

Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council
November 20, 2014
Minutes

Members Present: William Ginn, Judy Atkins, Jean Jones, Kim Osmani, Melinda Fruendt, Terrisha Osborn, Jack McMahan, Theresa Hamrick, Melinda Dobbs, Tina Spence, Bill Dunham, Larry Hartzell, Jackie Millspaugh, Katie Woodward.

Members Absent: Brenda Fitzgerald, Juan Garcia, Sidna Madden, Gloria Morton, Matt Robison

Others Present: Tiffany Davis, Lyuda Polyum, Jane Croba

Council Support: Linda Jaco Director of Sponsored Programs OSU Department of Wellness, Theresa Hamrick, 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 9:45 a.m. The roll was called and a quorum established.

Consumer Comments/Announcements: None

Action Items:

-Approval of August 21, 2014 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 – William Ginn presented and reviewed the written committee report.

Planning & Program Committee – Judy Atkins presented and reviewed the written committee report.

Transition & Employment –Jacki Millspaugh presented and reviewed the written committee report.

Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) Update:

Workforce Systems Update- Melinda Fruendt:

PowerPoint presentation and Oklahoma Systems Certification Toolkit.

Policy Development and Program Standards- Tiffany Davis and Luyda Polyum for Sandra Wright:

PowerPoint presentation.

DRS Director Report-Joe Cordova:

No report given due to the absence of Mr. Cordova, DRS Director.

DRS Field Coordinators' Report – Bill Hayes:

Report given by Bill Hayes, provided in quarterly packet

VS Administrator's Report – Doug Boone:

- Report on staff attending out of state trainings.
- Positive outcomes and hope to continue training and learning more about the blind community.

VR Administrator's Report – Mark Kinnison (Report given by Theresa Hamrick):

- Review of numbers for applications and case closures. Overall, had improvements from last year.
- Came close to meeting successful closures percentage this year.
- Wages are 2.6% higher than last year.
- Largest group VR provided employment services to, are those with cognitive and psychosocial disabilities. Had meeting to brainstorm ideas for bettering employment opportunities and higher wages.
- Hope to look at the outdated MOU with Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse services.
- Changes are being made to our PMP's and hope to reflect more quality customer engagement.
- Jonathan Cook- New PM for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Unit.
- Tracy Elson- New PM for McAlester, Idabel and Poteau.
- Looking forward to the upcoming work with the new Business Coordinator.

Legislative Report – Jean Jones:

- Many questions still arising and to be answered about the new WIOA.
- New RSA regulations for VR are due to be proposed by January 18, 2015.
- 2015 will begin the 55th Oklahoma Legislature.
- 79 house members are returning and 22 are new. There are 72 Republicans and 29 Democrats.
- The senate will be comprised of 40 Republicans and 8 Democrats.
- Best way to find your legislators is www.oklegislature.gov
- Discussed new topics of the 2015 legislation.

Program Manager Report- Theresa Hamrick presented and reviewed the written report provided on the committee report packet.

Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) Report – Sidna Madden:

No Report Given due to the absence of Sidna Madden, SILC Executive Director.

Other Business:

- Member appreciation

New Business:

- Meeting moved to adjournment

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn, seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Next ORC Quarterly Meeting February 19, 2015