

Michigan Council for Rehabilitation Services (MCRS)

PROPOSED MEETING MINUTES

September 10, 2019, 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

1048 Pierpont, Lansing, Michigan

Participation

Council Members Present

Carol Bergquist, Carrie Dudek, Trina Edmondson, Tiffany Guthrie, Brenda Henige, David Szydowski*, Jackie Tahtinen, Jennipher Wiebold*, Aaron Andres, Elham Jahshan

Council Members Not Present

Michael Miller (excused)

Sheryl Diamond (excused)

Ex-Officio Members Present

Tina Fullerton - MRS, Bill Robinson - BSBP

DSU Liaisons Present

Lisa Kiesel - BSBP

Karsten Bekemeier - MRS

DSU Staff Members Present

Nichole Lepley - MRS, Mike Pemble - BSBP, Amy Weber - MRS

* Indicates participation via phone.

Minutes

Call to Order

Chairperson, Carol Bergquist, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Tiffany Guthrie read the roll call. A quorum was present.

Introductions and Welcome

Recently appointed (2019) new member representing SILC, Aaron Andres (Marquette), was introduced by Carol Bergquist.

New Business

Approval of Proposed Agenda

Trina Edmundson moved that the MCRS approve the September 10, 2019 draft agenda. Seconded by Carrie Dudek. Approved.

Approval of 6-11-2019 Business Meeting Minutes

Brenda Henige moved that the MCRS approve the Meeting Minutes from the June 11, 2019 Quarterly Business Meeting. Seconded by Aaron Andres. Approved.

MCRS Appointments

Aaron Andres is the first appointed MCRS member by Governor Whitmer. All other members present indicated they have submitted their applications for reappointment to the Governor's Appointment Office. All have received acknowledgement that their applications were received. Council Chairperson, Carol Bergquist, will send a letter to the Governor's Appointment Office to review the federal and state appointment requirements for a State Rehabilitation Council and to inquire about the appointment status of current and new members.

2020 Business Meeting Calendar

After discussion, a motion was made by Jackie Tahtinen, with support from Tiffany Guthrie, to set a 2020 MCRS Business Meeting Calendar. The motion passed and includes the following meeting dates: November 14, 2019; February 13, 2020; May 14, 2020; and August 13, 2020. Meeting times and format will remain the same with meeting locations to be determined.

2020 Resource Plan

A discussion was held regarding the immediate need to submit the 2020 Resource Plan for the Council to the DSUs. Carol Bergquist asked the DSU's for input on their 2020 expectations for the Council that would impact the Resource Plan. It was requested by the DSU's that there be a line item narrative explaining the proposed expenditures. Bill Robinson requested that MRS provide quarterly reporting of Council expenditures during 2020. The Council planned to develop the 2020 Resource Plan during the afternoon work session. The proposed Plan would be reviewed by the full Council and submitted to the DSUs. The final 2020 MCRS Resource Plan would be approved by a vote of the Council.

11:00 Public Comment

Jackie Tahtinen read the guidelines for public comment. No Comments were received.

MRS Champion and BSBP Honor Roll Awards

The MRS Champion Awards will be presented in Lansing on October 17, 2019. Carol Bergquist will serve as Master of Ceremonies, and several Council members will attend. These awards celebrate the recognition of selected businesses, customers, and partners.

The BSBP Honor Roll Awards will be celebrated in Lansing to honor outstanding businesses, customers, and partners on October 11, 2019. Several Council members will also attend this event.

DSU Reports

Bill Robinson provided updates from BSBP. He shared that the recent department transition to Labor and Economic Opportunity is going very well. Mike Pemble said that while there are some uncertainties with the 2020 budget, BSBP is in good shape closing out the FY2019 budget. Lisa Kesiel shared field updates related to several projects, including the customized employment pilot that will start in Southeast Michigan in the near future, the Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment currently underway, and the requirements of the 2020 Unified State Plan.

Tina Fullerton gave the DSU update from MRS. She spoke highly about the collaborative working relationship between BSBP and MRS. Tina also said MRS was fully matched in FY2019; that MRS met its spending obligations for Pre-Employment Transition Services; that MRS is working on rate restructuring; and data from MCTI

reported that 362 students graduated from MCTI this spring with an 87% employment rate.

Old Business

MRS Customer Satisfaction survey results will be sent to Carol Bergquist for distribution to the Council for their review. MRS and BSBP are working collaboratively with Project Excellence on the Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment. Representatives from the Council are invited to participate. The current CSNA Survey link will be sent to each Council member for their participation. The Council will establish a committee to draft a response to the Unified State Plan. The Council will also establish a committee to draft the Council's Annual Report (2019).

Business Meeting Adjournment

Jackie Tahtinen made a motion to adjourn the Business Meeting at 1:46 p.m. with support from Trina Edmondson. Approved.

Council members participated in a work session until 3:30pm.