



COUNCIL ON  
PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

1 WEST WILSON STREET, ROOM 551  
POST OFFICE BOX 2659  
MADISON, WI 53701-2659  
PHONE: 608-266-3118  
WEBSITE: [dhs.wisconsin.gov/cpd](https://dhs.wisconsin.gov/cpd)

**Wisconsin Council on Physical Disabilities (CPD)  
Quarterly Teleconference Meeting**

**Thursday, January 26, 2023**

**9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.**

**Approved April 20, 2023.**

**Action and Motion Items**

**A. Action Items**

- 1. Action Item:** Jeff Fox will work with Ben Barrett to create a letter of support from CPD to support the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition Legislative Initiatives.
- 2. Action Item:** The CPD Committees will develop Work Plans on strategies of how they plan to achieve goals as outlined in the CPD 2022-2024 State Plan for People with Disabilities and will submit the Work Plans for approval to the Executive Committee and the Full Council at the April 2023 Quarterly meeting.

**B. Motion Items**

- 1. Motion Item:** Roberto Escamilla II made a motion to approve the CPD January 26, 2023, Quarterly meeting agenda. Michael Conley-Kuhagen seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 2. Motion Item:** Roberto Escamilla II made a motion to approve the October 27, 2022, Quarterly meeting minutes. Nicole Herda seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 3. Motion Item:** Karen Secor made the motion that CPD support the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition Legislative Initiative and recommendations. Charles Vandenplas seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 4. Motion Item:** Roberto Escamilla II made a motion to approve the 2022-2024 CPD State Plan as revised and to assign the Council Committee Chairs with developing Work Plans to then submit to the Executive Committee and Full Council for approval at the upcoming April CPD Quarterly Meeting. Jeff Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried.



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5. **Motion Item:** Roberto Escamilla II made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gabriel Schlieve seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### C. Meeting Minutes

#### I. Welcome and Introductions, Jeff Fox, Vice Chairperson

**Council members present:** Ben Barrett; Artrell Mason; Jeff Fox; Karen Secor; Roberto Escamilla II; Jackie Gordon; Gabriel Schlieve; Michael Conley-Kuhagen; Nicole Herda; Ramsey Lee; Charles Vandenplas; and Camile Cray.

**Council members absent (excused\*):** Jason Glozier\*; and Ann Belisle.

**Liaisons present:** Taqwanya Smith, Department of Transportation; Craig Wehner, Wisconsin Department for Workforce Development; Elizabeth Watson, University of Wisconsin Whitewater; Kristine Zukrow, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; Jeremy Kaukl, Department of Safety and Professional Services.

**Liaisons absent (excused\*):** Nicholas Zouski, Department of Natural Resources; Eva Kubinski, Department of Public Instruction; Sarah Smith, Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Insurance; and Colleen Larsen, Wisconsin Technical College System.

**Guests:** Patti Becker, Community Living Alliance; and Barbara Beckert, Director of External Advocacy, Disability Rights Wisconsin.

**Captioning Services:** Margo Lucas

**DHS staff support present:** Ashley Walker, Department of Health Services (DHS), Bureau of Aging and Disability Resource (BADR); Karen Potnek, DHS, BADR; and Amber Mullett, DHS, BADR.

#### II. Meeting Called to Order

**Ben Barrett, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M.**

The meeting was made available via phone at (669) 254-5252 and Meeting ID: 160 310 8879 and via [Zoom](#).



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### **III. Review and Approve January 26, 2023, Quarterly Meeting Agenda**

- Roberto Escamilla II made a motion to approve the CPD January 26, 2023, Quarterly meeting agenda. Michael Conley-Kuhagen seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 1.

### **IV. Review and Approve October 27, 2022, Quarterly Meeting Minutes**

- Roberto Escamilla II made a motion to approve the October 27, 2022, Quarterly meeting minutes. Nicole Herda seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 2.

### **V. Public Comment on the [State Plan for People with Disabilities, 2019-2021](https://cpd.wisconsin.gov/pdffiles/stateplan2019-21.pdf) (<https://cpd.wisconsin.gov/pdffiles/stateplan2019-21.pdf>) or Issues Impacting People with Physical Disabilities (9:10 A.M.–9:20 A.M.)**

- No public comment received.

### **VI. Overview of Caregiver Coalition**

- Patti Becker, Community Living Alliance presented an educational overview on the Caregiver Coalition.
  - Shared the caregiver certification platform:  
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/caregiver-career/index.htm>

### **VII. Access to Voting in Wisconsin Presentation**

- Barbara Beckert, Director of External Advocacy, Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW) presented on Access to Voting in Wisconsin.
  - Historical overview, 2022 election accessibility concerns and information about the 2023 election and DRW.
  - [https://www.vote411.org/node/8252?gclid=CjwKCAiA5sieBhBnEiwAR9oh2IDWluZmwpDVp5QbY4gAWsl-i8Pg6RpDk0fBmTqIV2Fizb8wMMVK1hoChPEQAvD\\_BwE](https://www.vote411.org/node/8252?gclid=CjwKCAiA5sieBhBnEiwAR9oh2IDWluZmwpDVp5QbY4gAWsl-i8Pg6RpDk0fBmTqIV2Fizb8wMMVK1hoChPEQAvD_BwE)
  - [https://drwi-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkc-6gqzlrEtGZhisLU\\_FkQaSu-Zr0ggOV](https://drwi-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkc-6gqzlrEtGZhisLU_FkQaSu-Zr0ggOV)
  - The Council discussed moving forward with supporting the legislative initiatives of the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition.



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- Karen Secor made the motion that CPD support the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition Legislative Initiative and recommendations. Charles Vandenplas seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 3.
- Jeff Fox will work with Ben Barrett to create a letter of support from CPD to support the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition Legislative Initiatives. Action Item 1.

#### VIII. CPD Liaison Updates

- **Taqwanya Smith, Department of Transportation (DOT) Liaison:** The DOT has received many public comments and are working through those comments on the DOT Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Plan.
- **Jeremy Kaukl, Department of Safety and Professional Services Liaison:** No report.
- **Kristine Zukrow, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) Liaison:** DVR is working to implement the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Plan this year. Recently published our annual WRC Report. Access to the report: <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/partners/wrc/pdf/2022-wrc-annual-report.pdf>. Public Hearing on DWD 65 CR 22-083 (order of selection) was on January 25th at 11 AM. This relates to WI DVR choosing to implement a provision in the Rehab Act as amended by WIOA, which gives the DSU (WI DVR) the option to provide services and equipment to individuals at immediate risk of losing employment outside the established order, and the DSU should consider doing so if financial and staff resources are sufficient. Is focused on engagement of current consumers. Is focused on engagement and outreach to have more students and individuals with disability apply for DVR. Is doing well, overall, in meeting federal performance measures.
- **Colleen Larsen, Wisconsin Technical College System:** Absent for the meeting, but a reported submitted: The WTCS Disability Services Committee is reconvening a sub team that previously existed for sign-language interpreters and coordinators. This is happening to create some guidance and best practices around providing sign-language interpreters for students and others when attending college events. There have been challenges at times securing sign-language interpreters that are certified by DSPS, the process of



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- getting the certification seems to take quite a long time when the need is great. Any advocacy or resources the group has to share on this topic would be greatly appreciated.
- **Eva Kubinski, Department of Public Instruction:** Absent for the meeting, but the following report was submitted: The Affordable Connectivity Program <https://www.fcc.gov/acp>. What it is: The federal Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) can be used to help close the digital equity gap for Wisconsin residents and families of Wisconsin students that qualify. With ACP, Wisconsin residents and families can apply directly for a discount on home broadband service and receive up to a \$30/month discount on their internet bill and a \$75/month discount on Tribal lands. In addition to providing discounted internet service, the ACP provides a one-time, up to \$100 per household discount on a connected device, such as a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet with a participating provider
  - **Elizabeth Watson, University of Wisconsin Whitewater:** Disability Service Directors were able to present current issues and concerns to the Board of Regents in the Fall of 2022. Issues shared were caseload size, ongoing case management, the interactive process, and technology issues. Disability Service Directors continue to meet monthly or quarterly as necessary. President's Advisory Committee for Disability Issues continues to meet. ADA Coordinators Group meets as needed. UW System was awarded funds for mental health prevention and is expanding telehealth services to support students. Madison, Milwaukee, Stout, and Whitewater campuses all have grants or service contracts supporting individuals with disabilities.

## IX. CPD Committee Updates

- **Emergency Preparedness**
  - Karen Secor, Emergency Preparedness Committee Chair, provided updates on CPD Emergency Preparedness Toolkit distribution and multiple outreach events. The smart phone application was demonstrated at exhibit booths.
  - Ramsey Lee suggested attending the March 23, 2023, Disability Advocacy Day with a table with Emergency Preparedness Toolkits.



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- ***Executive Committee***

- The Executive Committee has not met since October 2022. Still on track with the timeline for the Dan Johnson Advocacy award:
  - December 2022 – Call for Nominations
  - April 2023 – Applications Reviewed
  - June 2023 – Nominees Selected
  - October 2023 – Award Celebration will be held in conjunction with CPD's Quarterly meeting

**X. Discuss Legislative Initiatives and State Budget**

- ***Universal Accessible Bathrooms***

- Karen Secor stated the Department of Transportation (DOT) has a list of accessible rest areas on its website.
- Jeremy Kaukl reported that DSPS will open their administration rule space for public comment, and he will keep the group updated on this. The Council discussed moving forward with supporting the change in the rule and always an opportunity to advocate in the current budget to make these modifications. Discussed the next budget cycle being in 1.5 years and may want to prepare for this.
- The Council further discussed that it would be helpful for the list of DOT rest areas or the app to list if the rest areas have family restrooms or adult chaining stations.
- Discussed advocating for a higher tax credit for businesses to make modifications and renovations. Discussed a possible issue being physical space requirements to make the rooms bigger.
- Taqwanya Smith stated that there are currently no rest areas with adult changing stations. However, DOT is looking at upgrading rest areas which includes family restrooms and infant changing stations over the next few years. Taqwanya Smith stated that DOT may consider adult changing stations in future rest area upgrades.



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- ***Governor's Committee for People with Disabilities (GCPD) Legislative Agenda***
  - The Council discussed GCPD Legislative Initiatives that were moving forward for discussion. The Council was in support of initiatives as they were in-line with the CPD Work Plan:
    - Advocate for increased for the Telecommunications Assistance Program (TAP).
    - Advocate for DHS to increase the Gas Milage Reimbursement rate, GMR for members who use their own vehicles to get to their medical appointments.
    - Advocate for an increase in reimbursement rates for existing transportation partners.
    - Advocate for state agencies to generate and fund incentives to attract drivers into the transportation workforce.
    - Advocate for funding and position authority for Department of Administration or DHS to hire an Americans with Disabilities Act Digital Access Coordinator.
    - Reinstatement of the Wisconsin Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance Office or Coordinator Position.
    - Budget Proposal to Staff the Governor's Committee for People with Disabilities and Increase its Operating Budget.

#### **XI. Discuss CPD 2022-2024 State Plan Distribution and Implementation**

- ***Discuss Development of Work Plan by CPD Committees***
  - The Council discussed the final version of the 2022-2024 State Plan being distributed to the Council's Committees and then having Committees meet to edit Work Plans and strategies/goals.
  - Roberto Escamilla II made a motion to approve the 2022-2024 CPD State Plan as revised and to assign the Council Committee Chairs with developing Work Plans to then submit to the Executive Committee and Full Council for approval at the upcoming April CPD Quarterly Meeting. Jeff Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 4.



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## **XII. Adjourn**

- Roberto Escamilla II made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gabriel Schlieve seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 5.

**Meeting adjourned at 12:29 P.M.**