



## Council Executive Committee

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Location: Conference Call - Zoom  
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2022  
Time: 11:00 am CDT / 12:00 pm EDT

**Present:** Tecia Puckett Pryor, Ryan Durham, Lisa Johnson, Edward Mitchell

**Absent:** Sarah Cripps

**Staff:** Lauren Percy, Lynette Porter, Ashley Edwards

1) **Call to Order**

After ascertaining there was a quorum, Tecia Puckett Pryor, Chair, called the meeting to order at **11:02 a.m.**

2) **Consent Agenda: Approve today's Executive Committee Agenda and June 2022 Executive Committee Minutes**

There was no discussion.

***Lisa Johnson moved for approval; Ryan Durham seconded. Approved.***

3) **Council Member Appointments**

The Governor's Office appointed four new members:

- Bliss Welch, Southeast Development District
- Kim Boyd, Northwest Development District
- Sara Miller, Southwest Development District
- Allie Haynes, TN Rural Health Association (Nongovernmental organization)

New members will gather in Nashville on September 15-16 at the Embassy Suites Hotel for the new member orientation and the Council meeting, respectively. New member orientation will be held at the from 1-3pm CT on Thursday, September 15 in a conference room at the hotel. Note: The Executive Committee meeting will be held from 3:30-4:30pm CT in the same room at the hotel. We will meet as usual for dinner at the hotel that evening. Executive Committee members are invited and encouraged to attend both orientation and dinner to get to know the new members.

Meanwhile, Council staff have contacted each new member to welcome them and confirm their attendance at next month's events. We are also working with new members to complete official appointment paperwork before the September Council meeting.

4) **Council Meeting Prep**

The Committee reviewed the upcoming September Council meeting agenda and provided discussion and feedback on agenda items. Specifically, we discussed:



- Adding a “Welcome to New Members” at the beginning of the agenda; asking anyone who was appointed in the last 2 years (COVID era) to raise their hands so we can welcome them in person;
- Updating committee assignments – new lists attached separately; and
- Engaging members at the end of the day in brainstorming about adult size changing table grants.

## 5) **Deputy Director Report**

The Council applied for and received a waiver extending the timeframe for spending the FY21 Federal award. This will allow us to maximize the usage of the award which had approximately \$30,000 remaining due to Covid19 factors.

TN Disability Pathfinder, a core project of the Council, is currently funded by six state agencies, including the Council to facilitate and implement the statewide information and referral center for people with disabilities, families, and professionals. The TN Department of Transportation (TDOT) has joined this group of state agencies to increase the funding for this project by \$80,000 this fiscal year. We are excited to expand the partnership to fund this critical resource for Tennesseans with disabilities.

In addition to the TDOT funding, The Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities has been working with TN Disability Pathfinder to expand their services related to Enabling Technology. This project is still in the planning phases; the Council will share updates as we learn them.

On the topic of TN Disability Pathfinder, the Council staff shared that 13 of the 25 counties previously “unreached” have now had at least one inquiry to Pathfinder.

## 6) **Council Staff Updates**

Lauren shared highlights about staff that will not be captured in the typical reporting we do in program areas:

Dr. Alicia Cone has already organized the next 5-year state plan cycle (2021-2026) and submitted this year’s federal State Plan update to the U.S. Administration on Community Living well ahead of the deadline. Alicia is consistently called upon by our national association and peer states to help with the state plan process; she has made us in Tennessee a national model in federal compliance.

JoEllen Fowler leads records management for the Council, which is the process of retaining and destroying every single document we produce in accordance with state law. The Secretary of State’s office conducts audits to ensure compliance. Thanks to JoEllen’s leadership, the Council has:

- No audit findings with records compliance.
- Reduced paper records by 40% last year and another 50% this year.



This has major implications for our agency's compliance with state law but also for practical reasons like our office space, paper procurement, and ability to adapt to the virtual work environment.

7) **Motion to Adjourn**

***At 11:45 a.m. CDT / 12:45 p.m. EDT Ryan Durham moved to adjourn the meeting. Edward Mitchell seconded. Approved.***

**Next meeting:** September 15, 3:30 pm CDT / 4:30 pm EDT, Embassy Suites Nashville

**Meeting dates for 2022:**

- October 11, 11:00-12:00pm CDT / 12:00 – 1:00 EDT, Microsoft Teams
- November 3, Embassy Suites Nashville (Council Retreat)
- December 13, 11:00-12:00pm CDT / 12:00 – 1:00 EDT, Microsoft Teams

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Prepared by: Ashley Edwards, Executive Assistant

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Approved by: Lauren Pearcy, Executive Director