

Draft
Governor's Council on Blindness and Visual Impairment (GCBVI)
Full Council Meeting Minutes
July 20, 2018

Members Present

Amy Porterfield*
Bob Kresmer*
Ted Chittenden
Dan Martinez
Donald Porterfield*
Mike Gordon*
Jim LaMay
Nathan Pullen
George Martinez
Rich Sorey
Allan Curry*
Sharonda White
Nikki Jeffords

Members Absent

Ed Gervasoni
Janet Fisher
Annette Reichman
Mike Kanitsch
Bea Shapiro

Staff Present

Lindsey Powers, Council Liaison
Teleconferenced*

Guests Present

Kristen Mackey
Milly Martinez
Janet Fukuda*
Lisa Yencarelli*
Terell Welch

Call to Order and Introductions

Bob Kresmer, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m. at the RSA Video Conference Rooms located in Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona. Introductions were made, a quorum was present, and the procedural meeting rules were explained.

Approval of May 18, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Nikki Jeffords moved to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2018 GCBVI Full Council meeting as written. Ted Chittenden seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by majority voice vote.

GCBVI Chairperson's Report

Dan Martinez stated there were some changes to the Open Meeting Law which require implementation by August 3, 2018. Dan Martinez stated that the meeting minutes for public bodies would be required to include a record of how each individual member voted, as well as the name of any board members who puts forward a motion at the meeting. The names of anyone who spoke or made a presentation at the public meeting must also be identified in the minutes. The legal definition of "meeting" had been expanded to include email exchanges when a quorum of the body is involved in email communication. The Attorney General's Office was given the authority to prosecute individual members of a body who knowingly violate Open Meeting Law provisions and the fines for Open Meeting Law violations also increased based on the number of prior violations. Nikki Jeffords inquired whether committees would be required to adhere to the same rules. Dan Martinez stated all committees would be required to adhere to Open Meeting Law rules. Kristen Mackey stated that DES hired an Open Meeting Law Coordinator, who was monitoring that the laws were followed. Nathan Pullen inquired regarding the definition of a "quorum" of members. Dan Martinez stated that a quorum consisted of half of the committee members plus one.

RSA Administrator's Report

Kristen Mackey reviewed some of the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) successful statistics for the previous year (**Note: Attachment A**). Kristen Mackey stated RSA was shifting from reporting statistics from a Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) to a State Fiscal Year (SFY), or a Program Year under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Kristen Mackey stated RSA was successful in reducing the Order of Selection (OOS) Wait List numbers from over 4,000 to 1,594 individuals. Ms. Mackey stated RSA would continue to monitor the service costs for the individuals removed from Priority Two and how it impacted the overall budget. Kristen Mackey stated that RSA would remove 100 individuals from the wait list in August. She added that RSA was currently serving individuals that applied for services in March of 2015. Kristen Mackey stated RSA continued to improve getting clients into an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) from application sooner. Kristen Mackey stated at the end of FFY 2017, clients were placed into an IEP in 101 days, and clients were currently placed into a plan in 73.4 days. Kristen Mackey stated the average number of days from application to eligibility had decreased slightly from 37.9 days to 37.5 days, which was approximately half of the required 60 days.

Kristen Mackey stated RSA received 10,275 referrals and 6,894 of those referrals moved to application. Kristen Mackey inquired how RSA could distribute the message to the referral sources regarding the purpose of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR). Kristen Mackey stated that audiologists and ophthalmologists would often refer individuals to VR to obtain new hearing aids or glasses and were not interested in an employment outcome. Nikki Jeffords inquired whether individuals attended the VR orientation and chose not to apply for services once they learned about the purpose of the VR program. Kristen Mackey confirmed and noted that many individuals applied for VR services without the knowledge of the services that VR provided. She added that RSA had implemented a mandatory orientation that individuals could attend online or in a group to reduce the number of applications from individuals that were not interested in VR services. Amy Porterfield inquired whether RSA had reviewed the referral information according to population. Kristen Mackey stated that RSA experienced more referrals from the audiologists and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHOH) population compared to the blind and visually impaired population. Kristen Mackey stated that staff would begin coding the sources of the referrals to obtain more information regarding the referrals. Ted Chittenden stated the council could consider modifying the RSA description included in the EyeKnow.AZ database. Kristen Mackey stated she would welcome any feedback from council members regarding the information included on the RSA website as well. Nikki Jeffords stated RSA could potentially distribute a survey at the end of the orientations to identify the individuals that were interested in VR services. Bob Kresmer inquired whether individuals in rural areas were able to participate in the orientations. Kristen Mackey stated that individuals could participate online or over the phone.

Kristen Mackey stated the average number of days in the VR program was 897 days. Ms. Mackey stated the Sunset Audit indicated that clients were in the VR program too long and there had been a slight reduction in those numbers. Kristen Mackey stated RSA was currently reviewing processes that could be reduced, although the agency would not hinder any client services. Kristen Mackey stated the average hourly wage was \$12.53 and 1,574 client cases had closed with employment. Kristen Mackey stated in October, she requested that each office identify and track the number of client case closures required to meet the overall goal. Kristen Mackey stated 10 offices met the goal, and 2 offices exceeded the goal. Bob Kresmer inquired regarding the total number of offices. Kristen Mackey stated there were 42 offices.

Kristen Mackey stated the Division of Employment and Rehabilitation Services (DERS) was in the process of developing the Strategic Plan for the next SFY. Ms. Mackey stated that RSA would continue to remove individuals

from the wait list and report the successful employment outcomes. Kristen Mackey stated that RSA would begin addressing individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ID) and Developmental Disabilities (DD), which would potentially increase due to the subminimum wage requirements in WIOA. Ted Chittenden inquired whether RSA's funding would decrease, which would impact the agency's ability to remove individuals from the wait list. Kristen Mackey stated that the state funding would continue to be the same and there was a slight increase in federal funding, although there had been a significant decrease in the Supported Employment grant funds. Kristen Mackey stated 15% of funds were allocated to Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS), therefore RSA was operating on 85% of the budget to serve the remaining population. Kristen Mackey stated RSA placed approximately 10 individuals on the wait list each month and the agency continued to review the budget monthly. Amy Porterfield stated the council would benefit from learning the types of services that qualified as Pre-ETS services. Kristen Mackey stated the Pre-ETS services contract was a pilot, in which approximately 113 clients were enrolled. Ms. Mackey stated as RSA received the data, the agency might modify the services. Kristen Mackey stated during the federal monitoring visit, RSA indicated that the agency was not providing any new services, therefore the agency could not count those services towards Pre-ETS. Amy Porterfield inquired whether the council could receive a presentation on Pre-ETS to clarify the definition of Pre-ETS. Kristen Mackey stated she could share some of the Pre-ETS information provided by WINTAC. Dan Martinez inquired regarding RSA's progress towards reducing client case costs. Kristen Mackey stated RSA had reduced client case costs 10% month over month. She added that staff were encouraged to review client cases and to close cases that were not moving forward. Nikki Jeffords inquired regarding the increments that were considered high case costs. Kristen Mackey stated that services required supervisor approval at \$10,000, and every ten thousand after would go to the next manager. Nikki Jeffords inquired whether Kristen Mackey anticipated any delays in services. Kristen Mackey stated she did not anticipate any delays and noted the agency underwent training to ensure that the IPE costs aligned with the actual expenditure costs. Ms. Mackey stated that counselors were previously able to authorize services that exceeded the IPE costs. Bob Kresmer inquired whether RSA received the Federal Monitoring Report. Kristen Mackey stated she had not received information regarding when the report would be forthcoming. Amy Porterfield inquired regarding the level that funds were decommitted. Kristen Mackey stated each office monitored the funds monthly and quarterly and would decommit funds as necessary. Ms. Porterfield inquired whether there were any new supervisory approval processes. Kristen Mackey stated there were no new supervisory approval processes other than the approval for services over \$10,000. Ted Chittenden inquired whether

any client services were reduced to keep the client services under \$10,000. Kristen Mackey stated that no services had been dropped and noted that counselors had been educated regarding the average services costs. Ms. Mackey stated RSA also defined residential housing and travel costs as well as encouraged individuals to attend community colleges prior to universities to reduce client costs.

Bob Kresmer inquired regarding the progress towards the implementation of a third-party contract with vendors. Kristen Mackey stated the Managed Service Provider contract was in the Procurement process and she anticipated that she would be able to provide more information in September or October. Nikki Jeffords stated that as prices increased, she was concerned regarding the supervisor approval for services over \$10,000. Kristen Mackey stated that other national partners of RSA required supervisor approval at \$3,000 or \$5,000. Kristen Mackey added the case management system, Libera, did not separate services according to the population, and noted that RSA preferred that general population case costs should be under \$10,000. Kristen Mackey stated if 80% of the VR case costs were under \$10,000, RSA would not have a wait list. Mike Gordon inquired regarding how the Pre-ETS pilot program would account for the 15% of required Pre-ETS services. Kristen Mackey stated the Pre-ETS contract was not the only program that would count towards the 15% of Pre-ETS services. She noted that staff time and travel, one-on-one time would count towards the Pre-ETS as well. Kristen Mackey stated the Pre-ETS pilot would last for three years and could be modified as needed.

SBVID Program Manager Report

Rich Sorey stated there was a broad interpretation of Pre-ETS and the blind agencies would need to identify how to expend those services. Rich Sorey stated there were some client cases that were not moving forward, and RSA staff were tasked with reviewing those cases. Mr. Sorey stated individuals could be placed on hold if necessary or closed. Rich Sorey stated some cases were stuck and the supervisors would triage those cases to begin moving forward. Rich Sorey stated some high cost cases had not closed but were moving forward and counselors were encouraged to remain in contact with those clients.

Amy Porterfield inquired regarding the status of her request for Independent Living Blind (ILB) statistics. Rich Sorey stated he would forward the information to Amy Porterfield. Bob Kresmer inquired regarding the current Services for the Blind Visually Impaired and Deaf (SBVID) staff vacancies. Rich Sorey stated there was a staff vacancy in Tucson and one vacancy in Phoenix. Mr. Sorey stated SBVID had hired additional staff, whom would

need to be trained. Bob Kresmer inquired whether RSA had implemented formal training for counselors. Rich Sorey stated RSA offered training from Mississippi State on counseling skills, customer services, interacting with individuals, travel skills and adjustment to disability. Rich Sorey stated he would forward the training materials to the council members. Rich Sorey stated he received good feedback from the training. Bob Kresmer inquired whether one of the ILB management positions would be filled. Rich Sorey stated SBVID did not need an Assistant Program Manager position but did not teacher positions. He noted that he wanted to allocate those funds to an increase in teacher salaries.

Nikki Jeffords stated she was recently hired as a Research Associate III at Mississippi State University and her working title was Rehabilitation Training and Outreach Specialist. Nikki Jeffords stated the mission was to enhance the employment and IL training through research training and education. Nikki Jeffords stated there were about 20 courses available online, which were a great opportunity for individuals seeking Continuing Education Units (CEU)s. Nikki Jeffords stated the university also maintained a research database of blind and visually impaired individuals, parents and employers for research projects. Nikki Jeffords stated the university also had a quarterly newsletter for interested individuals. Ms. Jeffords stated for more information, individuals could visit <https://www.ntac.blind.msstate.edu/>

Rich Sorey stated he believed there was enough supported documentation that would support BEP's priority on a contract with Luke Air Force Base. Mr. Sorey stated RSA would provide another training in August and would provide more education on the documentation process. Rich Sorey stated all counselors struggled with Libera, although the blind and visually impaired counselors experienced more challenges, which added to timeliness. Rich Sorey stated all DES employees were required to complete Annual Security Tests, which were not accessible online. He noted that he elevated the issue as a discrimination complaint to DES. Ted Chittenden inquired whether RSA was considering using a different case management system. Kristen Mackey stated RSA explored the case management system, Salesforce, although the company indicated that RSA's needs were too complicated. Mr. Mackey noted that RSA was considering using Aware or continuing to use Libera. Kristen Mackey stated RSA had an agreement with Libera through 2021. Jim LaMay inquired whether Procurement realized the need for accessibility features within the contracts. Kristen Mackey stated that ProcureAZ was managed by the ADOA, although DES had realized the need for accessibility. Mike Gordon stated that authorization had an ending date of August 14, and all individuals would need new authorizations. Mr. Gordon noted that the CRP meeting had been rescheduled for August 30, and he inquired whether Rich Sorey had any additional information. Rich Sorey stated RSA would

extend the contracts for six months. Kristen Mackey stated that Libera would not allow the entry of a date past the contract end date, although RSA planned to extend contracts for six months. Kristen Mackey stated she hoped that Procurement would move the extension through quickly, which would allow counselors to reauthorize any extended services.

BEP Program Update

Nathan Pullen stated the Business Enterprise Program (BEP) was able to extend an offer to a Repair Technician who had accepted the offer and would begin soon. Nathan Pullen stated three individuals completed the BEP training, in which one individual received a license, one individual did not receive a license, and one individual would return for more training. Mr. Pullen stated BEP anticipated holding another training class and continued to work with counselors on pre-screening potential operators. Nathan Pullen stated BEP completed the installation of approximately 30 new vending sites in addition to new sites with the city of Yuma and Surprise. He added that BEP would install equipment for a new Starbucks coffee shop in the Scottsdale Civic Center Library, which would be incorporated into the Scottsdale vending route. Nathan Pullen stated a new Pinal County vending route had been developed as well as a new northern Arizona vending route. Nathan Pullen stated the Arizona Participating Operators Committee (APOC) meeting would be held on July 30, 2018 at Ability 360 and council members were welcome to attend. Nathan Pullen stated that he and BEP operators attended the National Association of Blind Merchants Fly-In and were able to obtain training and discuss budget approvals for equipment purchases. Nathan Pullen stated BEP submitted an annual budget outlining all equipment purchases to continue operating. He added that he was able to visit with five Legislatures to discuss BEP and some of the challenges related to military dining services, as well as the ability to operate at highway rest stops. Nathan Pullen stated he forwarded letters to all the local Legislatures and offered vending services to those offices.

Nathan Pullen stated BEP was not selected to provide dining services to a west coast marine base. Nathan Pullen stated BEP was tentatively planning to protest whether the awarded company was appropriate. Nathan Pullen stated Luke Air Force Base provided a solicitation for dining services and indicated the agency would go through Ability One and not adhere to the Randolph Sheppard Act. He noted that BEP requested the opportunity to survey the site and determine whether the Randolph Sheppard Act applied, although Luke Air Force had not responded. Nathan Pullen stated he distributed a letter to all military sites in the state and reiterated the definition of the Randolph Sheppard Act. Nathan Pullen stated he received a response from individuals from Luke Air Force Base, who submitted a Scope

of Work (SOW), which included some delineation of food service and dining services. Nathan Pullen stated that BEP felt the Randolph Sheppard Act would apply, and therefore developed a position paper that he submitted to Rich Sorey and Kristen Mackey. Nathan Pullen stated that RSA supported the letter, although the Department of Economic Security (DES) management was not in support. Nathan Pullen stated that APOC and other consumer groups would likely contact DES leadership regarding that letter. Amy Porterfield inquired regarding who in DES leadership opposed the letter. Kristen Mackey stated she would follow up with Lynn Larson regarding the status of Nathan Pullen's position paper. Amy Porterfield inquired whether BEP received an Attorney General (AG) opinion regarding BEP's authority under the Randolph Sheppard Act for dining services at Luke Air Force Base. Mr. Pullen stated he received an informal opinion from the AG, although he would need a written letter from a state Legislature requesting an AG opinion. Donald Porterfield inquired whether council members could request that one or more Legislatures request an official AG opinion. Nathan Pullen stated that Legislative members had the authority to request an official AG opinion. Mr. Pullen noted that if the contract with Luke Air Force Base was placed on the Procurement list with Ability One, the contract would never come off the list. Amy Porterfield stated that consumer groups would likely act regarding the BEP contract and would benefit from any clarifying information from RSA/DERS. Nikki Jeffords inquired regarding the contract for Luke Air Force Base. Nathan Pullen stated the contract would include a cafeteria with cooking and food services. Nathan Pullen stated the facility was not large, although the contract would be worth approximately 1 million a year.

Dan Martinez inquired whether Scottsdale had contacted BEP regarding the new coffee shop. Nathan Pullen stated that BEP was already providing vending services in Scottsdale, and the city contacted him requesting that BEP provide a coffee shop as well. Dan Martinez inquired regarding the minimum amount that would support an operator. Nathan Pullen stated the minimum amount to offer a viable income was \$25,000, although he tried to maintain an income of \$35,000 for operators. Nikki Jeffords suggested the council make a motion to request a copy of Nathan Pullen's position paper. Amy Porterfield stated the council did not need to make a motion, and she would make the request to RSA. Kristen Mackey stated she would go through the appropriate supervisory channels and follow up with the council's request. Nathan Pullen clarified that he wrote the position paper based on information available to him and was not based on the position of DES. Dan Martinez inquired whether BEP had developed a minimum standard for the required skills necessary for operators. Nathan Pullen stated he had not defined an "ideal candidate" although BEP had identified the minimum requirements such as reading, writing, Orientation and

Mobility, and computer skills. He added that he preferred individuals with prior work experience whom tended to be more successful. Nathan Pullen stated APOC would discuss opportunities to work with VR clients and offer clients experience working in BEP sites. Nathan Pullen stated BEP was considering an aptitude test like the online aptitude test required through the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA).

ASDB Report

Lisa Yencarelli stated Annette Reichman, Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and Blind (ASDB) Superintendent, provided some presentations regarding ASDB's initiatives. Ms. Yencarelli stated she would provide a condensed version of that presentation. Lisa Yencarelli stated ASDB was working on obtaining an Advanced Education Accreditation for the agency. Lisa Yencarelli stated ASDB was developing a Strategic Plan, which included the operating principles: Act; accountability, C; collaboration, Transparency. Lisa Yencarelli stated ASDB had developed a Leadership Academy, where all the leadership received training. She stated that ASDB was creating an agency profile, which would include all information from the regional co-operatives, the different campuses, and any periphery services offered. Lisa Yencarelli stated the next initiative was the Early Childhood and Family Education Program. Lisa Yencarelli stated in 2011 ASDB served 257 families with 17 teachers and provided an average of 4 home visits per month. Lisa Yencarelli stated in 2017, ASDB served 457 families with 17 teachers and provided an average of 2 home visits per month. Lisa Yencarelli stated ASDB also reviewed outcomes of the students that gained age appropriate skills. She noted in 2010, the outcomes the agency reviewed were Social-Emotional Skills, in which 86% of students were at an age appropriate level. Lisa Yencarelli stated in 2017, 47% of students were at an age appropriate level. Lisa Yencarelli stated in 2010, 71% of students had age appropriate cognitive levels, and in 2017, 39% had age appropriate levels. Lisa Yencarelli stated in 2010, 52% of students had age appropriate communication skills and in 2017, 35% of students had age appropriate skills. Lisa Yencarelli stated ASDB proposed that an increase in funding and teachers would increase the outcome levels. Lisa Yencarelli stated ASDB had proposed that the agency would hire 21 new teachers, and the agency had hired 11 thus far.

Lisa Yencarelli stated the third initiative was school improvement. Ms. Yencarelli stated ASDB students were identified as being in the lowest 5% of Title One students based on the AZ Merit test scores. Lisa Yencarelli stated ASDB would receive additional funding to increase outcomes of students. Lisa Yencarelli stated some of the reasons for the low performance was the lack of data on what the students were learning, not having a formal

curriculum, and the agency did not have data that included the time spent on instruction. Lisa Yencarelli stated ASDB selected a curriculum of English Language Arts, which would be implemented this year, and Math and Science would be implemented the subsequent years. Lisa Yencarelli stated the agency was able to select a behavioral program, in which ASDB chose Love and Logic. She added that ASDB chose a software, School by Design, which would track instruction. Lisa Yencarelli stated the fourth initiative dealt with the regional co-operatives. Lisa Yencarelli stated in 2018, 44 students enrolled in ASDB, 112 students in the School for the Deaf, 315 students in the Phoenix Day School for the Deaf, 410 students in the Early Childhood and Education Program and 1,196 students in the five regional co-operatives. Lisa Yencarelli stated the ASDB began a program where four school districts in northern Arizona bussed the students to the Humboldt school district where the teachers and students were in one district. Lisa Yencarelli stated the fifth initiative was a Space Utilization Study, where ASDB was considering closing buildings or offering space for rent. Dan Martinez inquired regarding the Love and Logic program. Lisa Yencarelli stated the program trained staff to use non-punitive discipline and to focus on positive processes. George Martinez inquired regarding the approximate time of the teacher home visits. Lisa Yencarelli stated the time would depend on the child, although the approximate time was 1-2 hours. Bob Kresmer stated during the presentation, Annette Reichman broke down the number of dormitory students and inquired whether Lisa Yencarelli had those numbers. Lisa Yencarelli stated she did not have the exact numbers, although the number of dormitory students was approximately 45 students. Bob Kresmer stated that Ms. Reichman also included the cost per year for the residential program. Lisa Yencarelli stated the residential program cost was approximately 1.5 million and the ASDB Board asked the agency to consider closing the residential program.

GCBVI Committee Reports

Employment

Nikki Jeffords stated she submitted the Employment Committee's report for inclusion in the GCBVI Annual Report. Ms. Jeffords stated the four items included in the report were: the committee's presentation at the Governor's Summit on Civic Engagement and Volunteerism, the creation of the E75 video, the E75 Diversity Builder Award Lunch, and the Business Partners breakfast with Kirk Adams. Nikki Jeffords stated she had stepped down as the Chair of the Committee and Nathan Pullen had agreed to assume the responsibility. Nikki Jeffords stated the committee planned to offer a Job Symposium at the upcoming National Federation of the Blind of Arizona (NFBA) State Convention and had discussed holding a Reverse Job Fair at

the Vision Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Expo (VRATE). Dan Martinez thanked Nikki Jeffords for all her good work with the committee and in building relationships with businesses.

Nikki Jeffords added that VRATE was scheduled for November 16, 2018 at the Glendale Civic Center. Ms. Jeffords stated the AT Committee would provide two one-hour presentations at VRATE.

Public Information

Ted Chittenden reviewed the status of the Public Information Committee's goals included in the GCBVI Annual Report:

Implementation of an ongoing Employer Education campaign: Ted Chittenden stated the committee developed rack cards and would partner with the Employment Committee to identify the effectiveness of the cards.

Under 55 and ILB funding is established and sustained: Ted Chittenden stated the committee would work with the Legislative Committee on this task

Public service agencies receive regular feedback regarding accessibility: Ted Chittenden stated the committee looked forward to working on this task.

GCBVI is recognized as a critical council as equal to that of the SRC: Ted Chittenden stated the committee would partner with the Executive Committee on this task.

GCBVI is recognized as an information and referral resource for both consumers, and agencies that serve blind consumers. Public awareness of the GCBVI is raised and positive outcomes are common knowledge: Ted Chittenden stated both outcomes require that committee members provide public outreach. Mr. Chittenden stated that committee members had attended the Lion's Club Conference and the Arizona Technology and Access Program (AzTAP) Conference thus far.

The EyeKnow.AZ includes and accessibility resource page: Ted Chittenden stated the committee partnered with the Assistive Technology (AT) Committee and had developed an accessibility page on the website.

Ted Chittenden stated the Public Information Committee was developing the GCBVI Annual Report and he had not received reports from the Legislative or Independent Living (IL) Committee and he requested that all reports be submitted prior to August 21. Ted Chittenden stated the committee had also

requested client success stories from the Foundation for Blind Children (FBC) and the SAAVI Services for the Blind.

Ted Chittenden reviewed the EyeKnow.AZ database statistics:

June 1 – 30, 2018

Number of sessions (visits) 274

Number of individuals visiting website 237

Pages viewed per visit 4.42

Time spent visiting the database (minutes) 2:36

New visitors 91%

Returning Users 9%

May 1 – 31, 2018

Number of sessions (visits) 179

Number of individuals visiting website 147

Pages viewed per visit 3.55

Time spent visiting the database (minutes) 1:59

New visitors 85%

Returning Users 15%

Dan Martinez stated he had developed brief biographies on some of the council members and included pictures. Dan Martinez stated he would forward the biographies to the council members for modifications and request biographies from the remaining council members.

Assistive Technology (AT)

Sharonda White stated the AT Committee continued to partner with the Public Information Committee on suggested changes to the EyeKnow.AZ website. Sharonda White stated she was excited to welcome Janet Fukuda as the newest member of the committee.

Education

Bob Kresmer stated the Education Committee continued to meet regularly. Mr. Kresmer stated the committee invited representatives from the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) to attend and discuss how the committee could gather how blind, visually impaired and deaf-blind students test scores compared to their sighted peers. Bob Kresmer stated the committee experienced challenges in obtaining the information from the ADE. Janet Fukuda clarified that the ADE did not own the student test score information, and the school districts were responsible for that information.

Ex-Oficio Member and Blindness Community Organization Updates

Arizona Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ACBVI)

Jim LaMay stated ACBVI offered a boat cruise at Lake Pleasant on June 30, 2018, which was well attended, and the agency would consider additional recreational activities. Jim LaMay stated ACBVI would hold their Annual Raffle Dinner Dance from 6:00-9:00 pm and the theme was a Hawaiian Luau. Jim LaMay stated the agency would select a consultant to develop an agency Strategic Plan.

Arizona Council of the Blind (AzCB)

Ted Chittenden stated he would follow up with the AzCB regarding the council's resolutions and would share with the council.

National Federation of the Blind (NFB)

Donald Porterfield stated the NFB National Conference was successful and 87 members attended as well as 37 first time attendees. Donald Porterfield stated NFB was aggressively advocating with Legislatives regarding HR 620, and to protect the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Mr. Porterfield stated the NFBA State Conference was scheduled for August 30-September 2, 2018 at the Hyatt Regency in Phoenix. Donald Porterfield stated Sharonda White was experiencing difficulties with the website, and the NFBA hoped to get the registration posted on the website soon. Nikki Jeffords stated that Amy Porterfield was elected as the President of the Rehabilitation Professionals Division of the NFB.

SAAVI Services for the Blind

Mike Gordon stated 18 individuals participated in the summer BELL Academy in Tucson and 16 individuals were participating in the Phoenix campus. Mike Gordon noted the Ready Set Go program would be ending soon. Mr. Gordon stated participants were able to gain work experience in interpreting, IT, local radio stations, church, and a surgical center.

Agenda Items and Date for Next Meeting

The next meeting of the GCBVI Full Council will be on September 21, 2018 from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm. in the Video Conference Room, at 515 N. 51st Avenue, Phoenix, AZ.

- Pre-ETS Presentation

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Call to the Public

A call to the public was made with no response forthcoming.

Adjournment of Meeting

Ted Chittenden moved to adjourn the meeting. Sharonda White seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 pm.

As of June 30, 2018:

The total number of individuals in the VR program was 1,074
The total number of Veterans in VR Program was 40
The total number of individuals in the OOS was 90
The total number of individuals in Priority Two was 66
The total number of individuals in Priority Three was 24
The number of VR applications was 197
The average number of days from application to eligibility was 47.3
The median number of days application to eligibility was 41
The eligibility determination compliance within 60 days was 88.8%
The number of new plans written was 234
The average number of days from eligibility to IPE implementation was 75.4
The median number of days from eligibility to IPE implementation was 65
The IPE implementation compliance within 90 days was 84.7%
The highest hourly wage of successful employment outcomes was \$62.50
The average hourly wage of successful employment outcomes was \$10.00
The number of clients placed was 61
The number of clients closed successfully was 41

As of June 30, 2018, the Deaf Blind Population statistics:

The total number of individuals in the VR program was 41
The total number of Veterans in VR program was 1
The total number of individuals in the OOS was 0
The total number of individuals in Priority Two was 0
The total number of individuals in Priority Three was 0
The number of VR applications was 33
The number of new plans written was 39
The IPE Implementation Compliance within 90 days was 100%
The highest hourly wage of successful employment outcomes was \$26.44
The average hourly wage of successful employment outcomes was \$26.44
The number of clients placed was 4
The number of clients closed successfully was 1