

**NORTH DAKOTA STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL**  
QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES April 9, 2024 - 1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. CST

**Members Present:** Russ Cusack, Renee Wetzsteon, Misty Bouly, Amy Arenz, Angie Dubovoy, Trampes Brown, Gillian Plenty Chief, Damian Schlinger, Shannon Cook

**Members Absent:** Landis Larson, Terry Peterson, Jacey Enget, Kevin Phelps, Lea Kugel, Chaz Brobst, Mercedes Dreschel

**Others Present:** Robyn Throlson, Trevor Vannett

**SRC Liaison-Absent**

**Roll Call-Damian Schlinger**

**Call to Order:** Amy Arenz called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. There was a quorum.

**Action:** A motion to accept the agenda was made by Renee Wetzsteon and seconded by Gillian Plenty Chief. Motion carried.

**Action:** A motion to approve the January 2024 minutes was made by Russ Cusack and seconded by Renee Wetzsteon. Motion carried.

**Standing Rock High School Presentation-Collette Fleck**

Collette Fleck with Standing Rock presented on a variety of topics related to transition activities at Standing Rock High School. Her power point is available by request from SRC liaison.

**CAP report-Angie Dubovoy**

P & A continues to reach out through I & R's, disseminating CAP brochures, Trainings and Outreach activities. Website full of information and resources at <https://www.ndpanda.org/> YouTube videos on the website related to CAP. CAP/VR rarely have cases that go to higher levels due to the collaborative nature between VR, Independent Living Centers, and P & A.

**Committees-Amy Arenz**

Reviewed committee membership and recommended changes from Robyn Throlson, Cheryl Anderson, Barb Burghart, and Amy Arenz, who worked on combining the Employment Committee duties into the other three committees. All but one of the Employment committee duties was dissolved. The one employment committee duty remaining was the CIE grant (parking fees) and was placed with the Resource Committee. There will be one new committee and that is the Executive Committee. The duties of that committee were reviewed. The executive committee will meet as needed. Re-assigned committee members.

**Action:** Shannon Cook made a motion to dissolve the employment committee and transfer the CIE grant duties to the Resource Committee. Renee Wetzsteon seconded. Motion carried.

**Action:** Russ Cusack made a motion to begin a new executive committee. Trampes Brown seconded. Motion carried.

**Bylaws-Amy Arenz**

**Action:** Russ motioned to remove NDACP as a required council member in the bylaws and change the language in the bylaws from "The Chair shall be elected annually and may serve up to three consecutive or non-consecutive terms" to "The Chair shall be elected annually and may serve up to two consecutive or non-consecutive terms." Gillian Plenty Chief seconded. Motion carried.

**VR Director Update-Damian Schlinger**

Discussion around outreach to help ease fears of people who work or are seeking work and receive SSI/SSDI and how work may or may not impact benefits. Discussion around RSI Benefits planning as a beneficial resource.

**Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)-Russ Cusack**

State plan is out for public comment. Russ Cusack term as SILC rep will be ending this month so this will be the last SRC mtg as the SILC liaison however can remain on the SRC as Additional.

**Tribal Updates-Gillian Plenty Chief**

Gillian is the new American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation representative (AIVR). Has been on the counsel before. Standing Rock AIVR just resubmitted their grant-waiting to hear.

**Membership/Public Relations Committee-Renee Wetzsteon**

Did not meet. Only one member present.

**Planning/Evaluation Committee**

Reviewed and analyzed quarterly data as well as the most recent results from the most recent Satisfaction Survey-no recommendations. Contract for satisfaction survey is nearing end and a new RFP has been issued. State plan is still in Federal Review.

**Resource Committee**

Did not meet No members present.

**Public Comment**

No one was present for public comment.

**Action:** The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm. The persons who motioned and seconded to adjourn is not available and thus not recorded.