

Wisconsin Rehabilitation Council

Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2017

Pewaukee, Wisconsin

Present: Julie Barker, Rob Buettner, Nancy Molfenter, Beth Swedeen, Patrick Young, Delora Newton, Jaclyn Borchardt, Matthew Zellmer, Cathy Steffke, Thomas Benziger, Matthew Busch, Jason Ostrowski

Absent: Traci Jones, Tracy Mace, Ramsey Lee, Jodi Hanna

Resource staff/guests: Sarah Lincoln, Jessica Holton, Meredith Dressel, Allison Gordon, Diana Kiesling, Deanna Krell, Alaina Knief, Patty Noland, Cayte Anderson, Anna Eggebrecht, Deb Henderson-Guenther, Becky Hebda, Beth Wroblewski, Abigail Jenson, Lea Collins-Worachek, Ellie Hartman, Candace Altschul, Nicole Richard

Recorder: Jessica Holton/Sarah Lincoln

Call to Order: Nancy Molfenter, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m.

Roll Call

Announcements

- Need to check to see if we have quorum to vote.
- New layout of the room to distinguish the following groups:
Council Members, Resource Staff, Public Guests

Old Business

- Vote on the by-laws

New Business

- Topic: Racial disparity of individuals served by DVR
- What is the onboarding training process for new counselors?

Agenda Item: Public Comment

- On the [Wisconsin Public Meeting Notices and Minutes website](#), the location for today's meeting was not posted accurately the hotel name was not mentioned. DVR will investigate the reason for the inaccurate posting.
- Becky Hebda asked if the public can make comments throughout the meeting. WRC Chair Nancy Molfenter responded that no, public comment is only permitted during the public comment period.
- Becky Hebda asked if the documents that are shared during the meeting could be posted on the website. Nancy will do some research to see if the bylaws allow for that. Public comment can be submitted via email as well as in person.

Agenda Item: DVR Administrative Updates

Delora Newton, DVR Administrator

Meredith Dressel, DVR Deputy Administrator

- Delora Newton introduced Meredith Dressel as the new DVR Deputy Administrator and announced Enid Glenn's retirement.
- Council requests for DVR update presentation in February:
 - Provide an update on recruitment strategies to meet the challenge of DVR staff vacancies
 - Provide DVR staff diversity information by WDA in addition to statewide and compare with census data
 - Provide a chart that indicates the council membership, roles, and terms

Agenda Item: Existing Business Profitability Assessment

Patty Noland, DVR WDA 6 Director

- Patty detailed several case reviews that took place following the implementation of the Existing Business Policy.

- Rob requested an overview of the SenseAbility Committee and their role and responsibilities.
- Cathy requested that we invite consumers that have participated in the Existing Business Policy to attend a WRC meeting to share their perspectives.
- Beth suggested a better approach may be to conduct a survey of consumers who have had cases under the new policy to gain a more comprehensive understanding of participant perspectives. The council agreed with this suggestion.

Agenda Item: Working Lunch

Pewaukee Area Business Presentation

- Tailored Label Products Director of Human Resources Nicole Richard presented alongside former DVR consumer and current WRC Secretary/Treasurer Patrick Young
- Nicole and Patrick shared the story of Patrick's employment with the company and the culture TLP has adopted to increase diversity and inclusiveness – benefitting both the company and the community
- WRC noted that a video of Nicole and Patrick sharing similar information would be beneficial
- TLP is open to hosting tours and job shadows/temporary work experiences for individuals with disabilities, and is currently conducting outreach to local high schools for recruitment

Agenda Item: Disability and Poverty Presentation

Cayte Anderson, SVRI Executive Director

Ellie Hartman, Wisconsin Promise Project Manager

- Cayte has agreed to share additional poverty report information for people with disabilities
- PROMISE ends September 30, 2018, but participants with disabilities seeking employment will be able to continue receiving services from DVR

- WRC suggests continuing to discuss transportation as a primary barrier to employment for individuals with disabilities

Agenda Item: JCW Business Demonstration

Patti Johnson, DVR Business Initiatives Advisor

- Patti prepared a demonstration of the JCW business portal, providing details about who can access and/or edit the information it contains and how it works
- Next steps include creating efficiencies within the system by consolidating current information and determining appropriate reports to pull from the system once data has been entered
- Service providers are expected to assist consumers with posting resumes into JCW

Agenda Item: By-laws Vote

- Review of August minutes
 - Rob B. motioned to accept minutes; Cathy S. seconded
 - All agreed to approve minutes, none opposed
- Review of by-laws that were revised last year
 - WRC discussed roles of Secretary and Treasurer as WRC has no interaction with money
 - Rob B. motioned to approve; Julie B. seconded
 - All in favor, none opposed

Agenda Item: CAP Updates

Deb Henderson-Guenther, CAP Director

- Deb announced her promotion to CAP Director
- Deb's former position with CAP will not be filled until after February 2018
- Deb's contact information (email, phone) has not changed
- Deb has applied for the CAP seat on the WRC

Agenda Item: WRC Committee Reports

Executive Committee

- Committee reviewed the ALJ decisions. Several questions that the Executive Committee had about the decisions arose during the review. ALJs are required to cite specific pieces of evidence when deciding, however some of the decisions do not include the needed references to policy.
- Delora indicated that DVR has reviewed 13 specific ALJ decisions and a brief analysis was done following this review. Delora and Allison will share the results of that analysis.
- The ALJ decisions reviewed by the Executive Committee were different from those presented in DVR administrative updates.

Pre-ETS Committee

- Committee has discussed for the past year how to reach out to providers about Pre-ETS, both from school and DVR
 - Nancy and Sarah offer presentations statewide that include these points
 - Many providers attend these presentations
- Committee is interested in exploring additional resources for services to provide families similar services to PROMISE
 - Meredith clarified that currently services to families still need to be tied directly to the *consumer's* employment goal to meet the language of WIOA
 - DVR will ask for clarification at CSAVR
- Committee discussed collaboration between DVR and schools
 - Good evidence that this collaboration is happening since DVR met its goal
 - For the future, the committee would explore how to help areas where collaboration is not going well

Section 511 Committee

- Interviews completed between August and October = 1,319
- Interviews scheduled as of November 2, 2017 = 2,220
- Estimating 20 interviews staff member person per day

- Interviews are scheduled out into May 2018
- DVR thought 8,500 interviews were going to be needed last year, but actual reviews were about 6,300 - for this year, we'll know exact number in March 2018
- In January 2018, Cayte and Nancy will request updated information from DHS
- WRC recommended to UW-Whitewater (UWW) that each individual have an opportunity for an individual interview
- The committee would like to ask UWW to analyze data on individual interviews vs. group interviews to see what they say about seeking other options of employment
- Committee would like to know what individuals are choosing for type of interview this year compared to last year now that they have already experienced the interview process once
- The annual report is available on DVR's website from UWW

Motion to adjourn at 3:19 PM by Cathy S.; seconded by Julie B.