

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Task Force Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2021

Task Force members present via Teams/phone: Lacey Bergh, Jennifer Flores, Krista Fremming, Carol Johnson, Holly Johnson, Teresa Larsen, Connie Lillejord, Heather Opland, Kodi Pinks, Dr. Myra Quanrud, Gerry Teevens, Jamie Walker-Fuller, Kristie Wolff, and Catherine Yeager

Absent: Dawn Hanson, Senator Joan Heckaman, and Samantha Stewart

A quorum of Task Force members was present.

Guests (present and via polycom/phone): Katherine Barchenger, Marsha Dupre, Kristin Dvorak, Tim Eissingner, Rebekka Freije, Danielle Hoff, Kim Hruby, Jodi Hulm, Heather Kapella, Jeannie Krull, Kaitlin Kurtz, Daniel Mathis, Stephanie Nelson, Tracey Olson, Lorena Poppe, Melinda Retzer, Beth Thune, and Kim Zeeb

This was a virtual Microsoft Teams meeting due to COVID-19.

Meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m.

Review of minutes – September 2020 special meeting.

Carol Johnson made a motion to pass the September special meeting minutes; Connie Lillejord seconded the motion to approve.

14 yay/ 0 nay; motion passed

Review of November 2020 meeting minutes

Gerry Teevens made a motion to pass the November meeting minutes. Catherine Yeager seconded the motion to approve the minutes.

14 yay/ 0 nay; motion passed

Legislative updates:

Senate Bill 2089- Discussion around Senate Bill 2089 and the changes proposed by The Department of Human Services.

Teresa Larsen discussed proposed changes to the autism voucher that were proposed by the Autism Coalition.

Dr. Myra Quanrud made the motion to form a subcommittee to review and make recommendations on document made by Autism Coalition autism voucher proposed changes, and then to call a public meeting for the Task Force to vote.

Teresa Larsen seconded the motion.

13 yay/ 0 nay: motion passed. Krista Fremming abstained from voting as she is the DHS Chair.

The subcommittee is Connie Lillejord, Holly Johnson, Carol Johnson, Jennifer Flores, Dr. Myra Quanrud, Teresa Larsen, Jamie Walker-Fuller

SB 2125- Add Licensed Behavior Analyst as a Behavioral Health Discipline to the student loan repayment program. Was heard in the Senate and was moving to the House.

ASD Database Report

Creating an Autism Dashboard, current count, break out of ages of people reported, and break of gender. The second page is breakout of cases per county. Information that has the potential to identify the individual is suppressed. Kodi was looking for approval of the new layout of the dashboard from the Health Department. Kodi would then move it to her leadership.

Holly Johnson made the motion to approve the layout of the Health Department's autism dashboard.

Teresa Larsen seconded the motion.

13 yay/o nay; Motion passed.

Current Operations updates: 2019-2021 enrollment/expenditures dashboard for ASD waiver, voucher state plan ABA:

Discussion around the dashboard and expenditures. Updated the dashboard with units approved versus units spent.

ABA Workforce updates:

168 active Doctorate level BCBA's, BCBA's and RBTS. 11 new "active" since November 2020-all RBT's.

Administrative rule changes for BCBA's- 2-year licensure cycle for BCBA's, will have to be renewed by end of 2021.

ASD State Plan:

Communication/ Public Awareness group: Revising resource booklet (was last updated 2019). Wanted to be aligned with the webpage update. Resource booklet would be more aligned with getting the information out to families.

Training and Education- Trying to find new trainings that would be available- have identified contacts. Holly has asked if anyone knows of any trainings, to please send information to her.

Autism Conference is in April.

2021 Meeting dates: May 24, August 23, and November 22

Carol Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Holly Johnson seconded the motion

13 yay; 0 nay. Motion Passed.

Meeting adjourned: 4:00 pm

Next meeting: May 24, 2021. 1:00 p.m.-4:45 p.m. CDT

Transcribed: 3/22/2021 KK