

Committee

Members Present

Angie Panzica,
Committee Chair
Ronnie Browning
Debbie Carlisle
Kyle Cox
Sean Jackson, *DRTX*
Katherine Layman,
HHSC Title
XIX/Medicaid
Sandra Magaña,
TCDS
Meagan Orsag, *A&M*
CDD
Eric Shahid
Lora Taylor

Committee

Members Absent

Michael Peace

Guests Present

Floyd Browning
Jennifer Cox
Bethany Edwards
Ashley Ford
Norman Kieke
Linda Litzinger
Allison Martinez
Jessica Rothe
Jolene Sanders
Aubri Simpson
Samantha Spencer

Staff Present

Kai Brewer
Scott Daigle
Lauren Gerken
Linda Logan
Brianna TenBrink
Koren Vogel

Call to Order

The Public Policy Committee of the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities convened on Thursday, May 2, 2024, at the Hyatt Place Houston Medical Center, 7329 Fannin Street, Houston, TX, 77030, as well as virtually using the Zoom platform. Angie Panzica called the meeting to order at 1:43 PM. A quorum was present.

1. Introductions

Committee members, staff and guests were introduced.

2. Public Comments

Public comment was provided by Linda Litzinger and Jessica Rothe who each discussed the unavailability of transition services and the difficulty finding attendant care, resulting in parents living in dorms with their college-age children so that they may receive necessary supports.

3. Consideration of February 8, 2024, Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the February 8, 2024, Public Policy Committee meeting and no additions or corrections were noted.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the February 8, 2024, Public Policy Committee meeting as presented.

MADE BY: Sean Jackson

SECOND: Debbie Carlisle

The motion **passed** without opposition.

4. Chair's Remarks

A. Member Absences: Chair Panzica noted the absence of Michael Peace from the Committee meeting.

B. Chair's Quarterly Activities: Chair Panzica discussed her attendance of the Reel Abilities Festival, as well as the bi-weekly Raise Your Voice meetings hosted by the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities.

5. Members Quarterly Activities

Committee members provided updates from the previous quarter regarding involvement in advocacy and other activities.

6. Presentation: Accessible Childcare

The Committee received presentations related to accessible and inclusive childcare, including from Allison Martinez on new state childcare regulations, Jolene Sanders on legislative efforts, and Jennifer Cox and Bethany Edwards on work in Tarrant County.

7. Legislative Update

TCDD staff provided a recap of the March 5, 2024 primary election results, a preview of the May 28, 2024 primary runoffs, and an overview of the Senate interim charges.

8. TCDD Public Policy Priorities

TCDD staff discussed updates to the TCDD Public Policy Priorities in preparation for the 89th Texas Legislature, which convenes in January 2025. The Committee discussed maintaining the current list of

priorities, while making them more concise by removing the numerous subcategories.

MOTION: To recommend Council approval of the TCDD 2025 Public Policy Priorities.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor

SECOND: Debbie Carlisle

The motion **passed** without opposition.

9. State and Federal Policy Update

No updates were provided.

10. Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items were discussed.

11. Other Discussion Items

Chair Panzica shared information on the Texas Promoting Independence Stakeholder Summit, to be hosted by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission in June 2024.

Adjourn

The Public Policy Committee was adjourned at 5:09 PM.

Beth Stalvey, *Secretary to the Council* Date