

Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council
August 18, 2016
Minutes

Members Present: Bill Dunham, Renee Sansom, Melinda Bunch, Brenda Fitzgerald, Ginger Jagers, Lori Chesnut, Jane Ciorba, Audrey Farnum, Diana Garrett, Nancy Landrum, Terrisha Osborn, Katie Woodward, Jean Jones, Melinda Freundt

Members Absent: William Ginn, Noel Tyler, Ekutan Dannelley, Rick DeRennaux, Lisa Graven, Elizabeth Reeve, Suzanne Williams, Kim Osmani

Others Present: Greg Demartra, Shelley Gladden, Tracy Brigham, Tammie Jones, Carol Sims, Mark Kinnison, Larry Hartzell, Paul Adams,

Council Support: Linda Jaco Director of Sponsored Programs OSU Department of Wellness, Renee Sansom, ORC Programs Manager and Haley George ORC Grant Coordinator.

Call to order and Roll Call: Bill Dunham ORC chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. The roll was called and a quorum established.

Consumer Comments/Announcements: None

Action Items:

-Approval of May 19, 2016 ORC Quarterly Meeting Minutes
Motion made to approve the minutes as presented. Motion seconded and passed.

Committee Reports: Copies of reports provided in the ORC meeting packet.

ORC Executive Committee Report – Bill Dunham presented and reviewed the written committee report.

Policy & Legislative Committee – Bill Dunham presented and reviewed the written committee report.

Planning & Program Committee –Diana Garrett presented and reviewed the written committee report.

Transition & Employment –Lori Chesnut presented and reviewed the written committee report.

Program Manager Report – Renee Sansom presented the written report

Workforce Systems Update- Melinda Freundt:



Workforce and VR Portion state
Business Services Update revisions only.c

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- Business Services Update:
 - Goal is to connect and align with the Workforce Systems

- Drafting a business services plan and will be submitting soon
- Working on an external website with Dana Tallon
- Focusing on local area meetings to work with the partners and field staff

DRS Interim Director Report- Noel Tyler:

No report given due to the absence of Noel Tyler

VS Administrator's Report –Paul Adams:

- There were a couple of ABLÉ programs conducted by VS this summer and were held at the school for the blind
 - Programs were designed to focus on daily living skills
- Shared a couple of the success stories from the summer programs
- The BEP (business enterprise program) is focusing on new locations
 - Working on a vending program at OSD for the youth to have an opportunity to work at a snack bar
- Had a visit from the National Library Service located in Washington, DC
- Still have a couple positions to fill in Tulsa
- Continuing to gather input from staff on improvements that can be made

VR Administrator's Report – Mark Kinnison:

- Slightly up on applications and lower on competitive outcomes from last year but hopes to surpass that with time left to do so this year
- Focus is on successful rates which is almost at 51%
- Working on getting clients more involved in the initial start of the process
- Using the referral module in AWARE more often
- Plan to hold a future meeting with leasing to start looking at a new location for the Tulsa office
- Career fair coming August 20
- Starting October 1 the cold case unit will begin to reopen cases from two years ago and do follow-ups
- Going to take a look at the Mental Health Policy and do some possible revisions
- We continue to have good participation from staff at WIOA meetings
- There are three new AT specialists and that department is now fully staffed
- The deaf and hard of hearing unit is now fully staffed
- Continuing to plan for the future with the limited budget

DRS Field Coordinators' Report – Greg Demartra:

Report provided in quarterly packet

Legislative Report – Jean Jones:



- State Level
 - Interim legislative studies will be held this fall
 - December- January new legislation will be introduced
 - Still working on the Office of Disability Concerns Unit and their office placement
 - Alternate revenue sources are being looked at with a possible sales tax increase
 - New Speaker of the House was elected
- Federal Level
 - Final rules in the ADA to be released soon

- Working to broaden the definition of “disability”
- Oklahoma ABLE Act to be released November 1

Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) Report:

No report given due to the absence of Elizabeth Reeve

Other Business:

- Workforce Development Board and Youth: Thadd Babb
 - For Program Year 2017 and 2018 the DEAC has determined the following (2) challenges as their primary focus: 1. Lack of business (employer) knowledge of workers with disabilities. 2. Business (employer) resistance
 - DEAC Goals: 1. Increase business (active) partnership by 50. 2. Increase workforce partnership for the disability population by 200
 - To achieve these goals the following action steps have been set:
 - Development of a DEAC “one-page” geared towards business professionals to provide them with information about the committee (has been submitted and is pending approval from Workforce Tulsa Director)
 - Offer to present on the topics of the DEAC and hiring people with disabilities to rotary clubs, Workforce boards, and other professional organizations in the area
 - Attend at least 2 career fairs per calendar year as a resource vendor
 - Assist DRS with their 2017 Tulsa Ability Fair (details coming soon)
 - Coordinate an Ability Fair in 2018
- ABLE Tech: Shelley Gladden
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New Business:

- Recommend revised committee/officer infrastructure
 - Separate Transition and Employment Committee into two separate committees with two different chairs – Members voted to approve this action
 - Slate of officers nomination for FFY17- Membership voted to approve the newly proposed slate of officers

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn, seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Next ORC Quarterly Meeting November 17, 2016