

Statewide Independent Living Council
Draft Minutes
December 3, 2019
Videoconference

Members Present: Kathy Rutten, Mark Koterwski, Kyrsten Zimmerman, Dave Scherer, Craig Eschenbaum, Catherine Greseth, Mark Sternhagen, Alan Adel, Jen Red Bear, Patty Kuglitsch, Eric Weiss, Ronda Williams, Tasha Jones.

Members Absent: Jackie Juhala, Ben Wolf Necklace, Syndee Jundt.

Others Present: Matt Cain, Colleen Moran, Jennifer Lewis, Becky Blume, Rich Eschenbaum.

Craig Eschenbaum, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Since it is a videoconference meeting, voting will be by roll call.

Craig asked to add renewal of SD Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities (SDCCD) dues to other business. Eric made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition. Kyrsten seconded. Motion carried.

Patty made a motion to approve the September 11, 2019, minutes as presented. Mark K. seconded. Motion carried.

Tasha Jones made a motion to approve the November 13, 2019, Executive Committee conference call minutes. Ronda seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Executive Session: None

DRS Report: Jennifer Lewis, IL Specialist, reported on the consumer satisfaction survey. There were possible errors on the WRIL report and Jen Red Bear is working on corrections. DRS is working with WRIL so all IL specialists' names are removed and the number of responses add up for each question. Jennifer also reported that the CILs are on target to meet the goals of units provided and expend amounts as outlined in the contracts. The IL fund sources was updated in September with the additional funds received. The quarterly reports from CILs were reviewed. The reports show the breakdowns of units of services provided to eligible recipients. These reports show the current quarter and year-to-date information. There was a discrepancy on a report for YTD. Since it was only the first quarter, the numbers should be the same. Members were advised to let staff know of errors so corrections can be made prior to meetings.

Board of Vocational Rehabilitation (BVR): Eric informed the SILC that the BVR is an advisory council to the Division of Rehabilitation Services that meets quarterly. The last meeting was held on September 26, 2019, in Ft. Pierre. The election of officers that normally happens in June was postponed to September meeting due to lack of quorum. Lisa Sanderson was elected as Chair, Jolleen Laverdure was elected Vice Chair, and Brad Konechne was elected Member At Large. A portion of the meeting was held in conjunction with the Board of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired to discuss the Comprehensive

Statewide Needs Assessment which was conducted by consultant, Bob Jahner, as a requirement of the State Plan. The CSNA assesses the needs of individuals with disabilities with the primary focus being employment needs. It also defines the Goals and Strategies for the State Plan. The WIOA State Plan is due March 2020. The BVR Annual Report was also discussed. The Annual Report is required to be submitted to the Governor and RSA Commissioner by December 31. The next meeting is scheduled for December 10 via videoconference and topics are the agenda are State Plan, Annual Report, and Customized Employment Initiatives. There will also be a recap of the Governors Awards and staff reports. During the Executive Committee conference call there was discussion of a spring meeting being held in Rapid City to possibly visit Project Search at Rapid City Regional Hospital. Suggestion- the BVR and SILC should consider meeting jointly in the future if there are common things to discuss.

SBVI Report: Ronda Williams reported on the CCTV lease/loan program which has been going strong since 2004. There are currently 221 units placed, with 115 being on loan and 92 leased. The lease is a low monthly payment for those who do not meet financial need. The Assistive Technology Access project provides training to maximize technology use. DakotaLink assesses individuals and trains on vision related needs. SBVI sent a letter to O&M Specialists to consider contracting with SBVI to provide O&M training in local communities. SBVI staff are currently working on the Unified State Plan and Board of SBVI Annual Report.

Board of SBVI: Catherine Greseth reported that the Board met on September 26 and 27. The Board met with BVR on September 26th to hear from Bob Jahner regarding the CSNA results. They reconvened on September 27th to discuss the SBVI specific Goals and Strategies. Board appointments were discussed, and Nichole Nelson was appointed to replace Patrick Czerny. Election of officers was held at this meeting due to lack of quorum at June meeting. Catherine Greseth, Koni Sims, and Jill Kundtz were reelected to Chair, Vice Chair and Member At Large, respectively. Board of SBVI will meet on Friday, December 6th.

Workgroup Updates:

Consumer Services – This workgroup has been working on an MOU with ILC and WRIL regarding referrals and coordination of services between the agencies. Patty raised the question of how CILs are doing outreach. WRIL IL Specialists visit businesses in their coverage areas and distribute brochures, schedule presentations, etc. ILC uses the same approach but also include some TV and radio ads. They also partner with United Way. They both have had booths at Fall Conference. Both CILs agreed they should do better outreach with the deaf community. A lengthy discussion was held on consumer choice and denial of services if client moves to a location outside of current CIL coverage area. The CILs currently work well together, but this MOU will streamline service transition. Eric suggested language to allow a CIL to deny a request to provide services outside of its territory. Jennifer asked about grievance policy/appeal rights. It was suggested to table this topic until the next meeting. The workgroup will continue to meet and make suggested edits. The CIL directors will also be involved with future development of MOU. Patty made a motion to table MOU until next meeting. Mark K. seconded. Motion carried. Suggested changes should be emailed to Ronda Williams.

Public Awareness/Outreach – No report.

Advocacy/Interagency Collaboration - Tasha will reach out to Department of Transportation again. Otherwise nothing to report.

Assistive Technology/Home Modifications Assistive Devices – No report.

CIL Updates:

WRIL – Jen Red Bear informed the Council that the TAD Emergency Dialer (Ampli600) the IL specialists had been distributing is no longer available. An order for a new phone similar to the Ampli600 has been placed and should arrive soon. The South Dakota Housing Development Authority is meeting on Friday. *WRIL* is expecting to apply for the youth Summer Transition program when the documents are received.

ILC – Matt Cain reported that ILC now has an office in Chamberlain, so they now have offices in 10 communities. Matt has been working on the federal 704 report. The report shows demographics. ILC served 2449 individuals in FFY 2019 which is an all time high. ILC will be increasing the lifetime limits for HMAD to \$10,000 and the services waiting list amount will be increased to \$1000. ILC provides staff with AWD vehicles as a safer option to provide services. Discussion was held on the increases and why the amount of \$1000. Most HMAD costs begin at \$1000. *WRIL* may increase amounts next year, but they mostly do smaller devices such as lift chairs.

Governor's Awards: The Governor's Awards was held on November 4th at the Capitol Rotunda.

Governor Noem presented the following awards:

- Brad Konechne – Outstanding Individual with a Disability
- Carolee Bucholz – Outstanding Employee with a Disability
- Cammack Ranch Supply – Outstanding Employer (Small)
- Five Star Call Centers – Outstanding Employer (Large)
- University of South Dakota/Sanford School of Medicine – Outstanding Employer (Other)
- Carolyn Schuldies – Outstanding Transition Services
- Nancy Schlichenmayer – Distinguished Service

A reception was held following the ceremony at the Casey Tibbs Rodeo Center.

This year there were 34 nominations. The committee which is made up of members from SILC, BVR, and BSBVI, presented their recommendations to Governor Noem. DRS and SBVI staff took on more of the organization and handled more of the details of the event this year due to the Coalition board support agreement ending. DRS staff is looking at mid-April for the nomination deadline. This will allow more time for committee review and arrangements with Governor's office. The nomination form is available at any time on the DRS website. Nomination packets will be mailed out ahead of the deadline.

Board Support: DRS put out a Request for Proposal for Board/SILC support. One proposal from Black Hills Special Services was received and met all the requirements. A contract is in the development stage and should be complete by January 1.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month: October is designated as NDEAM. This year's theme was "The Right Talent Right Now." Events were held in 13 communities. The Governor also did a proclamation. Jason DeShaw, a country music singer with a disability, performed in Ft. Pierre. The

attendance was low due to weather, but the event was well done and Jason had a great message. Mark S. attended the Brookings event where Billie Sutton was the presenter. He reported good attendance at that location. DRS staff is leading efforts for 2020 NDEAM events and will work with communities on scheduling presenters and planning events.

SILC Staff Report: Eric reported that he is working on the federal 704 report. This is the annual performance report and is submitted by the CILs and DSE. It contains data, demographics, narrative, and fiscal information which shows the progress on the goals defined in the SPIL. The report is signed by SILC chair and DSE. It will also include the training and technical assistance survey information. It is due to ACL by December 31.

SILC Congress will be held February 24-26 in San Diego, CA. The program is not available currently. South Dakota has someone attend if there is an interest. In the past, Shelly and Craig have attended. Patty questioned why no one attends the National Council on Independent Living NCIL conference in Washington DC and what the difference is between the two conferences. The SILC Congress is a network with other states to learn what they are doing. The NCIL is more government-related. Patty questioned if we could send someone to both conferences.

State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL): Eric and the committee have started working on the SPIL which is due by June 2020. There is a committee conference call slated for December 17; one of the topics for the committee will be to look at the goals objectives. Eric urges the committee and SILC to limit the goals and objectives to a number that is obtainable in 3 years. The committee will meet and come up with a timeline, including public input sessions, with the final approval to be decided at the June meeting. Alan Adel and Jen Red Bear will join this committee.

Other Business: SILC received a membership renewal notification from the South Dakota Citizens with Disabilities. The membership is \$100/year. The Coalition Board is volunteers who advocates for those with disabilities. There are no paid staff. Mark K. made a motion to renew the SILC membership with SDCCD. Patty seconded. Motion carried.

The process of selecting a Champion of Independent Living was discussed. The Public Awareness/Outreach committee should be in charge. It was decided to ask former member, Sandy Neyhart, how the process works.

Future Agenda Items will include SPIL, Champion of IL, new SILC support staff, and committees.

Becky will send out a doodle poll for March meeting date and location.

Patty made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark K. seconded. Craig, Chair, adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Becky Blume, DRS Sr. Secretary.