



Post Office Box 2659 ◦ Madison, WI 53701 ◦ Phone (608) 266-3118

Council on Physical Disabilities Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, April 18, 2025, from 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- CPD Chair Ben Barrett called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM.
- **CPD Members Present:** Julie Blasky, Ben Barrett, Jason Ostrowski, Ramsey Lee, Artrell Mason, Jackie Gordon, Charles Vandenplas and Karen Secor.
- **DHS Support Staff Present:** Angela Brenna.

2. Review and Approve April 18, 2025, Executive Committee Meeting Agenda

- Charles Vandenplas made a motion to approve the agenda. Jason Ostrowski seconded. Motion carried.

3. Review and Approve December, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

- Charles Vandenplas made a motion to approve the minutes. Julie Blasky seconded. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment on the State Plan (or Issues Impacting People with Physical Disabilities (11:15 AM – 11:25 AM.))

- Ramsey Lee shared that A home for everyone conference is looking for presenters and suggested CPD.
- Ramsey Lee shared information about the Federal passage of the SAVE Act. Members discussed potential barriers to voting for people with disabilities.
- Ramsey Lee and Julie Blasky shared information on the Wisconsin Assembly Bill 163. Members discussed potential barriers to voting for people with disabilities.
- Action Item: Julie Blasky will send DHS Staff updated information on AB 163.

5. State Plan Discussion

- Discussion of the CPD State Plan. **Ramsey Lee made a motion to approve the Draft of State Plan for People with Disabilities 2025-2027. Jason Ostrowski seconded. Motion carried.**

6. Budget Review

- **Members discussed the [State of WI Executive Budget, proposals by the Governor.](#)**
- Members review the GCPD Joint Finance Committee (JFC) comments on the budget. CPD is in support of the letter.
- **Julie Blasky made a motion to send a letter to JFC in support of the GCPD letter. Charles Vandenplas seconded. Motion carried.**
- ACTION ITEM: DHS Support will draft a letter for CPD to send to JFC and will email it to members by April 23, 2025, for review.
- Concerns were raised about federal restrictions on DEI language in state funding for the programs supporting people with disabilities.
- Artrell Mason shared that she and Jason Ostrowski had a meeting with Department of Financial Institutions regarding ABLE accounts.
- CPD Members discussed the federal changes to the Administration for Community Living (ACL), voicing concerns. Jackie Gordon proposed inviting Jessica Trudell from the Board on Aging and Long-Term Care. The proposal includes significant cuts to federal staff managing aging and disability programs by eliminating the ACL within the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). This restructuring could hinder essential programs such as:
 - Board for People with Developmental Disabilities (BPDD)
 - Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW)
 - Long-Term Care Ombudsman programs in the Board on Aging and Long-Term Care (BOALTC)
 - State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIP) Lifespan Respite Care
 - Elder Justice and Adult Protective Services programs
 - The University Centers for Excellence at Waisman Center in WI
 - Voting Access for People with Disabilities

- Older Americans Act (OAA) Title III D Evidence-Based Health Promotion and Disease
- Prevention, including Elder Falls Prevention and Chronic Disease Self-Management education

7. Discuss Dan Johnson Advocacy Award and Ceremony Details

- Participants express interest in being involved in the work group to plan the Dan Johnson Award Ceremony. Members volunteered including Karen, Jason, Ben, and Ramsey.
- Members agreed to create a workgroup. DHS Staff will send out a doodle poll to members to request volunteers and to determine date and time for workgroup meetings.

8. Review Action Items From the Meeting

- Julie Blasky will send DHS Staff updated information on AB 163.
- DHS Support will draft a letter for CPD to send to JFC and will email it to members by April 23, 2025, for review.
- Members agreed to create a workgroup. DHS Staff will send out a doodle poll to members to request volunteers and to determine date and time for workgroup meetings.
- Jackie Gordon will reach out to Jessica Trudell to invite her to the next CPD Executive Committee Meeting.

9. Draft Next Executive Committee Meeting Agenda

- Members drafted the next CPD Committee Meeting Agenda.

10. Adjourn

- Jason Ostrowski made a motion to adjourn. Charles Vandenplas seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:06

The purpose of this meeting is to conduct the governmental business outlined in the above agenda. The Wisconsin Council on Physical Disabilities was created by the state legislature in 1989. The Council envisions a world where all persons with physical disabilities have access to the same life choices and opportunities as any other Wisconsin citizen.

Its mission, established by state statute 46.29 is to: develop and implement a state plan for services to people with physical disabilities; advise and make recommendations to state agencies on relevant legislation; promote public awareness about the abilities of and barriers to people with physical disabilities; encourage the development of programs and policies that prevent physical disabilities; and submit recommendations in an annual report to the state legislature.

To learn more about the Council, please visit dhs.wisconsin.gov/cpd.

The Council on Physical Disabilities is administratively attached to the Department of Health Services. If you need an interpreter, alternate formats, or other accommodations to participate, please contact [Angela Brenna](#) at 608-266-0128 or angelag.brenna@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

Conference Call: (669) 254-5252 Meeting ID: 161 1786 1716