

State Rehabilitation Council
Quarterly Meeting
August 17, 2018
Western NM University
501-599 E 18th St
Silver City, NM
Watts Hall Room 217
Phone: Main Office 575-574-5101
Quarterly Meeting: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm



SRC Quarterly Meeting

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 9:15 am

Members Present:

Bernadine Chavez
Hermila Ortega
Rebecca Holland
Guy Surdi
Tracy Agiovlasis
Sandy Sandoval
Paula Seanez

Member(s) Absent

Yolanda Montoya-Cordova

Guests Present:

Andrea Leon

DVR Staff Introduction

Adrian Apodaca, Director DVR
Kathy Abernathy, Field Operations Specialist Supervisor, DVR

II. Action Items

A. Approval of Agenda

Paula Seanez made motion to approve Guy Surdi 2nd all in favor.

B. Approval of Minutes –May 18, 2017

Correction to Sandy's name spelling, add Paula as an absent SRC member and remove titles of SRC members. Tracy Agiovlasis made motion to approve as amended Guy Surdi 2nd the motion. All in favor.

Rebecca made request to the SRC to respond to Kathy timely to allow enough time to make any requested changes.

Bernadine stated Per the Open Meetings Act that the meeting minutes from the previous meeting have to be approved at the following SRC Meeting.

C. Approval of the Bylaws

Sandy made motion Guy 2nd, all in favor. Revised date 8/17/18

Rebecca requested that Bernadine and Adrian sign the signature page of the bylaws and send to Kathy. Kathy will submit for public record posting and submit a copy to Rebecca.

D. Approval of Survey Instruments

Discussion and recommendations were made to make changes to the questions. Paula made motion to table and referred back to the committee for finalization Rebecca 2nd the motion. All in favor.
Bernadine stated that due to the time frames changes and updates to the survey questions would not be referred back to the council for approval.

E. Approval of Survey/Assessment Contractor/ Bids (If Available)

No bids available as DVR was awaiting responses from those contacted. Paula made motion to table approval on contractor bids and refer back to Executive Committee for approval. Sandy 2nd, all in favor

III. 121 report – Paula and Rebecca

Paula reported that the CANAR Annual Conference, (Consortia of Administrators in Native American Rehabilitation) which is similar to CSAVR, is a provider and advocate for the Native American Rehab and will be having its Annual Conference in Scottsdale AZ. In addition, the conference will provide training on leadership for Tribal VR programs.

Paula also reported that she is officially the Director of the Navajo TVR and that her old position that is based in Window Rock is being advertised in addition to two counselor positions.

Rebecca stated that at the CANAR Mid-Year Conference held in June she and Paula presented on managing Tribal and VR Programs. Rebecca reported that SILC would be holding public hearing forums around the state for the SPIL, the State plan for independent living. Already scheduled locations are Farmington, Roswell, Jemez Pueblo and Las Cruces. Albuquerque and Santa Fe have not been scheduled yet.

Rebecca reported that Petra Solomon had submitted paperwork for SILC and SRC and requested that Bernadine stay on top of the progress for the SRC appointment.

Rebecca reported that she met with the Project Search Director in regard to bringing Project Search to the Jemez Pueblo. They are scheduled to have another meeting in October. The goal is to launch Project Search in the Fall of 2019 for students with disabilities in that area.

Rebecca stated that she would like to see State DVR and or SRC members attend the annual CANAR Conference in Scottsdale, AZ to see what it is like to be in that atmosphere and to go as support of the NM TVR programs.

Jemez VR is holding a stakeholder meeting for their upcoming Program evaluation and invites have been sent for SRC and DVR members to attend. Rebecca thanked Tracy and Guy for attending the Youth Transition Conference.

IV. Director’s Report –Adrian Apodaca, Executive Director, DVR

Adrian reported on and provided reports

- A. Budget
- B. IT
- C. MOU’s

Adrian state that there be more to and continued updates would be made regularly. In addition, to reformatting the spreadsheet to reflect correct information for each identified inconsistency.

- D. Pre-ETS End of FY

Adrian also reported that under Order of Selection (OOS) he recently had to shut down two Disability categories. At this time DVR is only providing services to existing Participants that are already in an IPE and new Participants categorized as Most Significantly Disable MSD due to budget restraints.

Total Budget: 21.5 million -8.5 to personnel, -5. For buildings, - 3.2 for Pre-Ets leaving 5-7 million to serve the general public.

Adrian stated that it is unclear at this time whether DVR will receive its \$550K match due to PED losing a major lawsuit concerning disability and service in their schools. PED said that the general fund appropriation is frozen.

Adrian stated worst-case scenario is that the two categories may stay closed permanently if DVR does not get the 500K. Best is that if DVR does receive the match he will initiate a continuous cycle of opening and closing the two closed categories, providing service to 100-200 participants per cycle.

Adrian also stated that he does not see DVR opening the Non-Significant Disabled (NSD) category again or in the near future.

Adrian explained that Participants were notified of OOS, the shutdown of categories and were provided a list of other resources.

Rebecca stated that they could be a resource for some of these Participants.

V. **SRC Chairperson's Report – Bernadine Chavez**

A. Membership-Current Status

Bernadine Chavez reported that she and Sandy met to work on survey questions for the Stockholders meeting on 9/25/18 located at Adelante from 10am to 12pm.

Rebecca requested to see the questions before the meeting.

Bernadine discussed the SRC Orientation agenda, date, and location:

***New Mexico Commission for the Blind – SRC
New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation – SRC
September 18, 2018 – 9:00am
The Skills Center – Commission for the Blind
2200 Yale Blvd. SE, Albuquerque, NM 87106 - [Phone: \(505\) 841-8844](tel:5058418844)***

Approval of Agenda – Each Council

Approval of minutes for previous meeting – Each council

WIOA/Legal basis for SRC – Greg Trapp CFB, Adrian Apodaca NMDVR

Membership, roles and mandated activities of the SRC –

Tom O'Brian/ Bernadine Chavez

Open Meetings Act/Governmental Conduct Act – Greg Trapp

Per diem Act – Eileen Marrujo NMDVR

Bernadine requested contact information from the SRC members be given to Kathy if they were willing to provide it.

Bernadine asked Adrian for designation of VR staff for the program and the administrative for SRC support. Stating that one person should be the designated

person to help with surveys, reports and memberships. Bernadine stated that she was not going to delegate this to her staff, as this was not their role.

Adrian responded no. Saying that Surveys and membership was not his staff's responsibility either.

Rebecca recommended looking at the Federal Regulations as DVR and SRC are a partnership.

Bernadine stated that she does not have time to walk new members through the process or follow up.

Adrian stated that his staff does not have time either.

Rebecca recommended a review of the SRC budget to see if maybe a part time coordinator could assist. Therefore, removing that load from the DVR Liaison.

Sandy stated that he thought the SRC Liaison essential functions should be rated and held accountable.

Sandy asked Adrian what he was going to provide in that capacity as Joe had previously stated there would be a DVR staff specifically designated to provide SRC support.

Adrian stated that there has not been an SRC Liaison job for years. He also stated that the person that is the designated to be the DVR SRC Liaison is Paulette, his Admin. and the SRC does not want her. Some members agreed with Adrian's statement. Adrian requested a list of all the things SRC wanted support with and stated there are some things that he does not agree with.

Sandy stated we could negotiate if we can get that list.

Bernadine stated that there has been improvement but they still do not have a full counsel.

Rebecca stated that a list of things be put together, a simple job description for the liaison as it was not fair to Kathy to not know, and present to Adrian.

Tracy stated that being a new SRC member and this being only her 2nd meeting she felt like things have vastly improved.

Rebecca agreed 100%.

Bernadine stated that she would see when she has time to get something together.

Bernadine requested again that Sandy attend the CSAVR in Long Beach on October 27th and 28th.

Adrian agreed to send Sandy.

Bernadine also requested that Kathy attend the same meeting stated that it would be good as it focuses on the roles of the SRC.

Adrian stated that he would try but it requires PED approval and was not sure that they would approve.

Bernadine stated that two folks needed to be assigned to be Chair and Vice Chair and elections to be made at the next SRC meeting in December. Requesting volunteers to solicit nominations and selections.

Rebecca asked if a committee is required or could it be decided as a group.

Paula asked, rather than a committee could we just ask Bernadine and Sandy to consider staying on and put on the agenda.

Bernadine stated that her and /Sandy would talk about that.

Andrea recommended open dialogue of continuous improvement after every meeting to address what worked and what didn't work and use some continuous improvement pieces to build into the agenda. In addition, a state planning retreat to work on proportioning, re-visit rules, decisions and types of communications.

VI. Presentation WNMU – Dr. Benjamin Jenkins, Professor and Director of the Rehab Services Program at WNMU

Mr. Jenkins presented on Rehabilitation Services Online Bachelor of Applied Sciences program. Endless options, Rehabilitation Service Graduate in Demand, Getting Started and Why online Rehabilitation Services at WNMU. He also presented on the Community Health Worker Program. Information and brochures were handed out to SRC/DVR.

VII. DVR Staff Update

A. Silver City Staff Introductions

No DVR Staff in attendance

VIII. Old Business

A. Discussion of annual report and process

Committee for the SRC annual report will be Sandy Sandoval, Guy Surdi, Tracy Agiovlasis, Hermilla Ortega, Bernadine Chavez and Kathy Abernathy

Sandy stated that the report is due December 31, 2018 so there is four months to get this done. Will be using the same format as last year.

Rebecca requested that DVR/Adrian send the pictures from the SRC Awards presentation be sent to Sandy so that they could be included in the report.

Rebecca will provide the revision of bylaws.

Bernadine requested that Kathy obtain success VR stories to include in the report.

IX. New Business

A. Discussion of Public Forums – Sandy Sandoval

Sandy recommended that the Public Forums be held in conjunction with the SRC Meetings.

Adrian suggested changing the topics for each forum might help with public attendance.

X. Comments from audience

XI. Other Business

A. Set time, location, date for next several meetings– Bernadine Chavez

SRC Orientation

September 18, 2018 – 9:00am Location: The Skills Center – Commission for the Blind 2200 Yale Blvd. SE, Albuquerque

Public Forum scheduled for December 6, 2018 from 9:00am to 9:30am.

Location: PRO 1920 B Columbia Drive Albuquerque, NM

Next SRC Meeting scheduled for December 6, 2018 from 9:30am to 3:30pm.

Location: PRO 1920 B Columbia Drive Albuquerque NM.

XII. Adjournment

Paula Seanez motioned to adjourn Guy Surdi 2nd the motion. All in favor Meeting adjourned at 2:37 pm.