

Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities Quarterly Meeting

The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (GCDD) met on Thursday, March 9, 2023, Arkansas State Capitol 500 Woodland St, Little Rock AR 72201 at 12:30 PM.

Agenda Item I

Call to Order

Vice Chair Ludwick Kozlowski called the meeting to order at 12:33 pm.

Agenda Item II

Roll Call

Kozlowski conducted the roll call with the following results:

Members Present:

Lud Kozlowski – Vice - Chair
Karan Burnette
Syard Evans
Joseph Baxter
Cynthia Fong
C.W. Gardenhire
Mark George
Carrie Hollis-Anthony
Christopher Tebbetts
Maria Villagran
Tom Masseau
Amanda Sanders
Heather Shrader
Kasey Hodges

Members Absent:

Katherine Donovan – Chairperson
Karan Burnette
Ke'Arus Henderson
Ann Price
Janette Williams-Smith
Melissa Weatherton
Kimberly Horton
Toni Roy
Rhonda Saunders

Guest:

Amanda Mauck- MHP
Michael Thornton-Arkansas People 1st
Ally Thomlinson-AADA
Wednesday Kramer-AADA
Kimberly Dodel-Partners in Policy Making

Dianna Mathis-Partners in Policy Making**Staff Present:**

Jonathan Taylor, Executive Director
Assiah Lewellen, Deputy Director
Jamiya Foote, Finance & Operations Coordinator
Linda Sims, Program Coordinator
Kim Gatewood, Admin. Specialist

Agenda Item IV**Approve December 8, 2022, Meeting Minutes**

Vice Chair Kozlowski asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the previous Council meeting. He asked if there were any corrections. With no changes requested, a motion was made by Mark George and seconded by Carrie Hollis Anthony to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2022, meeting. All members present voted unanimously in favor, and the motion to approve the minutes passed.

**Agenda Item
Director's Report**

Executive Director Jonathan Taylor thanked the council members for attending the meeting. Executive Director Taylor announced that he and Deputy Director Assiah Lewellen have completed the PPR Reporting for the Department of Finance & Administration. In addition, Taylor informed the council about the Disability Policy Seminar that is in April 2023. Staff will provide more details to council members. Finally, Taylor announces all council members are responsible for completing all Travel Reimbursement forms and turning them in to Finance Operations Coordinator Jamiya Foote. A motion was made by Mark George and seconded by Carrie Hollis Anthony. Kozlowski thanked Taylor and moved on to the next order of business.

**Agenda Item
Council Budget Report**

Finance & Operations Coordinator Jamiya Foote presented the FY23 Budget to the Council. Vice Chair Kozlowski asked the Council if they had any questions regarding the Budget Report. The Council unanimously approved the Budget Report. A motion was made by C.W. Gardenhire and seconded by Syard Evans. Kozlowski thanked Foote and moved on to the next order of business.

**Agenda Item
Report on Funded Project Status**

Program Coordinator Linda Sims presented an overview of GCDD's Funded Projects, Arkansas Support Network, Disabilities Rights Arkansas, and University of Arkansas/Partners for Inclusive Communities. In addition, Sims reported on the activities of each funded project. Vice Chair Kozlowski asked the Council for any questions regarding the FY23 Funded Project Report. Kozlowski thanked Sims and moved on to the next order of business.

Agenda Item VI**Reports from Committee Chairs**

Vice Chair Lud Kozlowski informed the Council that nominating Committee is looking for a Southern Arkansas representative. Kozlowski advised the Council that members can attend up to two meetings yearly. Kozlowski reported to the Council the importance of ensuring all council members attend all meetings. Kozlowski advised the Council that State Senator Gilmore is working towards getting someone on the Committee.

On behalf of Nominating Committee, Ludwick Kozlowski and Executive Director Taylor informed council members that Kimberly Horton has resigned as a Council Member.

C.W. Gardenhire, spoke on behalf of the State Plan and Implementation Committee, Gardenhire discussed NOFA 2023-008-DDNTWK-PHWF-UA Partners Proposal to the Council. Syard Evans started a discussion. By asking for some clarifying questions about the innovation burden on the provider organization. Mark George asked if this was a workgroup. Deputy Director Assiah Lewellen gave feedback to Evans and George by informing them that potential project staff will come to the next SPI meeting. Maria Villagran questioned why people are leaving the profession. Syard Evans highly recommends DSP being part of the study, and it needs assessment. Deputy Director challenged members to advocate. Heather Shrader asks for an amendment plan discussing how funds are the most effective and to have a meeting with SPI. Commissioner Joseph Baxter asked for a timeline. Lewellen reminded Council of the grant calendar fiscal year. Syard Evans asked that the proposal be forward with the grant process with SPI's examination of project activities. Kozlowski asked for a motion to approve the funding for 2023-008-DDNTWK-PHWF-UA Partners Application. A motion was made by Heather Shrader and seconded by Syard Evans. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item VIII**Public Policy & Outreach Committee**

Account Strategy Director Amanda Mauck from Mangan Holcomb Partners presented FY23 November-February reporting of website performance, social performance, eNewsletter performance, Public Relations Efforts, Legislative Session Campaign, and Upcoming Projects.

Executive Director Jonathan Taylor described activity progress through the Breakfast Club.

Mark George suggested to the Council that the 14(C) Bill is unnecessary and not vital.

Syard Evans stated that the Human Rights issue is underfunding HCBS's and will drive people to a sheltered workshop. Mark George emphasized we need to keep pushing for the best solution. The Council needs to provide information to legislation. Syard Evans recapped the DD Act Mandate. Heather Shrader commented political truth is advocacy, not an armbar to educate and engage and that city administrators are ready to engage.

Agenda Item VIII**Council Education & Training**

Executive Director Taylor reminded the Council to ensure they are talking to their legislators. Amanda Sanders gave tips to everyone on how to reach out to their Legislators and also on how to interact with their Legislators

Agenda Item IX

DD Network Update-Disability Rights Arkansas

Members for Disability Rights Arkansas were absent.

**Agenda Item X
Self-Advocacy Updates**

Ally Thomlinson, Director of Community of Champions, spoke about PIE Day at The Capitol on March 14, 2023. Fourteen vendors will help host this event, and it will be 17 speakers who are experts in the Disability Community. In addition, two individuals will receive awards.

Thomlinson informs council that ASP (Arkansas Self Advocates Present) will speak about specific issues

**Agenda Item XI
New Business and Announcements**

State Rehabilitation Services at the Commerce Building March 13, 2023

PIE Day March 14, 2023, at The Capitol

Committee Meetings

June 8 Quarterly Council Meeting at Pulaski Tech

Arkansas Autism Foundation Festival Walk April 8, 2023, Conway Arkansas

Disability Policy Seminar April 26-27, 2023

10th Annual Famous Family Bistro Conference & Disability Resource Expo April 29, 2023

**Agenda Item XII
Adjourn**

Vice Chair Kozlowski asked for a motion to adjourn. Maria Villagran made the motion, seconded by Cindy Fong.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Jamiya Foote, Recorder

APPROVED BY FULL COUNCIL ON: 06/08/2023