

NORTH DAKOTA STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL
QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

July 20, 2022, 10:00 a.m. - 4p.m. CT

Members Present: Trevor Vannett, Renee Speidel-Wetzsteon, Terry Peterson, Trampes Brown, Landis Larson, Jacey Enget, Alicia Halle, Tina Bay

Others Present: Pat Walking Eagle, Amy Arenz

Members Absent: Shannon Cook, Jodi Webb, Matthew McCleary, Russ Cusack

Call to Order: Renee Speidel-Wetzsteon called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

Action: A motion to accept the agenda was made by Trevor Vannett and seconded by Trampes Brown. Motion carried.

Action: A motion to approve the April 2022 minutes was made by Trevor Vannett and seconded by Jacey Enget. Motion carried.

DVR Regional Update V – Curt Markel

Goals (Over 83% of the way thru our year)

- Applicants
 - 2021 - 307 goal being 360 - 85% of goal
 - 2022 – 342 goal being 377 - 91% of goal
- VR Plans/Service
 - 2021 - 220 goal being 265 - 83% of goal
 - 2022 – 260 goal being 244 – 107% of goal
- Employed
 - 2021 - 127 goal being 128 - 99% of goal
 - 3 Counselors received Director’s Award for Counselor Achievement
 - 2022 – 114 goal being 128 - 89%
 - 62 in employed status
- 2021 average caseload – 55 2022 average caseload - 66

Transition Services

All counselors work with transition students

24 high schools across the region-2 Pre-Employment Transition Programs

Counselors coordinate with schools to provide resume writing, interviewing skills assessments/LMI

DVR Regional Update VII – Tom Schiwal

- Full staff counselors for six months, support staff for 2 months
- Hiring has been difficult. Few applicants. Hiring environment has changed

- Recently had a staff retreat-explored VR 'Mantra.' "Treat all persons as we would want to be treated. Everyone has value."
- On track with all goals such as new applications, initial plans, vision clients served, rehabilitated etc.

SILC Update - Russ Cusack- no report

Tribal Updates – Pat Walking Eagle

Grant goal is to work with 155 consumers before grant ends Sept 30, 2022.
Met the 155 and 73-90 that are employed.

VR Director Update -Alicia Halle

- Currently ahead of goals statewide in all categories
- Customized Employment/Supported Employment (CE/SE) tax credits at 51 clients, 53 employers
- On pace for best successful placements/closures since 2017, highest applications since before 2014, highest number of clients in plan since 2016, highest vision applications since before 2017, highest employer contacts since before 2017
- Recently added measures of access and speed-have already resulted in 1 day decrease in Days in Application Status and 2-day decrease in Days in Eligible Status (3 days total)
- Working on streamlining our eligibility process internally, removing redundancies, getting back to basics on verifying disability and focusing on impediments to employment and services needed
- Submitted SCSEP annual plan to federal project officer and have hired 2 SCSEP Program Administrators
- No longer in order of selection

2023 Meeting Dates-Renee- Speidel-Wetzsteon

Action: A motion to change the October 2022 meeting time from **10:00-4:00 to 1:00-4:00**, and to approve the dates and times of the meetings for 2023, was made by Trevor Vannett and seconded by Jacey Enget. Motion carried.

Meetings for 2023 - All meetings are from 1-4

- January 3
- April 4
- July 18
- October 3

Membership/Public Relations Committee -Renee Speidel-Wetzsteon, Chair

Reviewed two business representative applications and a Tribal Representative application

Action: A motion to approve the business representative applications was made by Trevor Vannett and seconded by Trampes Brown. Motion carried.

Action: SRC liaison will submit Tribal application and Business Applicants to Governor's office

Mercedes Drechsel resigned from VR (SRC VR counselor representative)

Action: Barb will search for a new VR counselor representative

Reviewed the SRC membership attendance from 2020-2022

Action: Renee will draft a letter for Damian's review and Barb will send it out to the Council with a read receipt.

Planning/Evaluation and CIE Committee combined – Terry Peterson, Chair

Action: A motion to approve the Client Purchases Operational Policy as amended was made by Trevor Vannett and seconded by Jacey Enget. Motion carried.

CIE applications were evaluated and returned to VR's Operations Administrator for next steps in the procurement process.

Action: A motion to move forward with CIE grant applicants was made by Trevor Vannett and seconded by Jacey Enget. Motion carried.

Resource Committee – Trevor Vannett, Chair - Did not meet

Public Comment - There was no one present for public for comment

Action: A motion was made by Jacy Enget to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Landis Larson. Motion carried.

- Trevor Vannett had to leave thus Shannon Cone joined by phone (so we had quorum) to adjourn

Next meeting – October 12, 2022

1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. CST via TEAMS and in person