

# STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

## JANUARY 24, 2023

### ATTENDEES:

Daryn Richardson  
Mari Brown  
Amy Robasse  
Lisa Schneider (virtual/phone)  
Margee Woywood (virtual)  
Rich Phelan (virtual)  
James Luttrell (virtual)  
Linda Rouse (virtual)  
Susan Seehase (virtual)

### Public/Guest:

Amy Desenberg-Wines (virtual)  
Emily Wharton (virtual)  
Beth Townsend (in-person)  
ASL Interpreter Carrie (virtual)  
ASL Interpreter Mary Brandt (virtual)  
Allison Levine (virtual)

### IVRS Support Staff:

Brandy McOmber  
April Stotz (virtual)  
Dan Tallon  
Eric Evans  
Jeff Haight  
Kelley Rice (virtual)  
Victoria Carrington  
Vienna Hoang (virtual)  
Richard Clark  
Mary Jackson

### ABSENT:

Morgan Schubert  
Demarcus Thomas  
Kirsten Lane

### CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chair Daryn Richardson called the January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) meeting to order at 10:34a.

- Adoption of Agenda
- Mari motioned, Amy second
  - Motion carried
- Meeting Minutes from October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023
  - Amy motioned, Mari second
  - Motion Carried

### QUORUM

A quorum was established with 8 voting members present.

### OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

Amy Robasse motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Mari Brown seconded the motion. Minutes approved unanimously by voice vote.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

IWD Director Townsend shared information on the Governor's proposal to realign state government. Emphasizing the following:

- No layoffs will occur due to alignment recommendations.
- Programs and services will not be cut.
- No changes will occur immediately.

IDB Director Emily Wharton commented on her concerns regarding the realignment bill.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Outreach – Chair: Mari Reynolds –**

- Legislative Reception
  - Tomorrow January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 7:00a
  - Victoria created a flyer to share
  - Deaf and Hard of Hearing Counselors will join along with SILC, CIL's, APSE
  - Bags for Legislators will be packed following the meeting
  - 2024 Legislative Reception is schedule for January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 from 7a-9:30a
- CSNA Discussion
  - Richard provided information on the CSNA which will be discussed in depth with Dr. Alison Levine during her presentation

### **VR Service Delivery – Amy Desenberg-Wines–**

- Subcommittee Tasks
  - Reassess how tasks align with priorities and whether other committees need to be formed
  - Schedule a time to meet before the next SRC meeting to discuss committees

## **RSB UPDATE**

- Richard Clark announced his resignation effective February 7, 2023
- Update on RSA Corrective Action Plan
  - 1 out of 4 corrective actions have been resolved and 2 additional will be resolved this week
- Online Application process
  - this has been successful and we have received a lot of applicants by this means
- Paperless
  - We are getting closer to meeting our goal of going paperless by July 1, 2023

## **ADMINISTRATORS REPORT**

- Dan thanked Richard Clark for his 18 years of service to IVRS.
- Assistant Bureau Chief Eric Evans will serve as the interim Bureau Chief until this position is filled
- Realignment Priorities
  - Visibility of Independent Living Programs
  - Transition Services
  - Recruitment/Retention of Qualified employees
- CRP Pay for Performance

## **CSNA PRESENTATION: DR. ALLISON LEVINE**

- Dr. Levine provided presentation of CSNA results.

## **COMMITTEE REPORT/UPDATES**

- **IL Updates – Vienna Hoang**
  - The new SILC ED, Amy Robasse, is doing a great job of unifying statewide IL programs as well as making the SILC more transparent. She has made a focus to connect with each CIL director directly with hopes to build a relationship and to encourage the CILs to support one another's activities. As a part of the FFY22

SPIIL and to support that unification work, all IL programs are to have website links to the IVRS and IDB websites. Vienna still has two more CILs (CICIL and IL/IA CIL) to link to the IVRS website. CILs also need to create website links to the IDB and the SILC websites.

- The SILC has a significant drop in SILC board membership and meeting attendance which impacted the ability for the meeting to have a quorum. Board meeting times changed to quarterly on the 3rd Thursday of the month 10:30am-4pm. In FFY22, they had 14 applications to the Governor and only 2 were approved. Legislative parameters require a high degree of variation which has impacted approval. Director Townsend suggested to the group to talk to the legislature to make changes or accommodations to ease up the strict variation requirements (e.g. female/male, political affiliation, types of disabilities, age, geographic area, rural/urban, etc.). Many boards are experiencing this same struggle to get seats filled and meet quorum at board meetings.
- **CRP Updates: Vienna Hoang**
  - DHHS put out an RFP notice on 1/17/2023 for more Individual Placement & Support (IPS) sites across the state with a focus on at least one in the Polk CO/central Iowa and one in the Southwest part of the state. The hope is to approve 2-3 more sites in FFY23. There are currently 5 sights across Iowa at this time and they are: one covers the NW corner, one covers Cerro Gordo, one covers the SE corner, and two covers the central Eastern border. IVRS is in support of using IPS. It is an approved EBP by DHHS standards. IVRS supervisors will be contacted by potential CRPs to gain support for their application.
  - Customized Employment, known as Customized Discovery (CD) at IVRS is now under the DIF grant and will be looking at TA and training through GHA once contracts have been solidified. Not all contracts have been completed so more to come as contracts with providers are completed.
  - The Menu of Services (MOS) Manual has been updated and reviewed by the IVRS IMPACT and CRP Advisory teams. A copy was emailed to the SRC for review. Please provide questions and feedback to Vienna by the end of the month. The hope is to have it done by the end of February and training will commence on the Manual. All CRP employment specialists are expected to sign that they have read this manual so that we know that they have read the expectations when providing employment services for IVRS. MOS service forms/reports have also been updated and emailed to the SRC for feedback.
  - Vienna is working with the IVRS Training RM, April Stotz, to create MOS training modules that will be available on demand for all staff as well as CRP partners. Current 3 Part MOS trainings will no longer be needed and everyone can access this training to be completed on their own time as needed. All CRP employment specialists are required to complete these trainings.
- **Financial Overview – Jeff Haight**
  - 176 more closures this year for successful closures.
  - Unsuccessful closures went up by 154.
  - Waitlist is released weekly. The longest anyone is on is 1 week at this time and maybe 1-2 job candidates per week if any.
  - Pre-ETS-107% last fiscal year for target so overachieved that goal
  - Case Authorizations-We authorized 3% less than a year ago. just under \$500,000.00 in comparison to last fiscal year.
  - DIF Grant was largest budget change for this quarter which was already discussed earlier today.

- **CAP Update – Lisa Schneider**
  - Lisa shared they are seeing an increase in clients who have vision impairments and who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing
  - Alignment Bill will not change the role of CAP – CAP will be moving under Department of Health and Human Services
- **Other Business**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 1:50p.

The next SRC meeting is Tuesday, April 25, 2023.

Meeting minutes approved by the Council on this date: July 25, 2023

SRC Chair – Daryn Richardson *Daryn Richardson*