's Office of Boards & Commissions.

SPIL Committee Quarterly Monitoring Report: Mark Leeper

- The 2021-23 SPIL was submitted and received by ACL.
- It is anticipated to be approved by August 2020.

CIEP Report: Jim House

- Working to collaborate to make COVID-19 testing sites accessible for communication access. Videos in ASL.
- Collecting anecdotal stories in best practices.
- All 50 states' Governors hold press conferences with interpreters.

Part B Carryover: Mark Leeper

- Provided historical context of funding.
- Carryover money can either be requested by CIL/DSB to use for the next contract year. If not expending unused funds they will be returned to DVR/DSE to be redistributed in the next contract cycle.
- If there is carryover, then cite the reason, the amount, and how funds will be spent. Exact amount won't be determined until after Sept. 30th.

Motion: Approve Part B Funds Carryover

First: Jana Finkbonner: “I motion that the CILs and entities receiving Part B funds that are going to have carryover have a plan to spend that carryover and redistribute in the next fiscal year.”

Second: Dion Graham

Vote: Favor: All **Opposed:** None **APPROVED**

Youth & Young Adult Sub Committee: Alyssa Adwell

- Youth & Young Adult Survey
 - Twenty seven youth have completed the survey and 21 allies have completed it.
 - Continuing to monitor the survey. Due to COVID-19, the survey may be sent out survey again.
 - Intend to analyze survey data and produce a report between July and October quarterly meetings

New Business:

Conversations with Secretary Cheryl Strange: Mark Leeper

- Discussed DSE for the SILC
- State personnel systems
- Relationship building
- Designated State Units historically had greater oversight and regulation of CILs.
- Understanding that the SILC is autonomous in its decision making is important.
- Policies & Procedures should be in place 1st before any future DSE change. What does IL look like in WA State? How do we move forward from here?
- Council to send a letter to Sec. Strange
 - Discussed how council can engage
 - Consensus agreement that letter should come from the council, on behalf of the entire council and be signed by the Chair.

Executive Committee Election:

- EC committee election will be held at October meeting
- You can submit nominations to EC or ED before the October meeting



Farewell to Jana Finkbonner, Mark Leeper, and Davi Kallman

- Councilmembers took time to acknowledge Jana’s, Mark’s, and Davi’s contributions on the council

Identify and Approve Cities and Dates for 2021 Quarterly Meetings

- October 1, 2020: Via Zoom
- January 25th-26th, 2021: Olympia
- April 15th-16th, 2021: Seattle
- July 15th-16th, 2021: Ellensburg
- October 2021: Council to decide at January 2021 meeting

Motion: Approve the 2020-2021 meeting dates and locations

First: Mark Leeper **Second:** Alyssa Adwell

Vote: Favor: All **Opposed:** None **APPROVED**

Meeting adjourned at 3:25pm.