Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns

Conference Call Draft Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2017

Present: Anthony Fadale, Elizabeth Van Vleck, Don Woodard, Jason Barrett, Jill Bronaugh, Bob Cantin, Craig Knutson, Steve Miller, Brian Ellefson, Dean Hollenbeck, Shanti Ramcharan, George Beard, Ranita Wilks, Brad Burke, Brandt Haehn

Guests: Cindy (ILRC); Lori Smith, School for the Blind; Scott Gates, State Treasurer’s office; Mary Ellen Wright, Working Healthy/Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment,

Staff: Martha Gabehart

Welcome & Introduction of New Commissioners – Steve Miller, chair, welcomed the group and introduced Elizabeth Van Vleck (designee for Secretary Phyllis Gilmore) and Jason Barrett (designee for Senate Minority Leader Anthony Hensley).

Introductions with updates of local activities

Anthony – State Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator and designee for Secretary of Administration Sarah Shipman. He has been working on several university buildings and residence halls. He recently gave presentation on emergency management to agency contacts,

Elizabeth – She is the designee for Secretary of the Department for Children and Families (DCF) Phyllis Gilmore and works for Kansas Rehabilitation Services (KRS) as the pre-employment services manager.

Don – He is in this fourth two-year term as elected representative of district 6 to the Silver Haired legislature and in his third term as speaker. He is a disabled Vietnam veteran. He was appointed to the commission because of his work with legislature for seniors, veterans and those with disabilities.

Jason – He works at Legacy Motors, is a self-advocate and the President for the Self-Advocates Coalition.

Jill – She is the designee for Director of KRS Mike Donnelly. She is the Employer Development and Marketing Specialist working with employers on hiring people with disabilities.

Bob – He lives in Olathe and works in management at Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Kansas City. He has been on the board of The Whole Person and Olathe disability advisory board.

Craig – He is public policy coordinator for the Developmental Disabilities (DD) Council and is the designee of DD Council Chairperson Dawn Wilson. The DD Council finished their five-year plan submitted their report to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS.) They are implementing their new five-year plan. He is currently participating in a national community of practice transition study across the lifespan using holistic supports.

Steve – He is a disabled Vietnam veteran, an advocate for national multiple sclerosis society and advocates for people with IDD because of his connection to the Parsons State Hospital.

Brian – He lives in Overland Park and has been on the commission for 15 years. He is retired but working on Disability Mentoring Day (DMD) events in the Kansas City area, is on the local transition board and recently joined the board of the Kansas APSE chapter in charge of communications.

Dean – He is President of Flint Hill Technical School in Emporia.

Shanti – She is a rehabilitation counselor with Department of Veterans Affairs Vets Success programs. Her office is located at Johnson County Community College. Previously she provided disability services at Emporia State University (ESU) for nine years.

George – He is retired and has been on the commission since 2006. He is the guardian/conservator of several people who have mental health issues. During the last KCDC meeting, he reported he was working on getting KanCare correspondence sent to one of his wards instead of him. DCF contacted him and said that is the way it works. He sent a letter to Brandt Haehn and received back an email that was encrypted and he could not open it. He also called the attorney for the United Health Care managed care organization (MCO) and left a message asking for a return call, but did not receive one.

Ranita – She works at Independence, Inc. in Lawrence providing independent living (IL) skills training and running their youth employment program 15-21. She is also on transition council and is the local DMD coordinator.

Grady – He has been the director of disability services at Wichita State University for 25 years. Prior to his coming to Kansas he worked at centers for independent Living (CILs) in Nebraska and Oregon.

Brad – He is the deputy director for the Kansas Department of Labor and is the designee for Secretary Lana Gordon. They are buried with legislative action, but none of it relates to disability issues. He is also on the Human Trafficking Advisory Committee.

Introduction of business that will require a vote - None

Additions, deletions or corrections to the agenda - None

Approval of last meeting’s minutes – Bob made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 4, 2016 meeting. George seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comments - None

Update on ABLE Accounts – Scott Gates, State Treasurer’s office – Scott updated the commission giving a little background first and then reported the state will have their own system in place. A flyer was distributed prior to the meeting. The website address is incorrect – the “www.” at the beginning of the address is not necessary and should be left off.

Disability Employment Workgroup Report – Mary Ellen Wright gave her presentation from the Power Point file distributed before the meeting.

Service Dog Committee Report – Grady gave his final report on the Service Dog Committee and he went over the Rules Comparison table developed that includes Kansas and Veterans Administration information. The committee feels this is thorough and gives resources to the public. Martha will put it on the KCDC website and distribute it to CILs and other organizations who could benefit from it. She will add a disclaimer that it is for informational purposes only.

Home and Community Based Service (HCBS) Update – Brandt Haehn gave his report that the Severely Emotionally Disturbed (SED) and Autism HCBS waiver renewals are still at CMS. Autism behavioral services have moved to the state plan and they will continue to receive services. CMS did not approve the request for an extension on their Section 115 waiver until they had worked on some things and resubmitted their request. They are continuing to work on this. The final settings rule draft was out for comment. They are working on incorporating any issues they can before they submit to CMS for approval. There are a couple of areas landlord/tenant agreement and sheltered workshop facilities they need to review again.

Office/Legislative Update – Martha Gabehart gave her update from the report circulated prior to the call.

Final Comments – Steve – Kansas Action Day at the capitol – Tuesday the 7th, Mid America chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Anthony – HCBS final rule calls are at noon and 5:30 pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month.

Jason – asked to be kept informed about the medical marijuana bill (hearings/action).

Dean – offered to speak with the Board of Regents representative he will meet with about getting the SB 155 (Career Tech Ed) data on youth with disabilities who have participated in and graduated from technical programs prior to graduating from high school. Martha agreed to send out the information when she received it.

Brian - asked to be put on the emergency preparedness newsletter mailing list that Mike McNulty sends out to providers for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Also the Kansas City APSE chapter is having a free webinar on February 15 from 10:00 – 11:00 am on the Working Healthy Program. Working Healthy is the Medicaid Buy-in program that people who have been on Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) can use to maintain their Medicaid insurance after they work enough to lose their benefits.

Ranita – wants to know what will happen when the Money Follows the Person funding ends. Martha agreed to contact Brandt Haehn about it.

George – has a ward who wants to vote, but he is having trouble getting a birth certificate to show proof of citizenship. Will tell us whether or not he is success next time.

Motion to adjourn – George made a motion to adjourn. Anthony seconded. Motion carried.

Adjourn