



**WI Governor's Committee for People with Disabilities (GCPD)  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, September 17, 2025, from 2:05 PM to 3:35 PM**

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**Call to Order**

- Tiffany Payne, Vice Chairperson called the meeting to order at 2:08 PM.

**Attendees**

- **Executive Committee Members Present:** Dan Witt, Dan Laatsch, Ramsey Lee, Ben Barrett and Tiffany Payne.
- **GCPD Members Present:** Ashley Mathy, Chelsea Polaske and Cindy Bentley.
- **DHS Staff Present:** Angela Brenna.
- **Guests:** TJ Jerke, Director of WI Enterprise Program.

**Approval of the Minutes**

- Dan Laatsch, Chairperson resumed presiding over the meeting.
- Ben Barrett made a motion to approve the September 17, 2025, Executive Committee Meeting Agenda. Tiffany Payne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Approval of the Agenda**

- Dan Witt made a motion to approve the August 20, 2025, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes. Tiffany Payne seconded. Motion carried.

**Public Comment (Time 2:25 PM to 2:35 PM)**

- No public comment received.

## **Review of Action Items from GCPD Quarterly Meeting**

- DHS Staff sent Q4 meeting save-the-date sent (may change).
- Election process details were distributed to members.
- Chair and Exec Committee Member Nominations collection is on-going.
- Distributed GCPD Officer Roles and Responsibilities Clarification document for review by the GCPD Executive Committee.
- Peer Support Orientation Checklist for new members to be developed by Executive Committee.
  - Tiffany Payne volunteered to draft a GCPD New Member Peer Support Orientation. Tiffany will share with Executive Committee by October 1, 2025. They will provide feedback to Tiffany – then discussion on October 15, 2025.

## **GCPD United Councils Updates**

- Advocacy letter templates (co-developed by members incl. Jason Anderson, Jackie Gordon and Tiffany Payne) were/will be shared by Angie; feedback due by Sept 25, 2025.
- Action-oriented focus: The United Councils meeting is a planning space; if inviting presenters, define purpose, questions, leads, and follow-up actions in the action plan first
- Federal items flagged for monitoring/action:
  - 1) OFCCP Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act proposed change – would roll back disability hiring goals/self-ID requirements for federal contractors.
    - Public comment due: Oct 24, 2025.
    - Concern: could make it easier for contractors to avoid hiring people with disabilities.
  - 2) US DOL “companionship services” (FLSA) definition change – affects family/in-home caregivers (Medicaid/IRS-hired).
    - Public comment closed: Sept 2, 2025.
    - Concern: potential loss of minimum wage/overtime protections; group will monitor impacts despite comment period closing.
- Action Item: DHS Staff Angela Brenna will follow-up with Nancy Leipzig regarding item 2.

## **Medicaid: Advisory and Experience Meetings Updates**

- Ramsey Lee shared that Medicaid Director (Bill Hanna) provided helpful overview of Medicaid funding.
- Action Item: Angie will share the Wisconsin Medicaid state budget one-pager with these minutes.
- Ramsey Lee suggested to invite subject-matter presenters (e.g., Autumn) should be routed to United Councils (planning/action body), not Exec Committee.

## **GCPD Transportation Committee Updates**

- No updates yet because the group meets monthly.

## **GCPD Awards Workgroup Updates**

- Ramsey Lee shared dates under consideration for in-person event: Nov 12 or Nov 19, 2025. Venue options being explored. Workgroup meets Sept 24; will finalize recommendation. After that, DHS Staff will start approvals/scheduling.

## **GCPD Election Updates**

- Elections include Chair and one Exec Committee member seat.
- Angela distributed plain-language role/responsibility summaries and election process.
- Action Item: Members review and send edits/clarifications (aim for plain language and alignment with bylaws).
- Plan: Put final review/adoption of the roles/responsibilities and election process on next month's Exec Committee agenda; any bylaw-level changes go to the full committee at the next quarterly meeting.

## **Executive Committee Action Items**

- Peer Support/Orientation checklist: Draft by Oct 1; feedback by Oct 15; finalize by Oct 31. (Tiffany Payne)
- Advocacy templates: Members review/provide feedback by Sept 25. (All; Angie to circulate)
- United Councils action plan: Include DHS presentation idea with clear purpose/questions before scheduling. (Ramsey Lee)
- Section 503 proposed rollback: Members consider submitting comments by Oct 24.

- DOL companionship rule—Monitor impacts; consider letters to Wage & Hour Division. Angie to contact Nancy and report back (potential item for United Councils).
- Medicaid one-pager: Share with minutes. (Angie Brenna)
- Awards event: Workgroup to finalize date/venue after Sept 24 meeting then update Angie to initiate approvals. (Awards WG; Tiffany Payne, Angie Brenna)
- Elections: Members review plain-language roles/responsibilities & process; come prepared to finalize next month. (All)
- Nominations: Members should submit nominations to Angela Brenna.

## **Adjournment**

- Ramsey Lee made a motion to adjourn at 3:07 PM. Tiffany Payne seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 3:07 PM

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Minutes prepared by Angela Brenna, DHS Staff Support on September 19, 2025. These Minutes are in draft form and will be presented for approval at the next GCPD Executive Committee Meeting.

## **About the GPCD**

The GCPD advises the Governor and state agencies on issues that affect people with disabilities. The GCPD also reviews disability-related legislation, promotes effective programs and increases public awareness about the needs and abilities of people with disabilities in Wisconsin.

To learn more about GCPD's history, mission, and work, [visit dhs.wisconsin.gov/gcpd](https://dhs.wisconsin.gov/gcpd)

## **Notice of Accessibility**

If you need an accommodation to take part in this meeting, contact Angela Brenna by phone at 608-266-0128 or email [angelag.brenna@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:angelag.brenna@dhs.wisconsin.gov).