

Council Members

Present

Mary Durham, *Council Chair*

Ronnie Browning

Debbie Carlisle

Kyle Cox

Maverick Crawford

Andrew Crim

Ivy Goldstein, *DSHS*

Sean Jackson, *DRTX*

Juan Carlos Lopez

Scott McAvoy

Amanda Miles

Meagan Orsag, *A&M CDD*

Angie Panzica

Robert Schier III

Jonas Schwartz, *TWC*

Eric Shahid

Meridith Silcox

Lora Taylor

Jamie Thomas

Nina Zuna, *TCDS*

Council Members

Absent

Bill Coorsh

Gladys Cortez

Kate Layman, *HHSC Title XIX/Medicaid*

Michael Peace

Justin Porter, *TEA*

Holly Riley, *HHSC Older Americans Act of 1965*

Kim Torres

Guests Present

Floyd Browning

Stefan Cole

Mario Contreras

Tashuna Drake

Tammy Dubberke

Jonathan Jardine

Kary Johnson

Linda Litzinger

Lauryn McNeil

Angela Miller

John Nicks

Christine Reyes

Elaine Smith

Christa Stevens

Regional

Coordinators

Present

Erin Fogarty

Morgan Foster

Rosa Guel

Canen Melton

Skyler Mueller

Alexandra Venegas

Staff Present

Beth Stalvey, *Executive Director*

Kai Brewer

Scott Daigle

Lauren Gerken

Sabrina Gonzalez

Crystal Goodwin

Mitchel Griffin

Genessee Klemm

Le Lien

Linda Logan

Evan Marczynski

Sylvia Medina

Richard Rendon

Mary Rochford

Cass Schnautz

Melanie Teague

Brianna TenBrink

Rey Valldejuli

Koren Vogel

Call to Order

The Committee of the Whole of the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities convened on Thursday, August 3, 2023, at the Royal Sonesta Houston Galleria, 2222 West Loop South, Houston, TX 77027 as well as virtually using the Zoom platform. Council Chair Mary Durham called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

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1. Introductions

Council members, staff and guests introduced themselves.

2. Public Comments

No public comments were offered to the Committee of the Whole.

3. Public Policy Update

TCDD Public Policy Director Scott Daigle presented a Recap of Disability Policy in the 88th Texas Legislature, Including TCDD Legislative Resources, Bills/Issues considered, and the Next Steps/Post-Session. Daigle reviewed the goals set by the Council for legislative activities including being more engaged in the legislative process, being more impactful, expanding TCDD's footprint, being a "go-to resource" for legislators, and bringing awareness to TCDD work and grant projects. TCDD staff implemented a joint communications/policy strategy with these goals in mind consisting of a variety of campaigns including the TX Legislative News, Bill of the Week, and social media posts. Resources for advocates include one-pagers, testimony templates, and Disability Policy Academy webinars.

Daigle discussed how the engagement with the public compared to the 87th Texas Legislative session including a 14% increase in email open rates. He reviewed action from the session and noted that 1,831 new Medicaid Waivers were approved for the 2024-25 biennium. Daigle also discussed post-session considerations including special sessions, interim charges, continuing education of law makers and staff, November 2024 Elections, and the next Regular Session convening January 14, 2025. Daigle paid tribute to Randell Keith Resneder by reviewing House Resolution 1704 and sharing some quotes given about Mr. Resneder.

4. Presentation: Literacy United

Kary Johnson and Angela Miller discussed the Literacy United grant project which is a reading program for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). The program serves over 90 participants through in-person and virtual sessions, focusing on various reading skills such as phonological awareness, phonics, sight words,

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fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, and writing. Miller emphasized the program's positive impact on participants' self-sufficiency and employment skills and discussed goals for continued funding and expansion.

5. FY 2022 — FY 2026 State Plan Workplan Updates

TCDD Executive Director Beth Stalvey reviewed updates for years 3-5 of the FY 2022-FY 2026 State Plan Workplan and noted that revisions will be submitted by the August 15, 2023 deadline.

Adjourn

Council Chair Durham adjourned the Committee of the Whole at 12:12 p.m.

Beth Stalvey, *Secretary to the Council* Date