

# Minutes – December 4, 2014

## Vermont State Rehabilitation Council (VT SRC)

Vermont State Rehabilitation Council (VT SRC)		
Thursday, December 4, 2014	12:30 PM – 3:30 PM	Video Conference – Rutland, Williston, Barre, Brattleboro, Springfield, St. Albans & St. Johnsbury
Meeting called by	Michele Hubert, Chair at 12:33PM (via phone)	
Members Present	Samantha Brennan, Alaina Clements, Diane Dalmasse, Sarah Launderville, Adam Leonard, Sam Liss, Chris Loso, Neal Meier (via phone), Leslie Mitchell, Whitney Nichols, Patti Shane, Ellen Vaut, Kerry White, Anthony Williams	
Members Absent	April Tuck (approved leave)	
SRC Liaison	James Smith, DVR Budget and Policy Manager	
SRC Coordinator	Rebekah M. Stephens	
Interpreters	n/a	
Speakers/Presenters	Amber Fulcher, Renee Kievit-Kylar, Jeffrey Dudley, Sue Zamecnik, Kate Farrington, Julia Burakian, Annabelle Lowrie, Eric Johnson, Amanda Kohle	
Guests	Ben Wimett (AT Staff), Eliza Anderson (ATAC)	
<b>1. Today's Agenda</b>		
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<b>Discussion</b>	No discussion.	
<b>Conclusions</b>	Agenda accepted.	
<b>2. Approval of Minutes – October 2, 2014 SRC Meeting</b>		
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<b>Discussion</b>	Sam Liss moved to approve. Kerry White 2 <sup>nd</sup> . No discussion.	
<b>Conclusions</b>	Approved.	
<b>Action Items</b>		<b>Person Responsible</b>
Upload approved minutes to <a href="http://www.VTSRC.org">www.VTSRC.org</a>		Rebekah Stephens
		<b>Deadline</b>
		12/12/2014
<b>3. Approval of 7<sup>th</sup> Annual SRC Retreat Report</b>		
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<b>Discussion</b>	Kerry White moved to approve. Sam Liss 2 <sup>nd</sup> . No discussion.	
<b>Conclusions</b>	Approved.	
<b>Action Items</b>		<b>Person Responsible</b>
Upload approved Retreat Report to <a href="http://www.VTSRC.org">www.VTSRC.org</a>		Rebekah Stephens
		<b>Deadline</b>
		12/12/2014
<b>4. Consent Agenda</b>		
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<b>Discussion</b>	Includes approved minutes: Policy & Procedures Committee May 1, 2014 & September 4, 2014 and Advocacy, Outreach & Education May 1, 2014 & September 4, 2014 and the Coordinator's Report. Kerry White moved to accept. Sam Liss 2 <sup>nd</sup> . No discussion.	
<b>Conclusions</b>	Accepted.	
<b>Action Items</b>		<b>Person Responsible</b>
None		n/a
		<b>Deadline</b>
		n/a
<b>5. Assistive Technology Advisory Council</b>		
45 minutes	Amber Fulcher, Program Director, VT AT Program	
<b>Discussion</b>	Amber called for approval of the October 2, 2014 ATAC meeting minutes. Alaina Clements 2 <sup>nd</sup> . No discussion. Minutes approved. Amber introduced the new chairs of the ATAC: Pascal Chang - Chair, Kerry White – Vice Chair and Samantha Brennan – Nomination Chair. Amber gave a brief Director's Report on the AT program. AT recently added Ben Wimett as the new AT Access Specialist in	

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Rutland. iPad rental project is going well. Vermont AT received a waiver from the Special Education Dept.		
This waiver will help facilitate the school exchange program. AT collaborated with Healthy Home and Money		
Follows the Person to develop a home access and AT evaluation. The program was piloted and it was found		
that the system is not ready at this time. 392 individuals participated in AT demonstrations this year. AT		
loaned out 493 devices for folks to try in 2014. As part of the Reuse Program – 96 devices were exchanged		
resulting in a savings of approximately \$360,000 to consumers. AT trained 159 folks on AT devices and		
20 hours of technical assistance were provided. AT's 2015 plans include – partnering with VCIL around the		
Reuse Program and School Exchange. AT has “implemented a new centralized referral process and will be		
establishing an auto-attendant phone system.” AT will be “assuming financial management of the		
Equipment Distribution Program.” Ben Wimett joined the meeting for a quick introduction and welcome.		
<b>Conclusions</b>	October 2, 2014 ATAC meeting minutes approved. Thank you to Eliza Anderson for	
joining today's ATAC meeting. Eliza is interested in becoming a member of the ATAC.		
<b>Action Items</b>		
	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Email approved minutes to ATAC members	Rebekah Stephens	12/19/2014
Email AT Director's report to SRC and ATAC	Rebekah Stephens	12/8/2014
<b>6. Transition Counselors - Presentation</b>		
1 hr 35 minutes	Renee Kievit-Kylar, Amanda Kohle, Sue Zamecnik, Kate Farrington, Jeffrey Dudley, Annabelle Lowrie, Julia Burakian and Eric Johnson	
<b>Discussion</b>	Each of the transition counselors shared 3 “What is going well with the program” and	
3 “What is challenging in the program”. Renee provided an overview of the program. There are 18 TCs in		
Vermont; 14 FTE and 4 part time shared positions. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) is		
presenting some challenges along with many opportunities for the program. TCs are currently involved with		
on campus job fairs. The TCs statewide work as a team and are being innovative. TCs shared that there are		
many good things happening in the program – 1. Youth Employment Specialists (YES) are a great addition		
to the program. As a result of working with the YESs, youth retention rate has increased. 2. Collaboration		
with the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) and the Department of Labor (DOL) has been very helpful. 3.		
The monthly TC meetings are very helpful for collaborating and sharing of knowledge. 4. Schools are		
starting to show more interest in involving TCs in the IEP(Individualized Education Program) process. 5.		
Mentorship with the senior TCs has been great. The TCs agree that the team thinking of the program is an		
asset. The TCs shared the challenges within the program – 1. Large caseloads. 2. Amount of paperwork.		
3. Being able to engage with the students during their junior year instead of waiting until their senior year		
would be helpful. 4. School staff turnover. 5. The 60 days to certification and 90 days to IPE can present		
challenges around keeping the students engaged with the program. 6. Discussions with school staff around		
what is an appropriate referral can be a challenge. 7. The new RSA guidelines around when a TC can		
engage with a student has been a challenge, however, it has provided the opportunity for TCs to think		
outside the box. 8. The severity of some of the disabilities, such as autism can cause some challenges.		
The question was asked “How are the WIOA changes going to impact the TC program?” Diane Dalmasse		
responded that the impact will be profound. VR is going to have to change how youth and adults are		
currently receiving VR services.		
<b>Conclusions</b>	Excellent presentation and discussion. Thank you to everyone for participating today.	
<b>Action Items</b>		
	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
None	n/a	n/a
<b>7. Order of Selection</b>		
5 minutes	James Smith	
<b>Discussion</b>	2 individuals have applied and been found to be in category 3. VR is recommending	

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services for these 2 individuals. Adam Leonard reminded the Council that a deeper dive into the Order of Selection process was suggested during the October 2, 2014 SRC meeting. James is going to pull data on the disability categories, the demographics, and the cost of serving category 3 individuals. Sam Liss moved to approve VR services for these 2 category 3 individuals. Adam Leonard 2 <sup>nd</sup> . Full SRC vote taken.		
<b>Conclusions</b>	11 ayes and 2 nays. Services approved for these 2 category 3 individuals. James will pull together the data on the disability categories, the demographics, and the cost of serving category 3 individuals.	
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Email data on Order of Selection category 3 individuals to SRC members	Rebekah Stephens	1/15/2015
<b>8. Director's Report</b>		
10 minutes	Diane Dalmasse	
<b>Discussion</b>	The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) is going to be a huge change for VR. VR is thrilled with the focus on transition, however, the details and definitions have put VR in a pretty tight box. Pre-employment Transition Services (PETS) are a requirement in WIOA. VR must set aside 15% of its total federal allotment to serve students between the ages of 14 & 22 in school and on a 504 or IEP. Once a student leaves school they can no longer be counted under this 15%. Administrative expenses are not included in this 15% amount. The 15% is solely for services. This change under WIOA will cause resources to be redirected from adults to youth. The good news around this is by working with individuals earlier in their life they will be more prepared for employment when they leave school. The 15% equals approximately \$1.3 million in FY 2015 and \$2.25 million in FY 2016. VR is having an extended management team meeting tomorrow with the focus being WIOA and how to plan around these changes. VR has already put together a task force to address the new WIOA changes. Will VR be looking at the criteria for Order of Selection and services to category 3 individuals? VR has not yet discussed looking at the OOS in this regard but it is definitely worth a discussion. VR assisted 1873 individuals to work in FY 2014.	
<b>Conclusions</b>	Thank you, Diane. The SRC would like to include a discussion of the new WIOA Pre-employment Transition Services requirements and its impact on the Order of Selection process on a future full SRC meeting agenda.	
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Put discussion of new WIOA Pre-employment Transition Services requirements and its impact on the Order of Selection process on future full SRC meeting agenda	Rebekah Stephens	TBD
<b>9. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Update</b>		
5 minutes	Diane Dalmasse	
<b>Discussion</b>	Addressed under Director's Report.	
<b>Conclusions</b>	See minutes under Director's Report above.	
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
This is a standing agenda item for full SRC meetings	Rebekah Stephens	On-going
<b>10. SRC Officers Election</b>		
10 minutes	-----	
<b>Discussion</b>	Sam Liss and Kerry White removed their names from the Vice-Chair ballot. Vote held. Unanimous vote for Kerry White as Chair. Unanimous vote for Adam Leonard as Vice-Chair.	
<b>Conclusions</b>	Kerry White is new SRC Chair. Adam Leonard is the new SRC Vice-Chair.	
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
None	n/a	n/a

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11. Adjournment		
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<b>Discussion</b>	Whitney Nichols moved to adjourn. Sarah Launderville 2 <sup>nd</sup> .	
<b>Conclusions</b>	Adjourned at 3:29 PM.	
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Draft minutes respectfully submitted for approval	Rebekah Stephens	1/2/2015
Draft minutes emailed to all Council members	Rebekah Stephens	1/2/2015
Draft minutes uploaded to <a href="http://www.VTSRC.org">www.VTSRC.org</a>	Rebekah Stephens	1/2/2015
Minutes approved	Full SRC	2/5/2015
Approved minutes uploaded to website <a href="http://www.VTSRC.org">www.VTSRC.org</a>	Rebekah Stephens	2/13/2015