

Wisconsin Rehabilitation Council

Full Council Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2024
9:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Microsoft Teams Meeting

[Meeting Link](#)

Meeting ID: 272 211 152 132 **Passcode:** 3UE9xY

To join by phone only, call (608) 571-2209 **Phone Conference ID:** 504 907 039#

WRC Members Present: Alice Belcher, Megan Bisonette, Jaci Borchardt, Meredith Dressel, Jen Espinoza Forlenza, Rachael Fellers, Jenny Felty, Natalia Graf, Michael Jackson, Alan Kaltenberg, Lori Karcher, Liz Kennedy, Kyle Kleist, Lindsey Kreitzman, Kathy Meisner, Alicia Reinhard, Dick Straub, Gadeen Taylor-Duke, Jolene Wanek,

WRC Members Absent: Ann Franz, Debbie Lee, Kevin Fortune

DVR Staff Present: Meredith Dressel, Anna Eggebrecht, Allison Gordon, Sarah Kuehn, Deanna Krell, Amy May, Kay Schoone, Jenna Fogarty, Andrea Simon

Roll Call and Introductions

- Dick may need to ask Liz Kennedy to take over chairing the meeting as he may have an interruption.

Announcements

- Anna Eggebrecht is the new Bureau Director of Consumer Services for DVR.

Quorum Check

- Met quorum.

Approval of Minutes – May 2024

- Motion to approve the May Minutes, Kyle K. – seconded by Jenny F. – passed.

Committee Updates and Committee Member Approvals:

Council Engagement Committee

- Identified standing agenda items so that there is consistency on tracking membership.
- Two new appointments since the beginning of 2024.
- Recruiting within the business industry sector remains a challenge. Patti Johnson will be joining the Aug. 20 meeting to share how DVR's Business Services Consultants may be of assistance in reaching businesses.
- Brainstormed how to continue to develop leadership roles for current members to ensure that we have Executive Committee membership.

- Created an onboarding process for new members and are conducting outreach to them.
- RSA has guidance on the composition of Councils; they indicate that the majority of the membership (51%) are individuals with disabilities. A person who acts as a representative of an individual with a disability (parent/guardian) can count towards the 51% composition. We want to focus on this aspect when recruiting new members.

Performance Measures and Quality Assurance Committee

- Discussed DIF grant application – focus on serving youth in juvenile justice and providing Pre-ETS.
- Reviewed the CSNA consumer and provider survey questions and process with Mark from Public Consulting Group (PCG). Both surveys have been sent out. There is an employer survey that will be reviewed by this committee at the next meeting and send out after that review. CSNA report is due to DVR at the end of Dec. 2024.

Policy Review and Administration Committee

- Reviewed the Self Employment Toolkit revisions to the policy and provided feedback.
- Polled committee members to see if there are specific DVR policy/process they are interested in reviewing. All WRC members can provide recommendations as well.
- Rachel Fellers is interested in participating in this committee.

Services to Business Committee

- Patti Johnson reviewed the new BSC website with the committee and provided feedback.
- Patti also provided updates on National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) events in October and the role of the BSC.

Executive Committee

- Review the sub-committee reports.
- Create the agenda for the full WRC full meetings. All members can make suggestions for agenda items.
- Transition planning for Executive Committee leadership.
- Dick attends CSAVR and NCSRC (federal level) meetings. He feels that it is a great opportunity for members to participate in CSAVR. Encouraging current members to consider a leadership role in the WRC.

Motion to approve Rachel Fellers to the Policy Review and Administration Committee – Al K., seconded by Lori K. – passed.

CAP Report - Jen Espinoza Forlenza, Disability Rights Wisconsin

- 3rd quarter (April – June 2024) data was shared via power point.
- Information and Referral Services were provided to 11 consumer and 20 open service requests from consumers.
- Kathy asked how a case gets determined as I&A or open service?
 - I&A may be provided when a consumer calls and ask for assistance with an employer action and not directly related to DVR or ILC's or their need assistance in self-advocacy.
 - Open Services are provided when their issue is directly related to their DVR/ILC services that the consumer is unable to resolve on their own. Most often this happens when the consumer has received a denial letter for a specific service. The amount of services CAP provides is individualized based on the needs of the consumer.
- 20 service request areas: conflict on DVR services to be provided (11), IPE development (3), communication issues with DVR staff (3), ILC issues (2), Title 1 (1).
- Basic overview of trends and case services.
- Provided feedback on the Self-Employment Toolkit revisions.
- Dick asked if WDA is tracked when CAP provides services? Yes, CAP captures that information, but it is not always easy to make determinations based on WDA because they are all so different.
- Reviewed consumer rights statements (hearing and appeals process is shared with the consumer). CAP services are part of those processes.
- Defining CAP role with ILC consumers with ILCW. Jen shared a WisTech example when assisting a consumer that was being served by an ILC.

Transition and Pre-Employment Transition Services Overview (Pre-ETS) - Amy May, DVR

WDA 3 Director and Allison Gordon, DVR Deputy Administrator

- Overview of DVR process for students with disabilities with a focus on transition services including Pre-ETS.
- Dick asked if DVR is aware of the number of students with disabilities exist in WI and could be potential DVR consumers?
 - Yes, there is a report available from DPI that shows the number of students with disabilities in each public school in the State. Directors use that report to do outreach to local schools. Allison/Amy will get that information to Dick.
- Jennifer E. asked if the post-secondary transition plan (PTP) lasts or is extended past the time they leave HS?

- When the student earns their diploma or ages out (past 21) of high school, their PTP ends.
- Kyle asked if DVR could provide DVR Pre-ETS to students involved in Juvenile Justice?
 - If DVR has access to the student at the facility, DVR can provide services.
- Rachel F. asked if DVR could provide information to WRC members up to 2 weeks in advance so she can ask questions ahead of the meeting.
 - The WRC Executive Committee will discuss how to help Rachel access the information in a way that works better for her.
- Rachel F. asked if a person needs an additional assessment for disabilities. Specifically, ADHD, how does that work?
 - If it is needed for DVR eligibility or IPE planning, DVR can organize and pay for the assessment prior to eligibility being determined or the IPE is signed or revised.
- Rachel has additional questions, she was asked to put those questions in the chat so DVR staff can respond.

DVR Administrative Update - Meredith Dressel, DVR Administrator

- Meredith shared the [DVR Administrative Update](#) in a power point.
- Jennifer E. asked if WRC could take a deep dive into Pre-ETS expenditures per student amount?
 - Meredith suggested that this topic be discussed at a WRC Committee (TBD) meeting.
- Jennifer E. asked if DVR could provide a presentation in the future on the difference between case management and guidance and counseling.
 - DVR will put that on the list of potential agenda items for full Council meetings.

Public Comment

- None

Project SEARCH Update - Deanna Krell, DVR Bureau of Management Services Director, and Paige Parr, Statewide Project SEARCH Coordinator

- Deanna and Paige shared a PowerPoint to provide the update.

WIOA and CIE Overview - Sarah Kuehn, Program and Policy Analyst

- Sarah shared a PowerPoint to provide the information.
- Service Provider Capacity Presentation from DVR in the future.

Review Action Items and Identify Future Agenda Topics

- See highlighted areas above.

Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn – Liz, Jolene seconded – passed.

*Public comment is limited to the time listed on the agenda. Comments can be sent at any time to: DVRWIRehabCouncil@dwd.wisconsin.gov.

*Comments sent to that e-mail box will be read to the full council at the next meeting unless a specific subcommittee is listed. If a specific subcommittee is listed, comments will be sent directly to them and reviewed at their next committee meeting.

A Statement of Mission

The Wisconsin Rehabilitation Council, working on behalf of Wisconsin residents with disabilities, will review, analyze, and advise the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) regarding the performance of its responsibilities in providing quality services to persons with disabilities.