

**APPROVED MINUTES – COUNCIL QUARTERLY MEETING**

**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL**

Monday, May 13, 2024

625 SILVER AVENUE SW, SUITE 100 (DDC LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM)

TELECONFERENCE VIA ZOOM

11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

**Members Present**

**Advocates**

Laurel Deans  
Amelia-Ann Dickey  
Crystal Garcia  
Elisheva Levin  
Richard Segura

**Family Members**

Joel Davis, Chair  
Katie Stone, Vice Chair  
Valentin Anaya, Treasurer  
Jennifer Sanchez, Secretary  
Tarra Main  
Selma Ramos Nevarez

**Agencies Present**

John Arango (CLSC)  
Melanie Buenviaje (HCA)  
Margaret Cage (PED)  
Scott Doan, proxy (DOH, DDSD)  
Gary Housepian (DRNM)  
Tim Gardner, proxy (DRNM)  
Anastasia Martin, proxy (ALTSD)  
Pat Osbourn (UNM, CDD)

**Staff Present**

Alice Liu McCoy (Executive Director)  
Joe Turk (OOG Legal Director)  
Donna Vigil (Chief Operating Officer)  
Daniel Ekman (CSA Program Manager)  
Lindsay Sloan (CSA Outreach Coordinator)  
Michelle Tregembo (Special Education State Ombud)  
Lucero Estrada (Office Administrator)  
Sandra Gardner (NMDOJ Assistant Attorney General)

**Advocates Absent**

Lystra John

**Family Members Absent**

Deanna Cole  
Joseph Melvyn Jaramillo

**Agencies Absent**

Teresa Casados (CYFD)  
Elizabeth Groginsky (ECECD)  
Lanthia Miles (Non-Government Agency)  
Casey Stone-Romero (DVR)

**Public Guests**

None

**Call to Order/ Housekeeping**

Chair Joel Davis called the meeting to order, completed the roll call, and housekeeping was conducted. The meeting convened at 11:13 AM.

**Public Comment (Morning)**

None.

**Approval of May 13, 2024 Agenda – Action Item**

Katie Stone moved to approve the agenda as written, seconded by Elisheva Levin. Motion passed with fourteen in the affirmative and one abstention.

**Approval of February 26, 2024 Quarterly Meeting Minutes – Action Item**

Katie Stone moved to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Tarra Main. Motion passed with fourteen in the affirmative and one abstention.

**Open Meetings Act Resolution – Action Item**

Sandra Gardner, counsel from NMDOJ serving NMDDC, reviewed the proposed Open Meetings Resolution for Council approval. Alice Liu McCoy removed “Planning” from the name of the agency. Katie Stone moves to revise agenda to move the open meetings act resolution approval after the lunch break and the Office of Guardianship report. Jennifer Sanchez seconds. Motion passes with fifteen in the affirmative and one in the negative.

**Break**

The Council paused for a lunch break from 11:47AM to 12:22PM.

**Office of Guardianship Report – Joe Turk & Alice Liu McCoy**

Joe Turk reported on organizational structure of the Office of Guardianship. Alice Liu McCoy reported on the expansion of staff. Joe presented OOG services, application, eligibility, data, and funding challenges. Katie Stone asked about the increase in guardianship cases and whether DDC received commensurate legislative funding increases. Tim Gardner asked for data regarding how many guardianship applications are directed away from guardianship. Alice discussed the court visitor pilot project.

**Open Meetings Act Resolution – Action Item**

Katie suggested adding a specific individual to the agency contact. Sandra suggested adding a phone number and leaving the agency name. The resolution is amended to remove “Planning” from the agency name and to add a phone number to the agency contact in section VII. Jennifer Sanchez moves to accept the resolution as amended, seconded by Katie Stone. Motion passes unanimously.

**Office of Special Education Ombud Report – Michelle Tregembo & Alice Liu McCoy**

Michelle Tregembo presented on the structure of the OSEO team, OSEO services, data, and constituent feedback. At 2:10, Joel Davis exited the meeting, and Jennifer Sanchez assumed the duties of the Chair.

**Break**

The Council paused for a break from 2:18 to 2:30PM.

**Office of Special Education Ombud Report – Dr. Margaret Cage**

Margaret Cage, New Mexico Special Education Director for the Public Education Department, presented an update on the Office of Special Education and discussed special education data in New Mexico and OSE's state plan. Selma Ramos Nevarez asked why parent feedback meetings were not being conducted in Las Cruces or Gadsden school districts. Dr. Cage answered that the quadrant's meeting would be held in Ruidoso and that the IDEA panel was held in Las Cruces a month ago. Melanie Buenviaje asked how PED determines which districts get in-person audits and which ones are allowed to self report. Dr. Cage answered that it depends on the performance of students with disabilities, compliance with federal indicators, budget spending, and corrective action plan history. Katie asked whether PED's parent community liaison recommends OSEO services. Dr. Cage answered that the liaison first works with the district to resolve quickly, and if further advocacy services are needed, they reach out to OSEO.

**Supported Decision Making – Daniel Ekman & Alice Liu McCoy**

Daniel Ekman presented on supported decision making, and Alice presented on DDC's SDM projects.

**Council Chair & Executive Director Report – Joel Davis & Alice Liu McCoy**

No further reports for the Chair or Executive Director.

**Member Announcements**

Pat Osbourn announced that UNM-CDD received pilot funding for a crisis intervention program for ages six and up. Melanie Buenviaje provided a link about the Medicaid Turquoise Care program. Amelia-Ann Dickey announced that she will be giving a presentation at the Self-Advocacy Summit on Customized Supported Employment.

**Adjourn**

The next meeting will be held in August 2024. Motion to adjourn was made by Gary Housepian and seconded by Elisheva Levin. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM.