

NAME OF MEETING: Disability Services Advisory Council

DATE OF MEETING: April 17, 2020

TO: Tammy Lanz

RECORDED BY: Lydia Dysart

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ROUTING INFORMATION

(04/22/2019 lld)
(Date and initials)

MINUTES
DISABILITY SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

Friday, April 17, 2020
10:30 – 11:15 p.m.
Conference Call – Lane Council of Government
859 Willamette Street – Eugene, Oregon

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Ahlen, Jeanne Barter, Joe Basey, Hoover Chambliss, Kim Davidson-Ruby, Elaine Eiler-Mough, Andy Hernandez, Lana Junger, Kay McDonald, Robert Phillips, Tina Powell, Amy Scott, Peggy Thomas, Dennis Weirich, Lucy Zammarelli.

STAFF: Brooke Emery, Emily Farrell, Tammy Lanz, Kendra Pennington.

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Ms. Junger called the meeting to order at 10:53 a.m. Ms. Lanz did a roll call to see who was on the conference call.

2. Consideration of Meeting Agenda

There were no changes made.

3. Consideration of Last Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Weirich moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas, to approve the January 17, 2020 Disability Service Advisory Council minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

4. COVID-19 Updates

Ms. Farrell shared that in the first two weeks of the crisis breaking out they were able to enforce a telework policy for staff to work remotely. She said that the state had given them direction on what to do. Their Eugene and Florence offices had to stay open, but had limited hours. Also Adult Protective Services and Case Management Services were operating via phone. Ms. Farrell stated that if any issue was found then case managers went to look into it in person. They made sure that staff was equipped with hand sanitizer, gloves, and masks.

The Meals of Wheels program had also been modified so that meals were not given in anyway that there could be contact between people. Ms. Farrell told the Committee that they were giving out more frozen meals for people to store. The Café 60 locations were open but were only offering to-go meals.

Mr. Weirich asked if there were any opportunities to volunteer. Ms. Farrell told him that Meals on Wheels needed more volunteers, but had not seen any big decline anywhere else. Ms. Davidson-Ruby wanted to know who they should contact for volunteer information. Ms. Farrell replied that they should talk to David Vanderhagen and that Ms. Lanz would send out his contact information.

Ms. McDonald inquired into any extensions to their services, like APD and SNAP. Ms. Farrell responded that APD had been instructed to continue to provide services. She added that any stimulus money received by individuals was not counted towards income. Therefore no one was at risk of being outside of S&DS's service range.

Mr. Basey said that he had his paperwork to renew services due in June and wanted to know how he should turn it in. Ms. Emery told him that paperwork could be mailed or emailed in and that clients could also call their case manager to go through it.

Ms. Thomas noted that to apply for SNAP benefits individuals had to have proof of residency. She asked if that would still be required. Ms. Emery replied that the State required that they took people at their word for the next six months.

Ms. Davidson-Ruby inquired into if intakes were still happening for home care workers and how long that process was taking. Ms. Emery told her that they had been booked one month out, but they were trying to get people out sooner. She added that the state was looking into changing the process.

5. Addus HCW New Rates

Ms. Farrell informed everyone that the new Addus rates had not yet gone through the Procurement & Monitoring Committee, but they would vote on it in May.

Ms. Pennington said that the new rate proposal for Addus would be \$22.80 an hour. Addus had asked for a \$25 increase but they were able to be negotiated down. She said that the new rates would go into affect on July 1, 2020.

Ms. Thomas asked what Addus employees were actually getting paid. Ms. Farrell responded that it was between \$25 and \$27 an hour. Ms. Thomas stated that she had heard something different from their workers. Ms. Farrell told her that from their bargaining agreement rates should have gone up, but she was unsure. She added that they were only in charge of paying for employee benefits. Ms. Farrell said she would follow up on what they were paying but emphasized that they did not manage their business.

6. Call for Next Meeting Agenda Items & Reminder of Next Meeting May 15, 2020, 10:30AM – 11:15AM Conference Call

Ms. Thomas wanted an update on the public charge rule for non-citizens.

Mr. Basey asked if they would be able to use Zoom for future meetings. Ms. Farrell told him that Zoom had security issues so they were staying away from it.

7. Adjourn

Ms. Junger adjourned the meeting at 11:21 a.m.

(Minutes recorded by Lydia Dysart)