



## Commission on Rehabilitation Services Meeting

March 10, 2023

10 a.m. (Eastern)

Virtual via Microsoft Teams

### MEETING MINUTES

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call/Welcome
  - a. The meeting was called to order by Michelle Oja

A	Ron Brown	V	Brian Carnes	V	Jennifer Diaz
V	Shawn Fulton	V	Theresa Koleszar	V	Danie’l Mize
V	Michelle Oja	V	Richard Propes	A	Marc Ruiz
A	Erin Sheridan	V	Stacey Smith	V	David Spradley
V	Willaine St. Pierre-Sandy	I,V	Mike Thibideau	I,A	Kate Barrow
I,V	Kristina Blankenship	I,A	Bonnie Bomer	I,V	Katie Connel
A	Abby Fleenor	I,A	Kelly Mitchell	I,V	Ian Ragains
I,V	Jeff Russell	I,V	Karen Smith		

(A=Absent, P=Present, T=Teleconference, Virtual =V, I=Invited Guest)

- II. Approval of the January 10, 2023, meeting minutes
  - a) The Commission voted unanimously in favor
  
- III. Public Comment
  - a) There were no members of the public who made comment
  
- IV. Review of Draft Bylaw Revisions
  - a) Motion to approve changes
  - b) The Commission voted unanimously in favor
  
- V. Customer Satisfaction Survey Presentation – Karen Smith
  - a) Reviewed Customer Satisfaction Survey (CSS) Report
  
- VI. BRS Director’s Update – Theresa Koleszar
  - a) Order of Selection update
    - Of 195 total VR Counselor positions, 10 (5%) are vacant, and 23 (12%) of VR Counselors are new and in Trainee status as of February 7, 2023.
    - 8 releases to date with over 2700 moving off of waiting list.
    - Outcomes from the first 7 releases (through October 2022)
      1. 26% served or in services
        - a. 16% of those served exited with employment so far

2. 21% declined services
3. 42% unable to be located/didn't respond to outreach attempts
4. 11% closed for other reasons
- 2416 new VR applicants in SFY23 quarters 1-2 (compared to 2233 new applicants in SFY22 quarters 1 and 2)
- 2383 new Pre-ETS applicants in SFY23 quarters 1-2 (compared to 2401 Pre-ETS applicants SFY22 quarters 1-2)
- As of February 7, 2023, 1501 (240 new this SFY) on waiting list
  1. 23% (352) in priority category 2
  2. 77% (1149) in priority category 3
- February 7, 2023 snapshot of total in service – 8,770
- b) Rehabilitation Services Administration monitoring visit May 2023
  - Focus: performance of VR agency in use and expenditure of funds to maximize quality employment outcomes; compliance with the Rehabilitation Act
  - Process: RSA calls and documentation submission; on-site 3-day visit; draft report of findings; Final report and corrective action plan; Strategic Action Plan.
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## VII. Committee Updates

- a) Customer Satisfaction Committee
  - No update
- b) Employment First Committee
  - Committee met in February
  - Committee has planned to collaborate with other state agencies to determine ways to report data
- c) Recruitment, Public Outreach, and Commission Development Committee
  - Committee met and reviewed resources that could lead to finding youth to recruit for the Commission
  - Committee reviewed individuals involved with businesses and have submitted application paperwork for one of the individuals
  - 3 members of the Commission are in their second term and appointments will expire in June
    1. David Spradley
    2. Richard Propes
    3. Theresa Koleszar
  - Michelle Oja will be replaced by Ian Ragains in June
- d) Policy & Oversight and Planning & Evaluation Committee
  - No update
- e) Awards Committee
  - Survey to collect nominees will go live in March
    1. Nominations will be reviewed in April by committee and selections made in May

- f) Transition Committee
  - No update

VIII. Other Business

- a) Bonnie Bomer – Disability Talent Showcase update on new employers and service providers
- b) To be added to May agenda: Discussion about perceived liability from the employer perspective when it comes to discovery activities
- c) Michelle Oja – DDRS summit in June – will provide more information when details are confirmed
- d) Stacy Smith – Disability Expo in Fort Wayne on May 13<sup>th</sup> – will send out information

IX. Meeting Adjourned

Future meeting dates:

Date	Time	Location
May 12, 2023	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	BOSMA 7225 Woodland Drive Indianapolis, IN 46278
July 14, 2023	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	BOSMA 7225 Woodland Drive Indianapolis, IN 46278
September 8, 2023	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	BOSMA 7225 Woodland Drive Indianapolis, IN 46278
November 3, 2023	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Virtual <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>