



Statutory Council on Blindness (SCOB) Executive Committee Open Meeting Minutes

Date of the Meeting: Wednesday, April 8, 2026, from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Location: Online via [Zoom](#) and telephone, **Meeting ID:** 161 609 7664

Prepared by: DHS Staff Zachary Davenport on April 8, 2026.

Minutes Status: Draft. These minutes will be presented for approval at the next SCOB Executive Committee meeting on July 8, 2026.

1. Call to Order

- Patty Zallar Chairperson called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

2. Roll Call

- **Executive Committee Members Present:** Patty Zallar, Brenda Brunet, Jenny Marchewka, and Chuck Fehl.
- **DHS Staff Present:** Zachary Davenport and Ann Sievert.
- **Interpreters:** Chantel Wiedmeyer and Carly Bieri.

3. Approval of the Agenda

- Brenda Brunet made a motion to approve the **April 8, 2026**, SCOB Executive Committee Meeting Agenda, Jenny Marchewka seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

4. Approval of the Minutes

- Chuck Fehl made a motion to approve the **January 14, 2026**, SCOB Executive Committee Meeting Minutes. Jenny Marchewka seconded. Motion carried.

5. Public Comment (4:05 PM – 5:15 PM)

- No public comment received.

6. Discuss potential Council applicant

- Executive Committee provided an overview of the SCOB to the applicant.
- The Committee also shared the priority actions items that SCOB has accomplished and partnership with other councils within OPIL & organizations.
- The applicant introduced himself to the council and shared his interest in the council.
- The applicant was still interested in joining the council.
- **Motion:** Brenda Brunet made a motion to include an agenda item to vote for potential application. Jenny Marchewka seconded the motion. Motion carried.

7. SCOB Mental Health Workgroup Updates

- Jenny Marchewka provided an update on behalf of mental health workgroup.
 - Jenny shared that Tami Frenzl, DHS Staff Zachary Davenport, and she has met to identify the areas of information to elevate the importance of mental health and social isolation that adversely impacted on the blind and visually impaired community.
- The mental health workgroup will meet next week to work on the draft white paper.

8. GCPD United Council Updates

- DHS Zachary Davenport provided updates from the last GCPD United Council updates about the upcoming event, Engage for Change. The United Council discussed several event details, including the following.
 - Engage for Change event is scheduled on August 13, 2026.
 - The event will focus on advocacy and engagement with decision-maker.
 - The location has been moved to Monona Terrance Convention center because it is more accessible.
 - The goals for the Engage for Change are to build relationships with decision-makers and create opportunities for direct & in-person advocacy.

9. Discuss Transportation

- DHS Zachary Davenport shared information about Wisconsin Meal on the Wheel program that SCOB members may be interested in learning about it.
- **Motion:** Jenny made a motion to invite Neal Minogue and Sara Noenig from DPH to a SCOB Quarterly meeting to discuss Wisconsin Meal on the Wheel program. Brenda Brunet seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- **Action:** DHS Staff Zachary Davenport will contact Neal Minogue and Sara Koenig and coordinate scheduling for upcoming SCOB Quarterly meeting.

10. Review Action Items

- Members reviewed action items from previous meeting. All prior action items were completed.

11. Plan the Next Meeting SCOB Quarterly Meeting

- Members drafted the next SCOB Quarterly Meeting Agenda.

12. Adjournment

- Chuck Fehl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Brenda Brunet seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:03 PM.

About the SCOB

The Statutory Council on Blindness was established by the Wisconsin Legislature, [WI State Statute 15.197\(2\)](#), in 1969 and is administratively attached to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). The Council is appointed by the Secretary of DHS to make recommendation to the DHS and other state agencies on services, activities, programs, investigations, and research that affect persons on Wisconsin who are Blind or Visually Impaired. To learn about the specifics of our mission, visit: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/scob/index.htm>.

Accessibility and Accommodations

If you need accommodations to participate, please contact Zachary Davenport at 414-207-8820 or zachary.davenport@dhs.wisconsin.gov