



Council Meeting Minutes

August 22, 2024

Council Members Present:

Molly Anderson*
Kimberly Boyd*
Kezia Cox*
Sarah Cripps*
Diamond Grigsby*
Faith Henshaw*
Chrissy Hood*
Courtney Johnson*
Katie Moore*
Donna Nasso*
Evelyn Roach *
Bliss Welch*
Brent Wiles*
Martez Williams*
Shannon Nehus, *TennCare*
Anna Bass, *Disability Rights TN*
Julie Lounds-Taylor, *Vanderbilt Kennedy Center on Developmental Disabilities*
Bruce Keisling, *UT Center on Developmental Disabilities (UTCDD)*
Tiffany Ramsey, *Vocational Rehabilitation*
Stephanie Cooper, *Dept. Mental Health & Substance Abuse*
Alison Gauld, *Dept. Special Education*
Jacqueline Johnson, *Dept. of Health*
Lauren Legate, *Dept. of Disability and Aging*

Staff Present:

Lauren Pearcy
Lynette Porter
Alicia Cone
JoEllen Fowler
Ashley Hill
Jolene Sharp
Emma Garton
Mildred Sparkman
Dirk Strider

Guests Present:

Jill Jacobs, *National Association for Councils on Developmental Disabilities*
Robyn Lampley
Wendy Watson
Becky Rose
Leah Rose

Council Members Absent:

Shontie Brown*
Ryan Durham*
Will Edwards*
Debbie Miller*
Edward Mitchell*
Brigham Scallion*
Allie Haynes, *TN Rural Health Association*
Don Watt, *Tennessee Housing Development Authority*
Rusette Marcum-Embry, *Tenn. Commission on Children & Youth*

* Governor appointed citizen

8:30 a.m. Introductions, Opening & Agenda Review

Council vice chair, Brent Wiles, welcomed everyone and facilitated introductions of members and staff.

Brent welcomed new members appointed to the Council since the last business meeting in April:

- Donna Nasso, Memphis-Delta Development District
- Katie Moore, Southwest Development District
- Swathi Dasari, Upper Cumberland Development District
- Lauren Legate, Department of Disability and Aging

Brent also acknowledged Council Intern, Eshani Arumalla, who supported the Leadership Development programs this summer. He also introduced Dirk Strider who joined the Council staff as the Communications Coordinator since the last Council meeting.

Brent then called the meeting to order after ascertaining there was a quorum at 9:05 a.m. Brent reviewed the agenda with members.

9:25 a.m. Business Items

Executive Committee Report

Brent Wiles, Council vice chair, provided brief updates to members ahead of the planning sessions for the two-day retreat.

- Council members received the Council Member Code of Conduct and Council Member Conflict of Interest forms in their folders, along with copies of those policies. All members are required to sign these forms annually and should do so before the end of the meeting.
- The Audit Committee charter requires the Audit Committee to have at least three members. At this time, there is one member and one chair of the committee. Brent recommended two new appointments to the Audit Committee, and those members left the room during discussion:
 - Dr. Evelyn Roach has twelve years of increasing responsibility at East Tennessee State University including being a degree audit specialist, ensuring program accuracy, ensuring financial aid data was accurate, developing procedures for applying changes in student curriculum requirements across the units and university, and overseeing the Registrar's office. Dr. Roach holds an Masters in Business Administration and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership.
Kim Boyd made a motion to appoint Dr. Evelyn Roach to the Audit Committee, citing her background and expertise as reasons for qualification. Sarah Cripps seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
 - Mr. William Edwards has a depth of experience in accounting, tax planning, fiduciary responsibility, mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, and taxation. Mr. Edwards has Masters of Laws in Taxation and a Bachelors in Business Administration in Accounting and management.
Chrissy Hood made a motion to appoint William Edwards to the Audit Committee, citing

his background and expertise as reasons for qualification. Martez Williams seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

9:45 a.m. Adjournment

A motion for adjournment was made by Faith Henshaw and seconded by Chrissy Hood. The motion carried and the business portion of the Council meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.



Prepared by: Ashley Edwards, Assistant to the Executive Director



Approved by: Lauren Percy, Executive Director