

# **Governor's Council on Disability**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **February 6, 2017**

**Council Members Present/Participating:**

Joan Bergstrom, Chuck Comstock, Betty Davidson, Ph.D., Ron Hack, Chip Hailey, Mary Ann Harter, Rosemary Hendon, DeAnna Noriega, Sue Orton, Bob Wallace, Yvonne Wright

**Council Members Not Present/Participating:**

Todd Mayfield, Derek Smith, James Trout

**Department Liaisons:**

Bonnie Aaron	Department of Elementary and Secondary Education – DESE/Special Ed
Becky Brietzke	Department of Transportation – MODOT
Brooke Dawson	Department of Mental Health – DMH
DeeAnn Fuller	Department of Elementary and Secondary Education – DESE/VR
Kristin Funk	Department of Economic Development – DED/DWD
JoAnn Hanley	Department of Conservation – MDC
Misty Hill	Department of Natural Resources – DNR
Steven Milburn	Department of Social Services – DSS
Angelette Pritchett	Department of Higher Education – DHE
Lynette Ricks	Office of State Court Administrator – OSCA
Shomari Rozier	Department of Health and Senior Services – DHSS
Duane Shumate	Department of Mental Health – DMH/DD
Brian Weisel	Attorney General's Office – AGO

**Staff:** Claudia Browner, Judy Grainger, Laura Mueth

**Guest:** Rose Andersen-Harper, Katie Jones, Bob Collier

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. With eleven (11) Council members in attendance, there was a quorum for the meeting. Introductions followed. Yvonne Wright welcomed the new Council members Chip Hailey and Rosemary Hendon to the meeting.

**Approval of agenda and minutes:**

The Council members unanimously approved the amended meeting minutes for November 18, 2016 and the agenda for the day.

**Public Comment:** None

**Report from Chair Yvonne Wright:**

The Governor's Council on Disability has established a hiring committee and is in the process of hiring a new Executive Director. Claudia Browner is serving as Acting Executive Director in the interim. Yvonne thanked the members of the hiring committee for their contributions and support throughout this process. House and Senate Budget hearings for FY18 will be held February 7 and 8.

**Report from Acting Executive Director Claudia Browner:**

- Claudia has attended two meetings with the new OA Commissioner Sarah Steelman and discussed current Council member vacancies and reappointments of current members. Commissioner Steelman offered her support in getting vacancies filled and encouraged members currently serving on the Council to submit a letter to the Governor's Boards and Commissions office indicating their continued commitment to serve on the Council. Individuals interested in serving on the Council shall submit their online application and send a copy of their resume to GCD for follow up with the Boards and Commissions director, Scott Turk.
- Claudia will be presenting the GCD budget for FY18 to the House (February 7) and Senate (February 8).
- GCD received 22 nominations for its Awards programs (Inclusion, Youth Leadership, and Website Awards). Several Council members and state liaisons volunteered to judge the nominations. The awards will be presented to the winners at the Power Up conference in April.
- GCD staff have presented four Legislative Education Project (LEP) on the Road training sessions in St. Louis, Kirksville, and Kansas City. Another session is planned in West Plains on March 21.

**Department Liaison Information:**

Lynette Ricks (OSCA) – OSCA is assisting the courts that are remodeling to assure accessibility and polling the courts for their need for assistive listening devices which will be purchased in May. The office continues to assist courts with securing ASL interpreters for court proceedings.

Becky Brietzke (MODOT) – MODOT's ADA Transition Plan is scheduled to be completed in 2027. The transition plan involves making sidewalks, ramps, signaling and transit on state owned properties accessible and is currently at 12% completion.

Steve Milburn (DSS) – DSS is currently awaiting the appointment of a new department director.

Kristin Funk (DWD) – DWD's website for job seekers and employers is <https://jobs.mo.gov/>. There are 34 job centers statewide in Missouri that serve customers with employment and training needs. Section 188 Training on serving customers with disabilities was recently completed statewide. Presentation was recently made to the Council of Nephrology Social Workers of Eastern MO on January 10.

Brooke Dawson (DMH) – The Excellence in Mental Health Act allows states to obtain federal funds for a demonstration program to develop Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) with a Medicaid Prospective Payment System (PPS) for service reimbursement. Missouri was one of 24 states to receive a planning grant to develop an application for the demonstration. DMH, DSS and OA ITSD collaborated on a successful application and demonstration implementation project which was awarded in December 2016 to Missouri, one of only eight states to receive an award. Missouri is launching the pilot program and anticipates 19 community mental health centers will participate.

Bonnie Aaron (DESE) – The Governor has released his recommended budget for the next fiscal year which supports many of DESE's budget requests related to Special Education funding. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was placed on hold by the President. DESE is moving forward with developing the required consolidated state plan and hopes to submit it in April.

Part B State Plan for Special Education has been revised and the period for public comment ended in early January. The Governor has put a hold on most changes to existing or additions of new administrative rules.

Shomari Rozier (DHSS) – The Money Follows the Person (MFP) program is working on sustaining the program after the grant ends in 2020. The last individuals will be enrolled in 2018 as there will be no new funds appropriated for MFP and the start up assistance (\$2,400) to help with transition may not be available after 2018.

The assessment for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) will change from 21 points currently for Medicaid funded services authorization to 27 points in the future. This will affect the level of care for approximately 16,000 individuals. Consumer Directed Supports (CDS) will be reduced from currently up to 100% of nursing care costs to 60% in the future. This change may affect about 6,500 individuals depending on their level of care. There will be a 3% rate reduction for providers. These changes require a change in state statutes.

Duane Shumate (DMH/DD) – The division’s Autism waiver may possibly be discontinued after June 30, 2017. The individuals currently served under this waiver will be covered by other waivers. The Divisions of Developmental Disabilities and Behavioral Health have applied for and received the Office of Disability Employment Policy’s Employment First grant and will continue to collaborate with Vocational Rehabilitation, Division of Workforce Development, MO HealthNet, and Rehab Services for the Blind.

**Presentation:** Duane Shumate gave a presentation on Promoting Employment First, “Empowering Through Employment – Taking Charge of Change. Currently, only 14.8% of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are eligible for DD services are competitively employed in Missouri. The initiative’s goal is to have 35% or more individuals with employment service authorizations. The counties in northeastern Missouri currently have the highest percentage (25-34%). The Kirksville Satellite office was honored with a blue ribbon for their employment efforts. For people with disabilities to remain SSI income eligible, the income limit is below \$1,180/month and less than \$33,000 annual income to remain Medicaid eligible. A benefits calculator is available at [www.mo.dbi01.org](http://www.mo.dbi01.org).

The PowerPoint presentation will be emailed to the Council members and state liaisons.

**New Business:** None.

### **GCD Committee Reports:**

Programs Committee: Ron Hack asked Claudia to schedule a conference call in March to discuss a project the committee can take on for 2017.

Transportation Subcommittee: Deanna Noriega reported that Uber is now available in St. Louis, Kansas City, Columbia, and Lift is in Springfield. A bill has been filed to authorize such programs statewide. Uber and Lift are more expensive than paratransit systems but they require less planning in advance.

### **Council Member Reports:**

Sue Orton serves on the St. Louis County Commission on Disabilities and participated in an accessibility assessment of the St. Louis County courthouse. Some of the findings were missing Braille signage and inaccessible restrooms.

Chuck Comstock participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Community Winter Wonderland Ball in Kirksville on January 27. The Circle of Friends Art Show for people with disabilities will be held March 30 at the Kirksville Art Center.

DeAnna Noriega is currently rewriting and updating the handbook for guide dog users. Deanna serves as Secretary for the Missouri Council of the Blind and Vice President of Guide Dog Users International.

Ron Hack stated that it has been a pleasure working on the hiring committee and thanked the committee members for their professionalism.

**Old Business:** None.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

The next regular Council meeting will be held **Friday, April 21, 2017** at 10 AM at the **Governor's Office Building**, Room 315, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City.

<b>Summary of Action Items:</b>	<b>Person Responsible:</b>
Submit letters for continued Council membership to Boards & Commissions office	Council members with expired terms
Schedule Programs Committee conference call	Claudia Browner

Minutes by Claudia Browner, Acting Executive Director  
February 16, 2017

Minutes approved by Council 4/21/2017