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## State of Wisconsin Wisconsin Assistive Technology Advisory Board

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**Quarterly Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 2, 2016**  
**10:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

**Conference Call Access Information:**  
USA Toll-Free: 1-877-820-7831  
Participant Code: 567219

### Minutes

Amy Thomson, Becky Albright, Anthony Shay, Dan Johnson, Lee Schulz, Mason Aumanstal, Chad Nelson, Kathy Massa, Megan Igou, Dan Koch, Doug Martens, and Cayte Anderson were in attendance.

Lee & Chad made the motion to approve the August Meeting Minutes, motioned approved with changes.  
Updates:

Doug said their director retired. Jim Unger is temporary director.

Megan said things are steady in La Crosse, writing grants, just received and entered all new equipment. She is an OTA in charge of loan demo & AT assessments.

Kathy said she is DVR supervisor in La Crosse. DVR has been trying to lasso WIOA and what it means to service delivery. Sara Lincoln is the policy analyst now who took over for Kathleen Enders who accepted a section chief position with the division.

WIOA 511—contract signed with UW-Whitewater. There are a number of WIOA forums around the state. We are all encouraged to attend. There is a DVR WIOA presentation at this conference.

Chad said he is new and learning what his role is going to be on the council.

Mason said their primary focus an update to code DHS78. TEPP & TAP hosting regional meetings to hear what focus is wanted. Dates are Neenah 11/9, EC 9:30-3 for all, 11/18 ADRC bldg., 11/30 Madison DHS bldg., 12/2 West Allis public library.

Becky said that Laura Plummer left SVRI for a position at DPI.

David said AT is in & entered into AT4All. Experimenting with AT. Meeting with consumers. Fishing with no boundaries update was that it is hard finding the right switch that's waterproof. They ended up renting 2 boats.

Lee said he's been involved with TEPP from the beginning. At the last coalition meeting, he was asked to write a history of the center's involvement. A copy was sent to Laura. 8pgs. Laura should disseminate this to the council if not Lee will do so.

Dan has finally filled a F/T DHS project position. This is a one year, ongoing position. The hire's name is Lisa Sobczyk. She will be filling the Wistech contract . She came from an ILC in Indiana. Lisa will be at our next AT council meeting.

Kathy suggested updating AT council member list.

Amy gave Wistech updates. Transition stage. Amy sent out data that Laura put together. Megan described tracking consumer trialing an AT device, putting it into a loan program. Usually 30 days. Usually we highlight any deviations on the data from actuals vs. projected.

Schools -Kathryn in Richland Center has been hitting the schools hard. She is hoping to streamline production & give to each of council members.

Kathy said there has been some resistance from schools. Hoping to offer a package with State Part B & AT, support students. Kathy and her office have been discussing At4all. Laura may be able to help with that. Jane Bishoff (DPI) told Anthony that it's not an automatic that schools know that the ILC's are Wistech (AT Program) portals.

Project Search in La Crosse. Jaclyn from SVRI will be part of the steering committee.

Amy said Ben Spec info getting to schools is also slow going.

Laura sent out narrative document for us to review and bring up questions.

Two Scopes of Work were emailed out (Wistech and ILC).

Medicare purchase plan being a work incentive. What's the goal? A Medicaid program for people with disabilities who want to work. Eligibility criteria and a premium is calculated which can be quite high. Trying to make it so that there is eligibility criteria that is more helpful with LTC needs, premium to be more affordable. This doesn't provide incentive for raises, seeking more responsibility. Allowing more medical costs to be covered. Dan mentioned a MAP adhoc workgroup. Contact him if you're interested.

Kathy discussed Astech and the DVR AT guidance piece. She brought a timeline.

Several teams. DVR Astech team formed under Bob White. Kathy took over in 2013 when he retired. Members across the state counselors or CCC's. All WDA's are represented except WDA 2.

Mission is to promote, educate and assist use of AT throughout DVR process. Have bi-monthly meetings. Have presented at ATLC for last 2 years. Will have a buzz session table. March 2014 surveyed all DVR staff regarding AT purchase, appropriateness, training, etc. received good response rate. Info = updating staff guidance, and possibly an AT tech spec. Following the survey team has worked on sharepoint site—ATP's in their areas, breaking out who does what disability focused pieces (cognitive, physical). They were waiting on WIOA to push out info to staff. Guidance piece went back to SLT for updates and training is rolling out staff. Kathy circulated a print copy of draft AT guidance. She will be forwarding the guidance piece for DVR staff to the council (Amy T.). Went to DVR staff this summer with training across the state. Did some team training with SVRI (as in Eau Claire). She will also forward AsTech Team membership list so council members can see who their local DVR AsTech member is.

WisTech guidance pieces on the website were a substantial contributor to the DVR guidance piece.

Due to staff turnover DVR has been trying to educate staff on the importance of AT in consumer vocational rehabilitation—advance in employment.

Thinking about pulling together a small group of providers to go through the AT tech specs. Nothing finalized yet.

Loan and demo is an important piece of getting consumers to get it in their hands and try it out.

Chad referenced Blind Inc. in Minneapolis as a training site for blind individuals and stated DVR is resistant to allowing out-of-state training versus WI comparable training. Since this issue is not related to AT or the guidance piece Kathy will facilitate Chad's connection to DVR staff responsible for addressing his concerns (DVR SLT/Sensibility Team).

Tim C's term is expiring. Kathy expired last Feb. She will stay until Feb. 2019. We aren't actively looking for new members.

Old business/new business:

Anthony presented the Needs Assessment. We had a meeting scheduled but rescheduled due to conflicts. Draft is waiting for comments. Follow up with core stakeholders for Nov 14 at 11am. Contract doesn't list ILC's,

Dan has suggested changing the title and including others. Basic overview of process the proposed timeline. Anthony will send out the draft and the timeline. Based on response, the dates can be moved. Looking at trying to increase capacity, identify gaps, looks at services that are offered. DPI has told us that ILC's are portals of AT. Central WI out of Madison has extra capacity that they aren't even using. This provides greater access to people with disabilities. Dan is concerned with how to expand services with no initiative to seek more funding for Wistech. Kathy M. asks for Wistech budget to be shared with AT Council. Amy T. will ask if we can share this. Tony's role is to complete the Needs Assessment Maureen Ryan has suggested are we maximizing DVR services, is there conflict? Where did this NA come from? Can we reuse AT equip.? We can connect with speaker from Alaska. We need to seek additional funding for AT, would like to see it as a stand-alone initiative, begin looking at other funding for services.

Scope of work questions: Lee asked why it is necessary now to subcontract with SVRI? Offices merged when Cayte worked at DHS. When Ralph retired, Sarah Lincoln was designated as internal person. To maintain some state involvement, it came to SVRI. When Sarah moved to DVR, Laura kept things going.

Janet shared this summer with WIOA legislation, at federal level ILC funding shifted to ACL, AT act shifted to ACL so funding was being aligned with ACL. Janet was being asked to do something internally to follow that. So, there was a new role in DHS. Sarah was under Janet in employment section. Dan oversaw contracts of ILC's. Dan and Janet started with the evaluation of contracts for ILC's and Wistech went back into department. Dan had problems getting project position approved. They have finally hired now. SVRI has provided training and technical assistance for providers and will do that within 2017 contract. Dan wants access to funding for ILC's. IF DVR finds that ILC's aren't being utilized, DVR should make sure they are.

MCO's should be included in Scope of work. Also add DHS creating federal match, ask dept. to go after title 19 funding, etc...

Cayte described the needs assessment as a means to gather info across systems, partners, different levels, call it an environmental scan? Beyond that, federal departments are proactive in releasing their priorities which gives us a nice roadmap of their focus areas and RFP's. Wistech can be the point of contact and get it out to AT council to see who is in best position to go after the funding.

Dan can amend the contract when it comes out. He will share the Position Description.

Janet asked about info that federal departments. are moving in-the tiered approach to TA, universal TA info, materials, etc...

Second level is targeted TA like conferences, webinars, topically focused but more time limited.

Third tier is the intensive like coaching and working in partnership, geared towards ongoing websites with Wistech. Other strategies of Evidence Based Practice out there that haven't come through in universal TA. We can help support the work. COP

With Wistech, ATP certified at each ILC?

Interagency collaboration, how to invest in high quality. Duplicating and ignoring ILC's. We need to integrate, add the language 1, 2, 3, 5. This is an opportunity to make it happen. Dev of a work plan, vetted through the council.

#1 task isn't to start implementing, task is to draft a work plan around a TA. Language should state it is vetted to the council first.

Roles & points of contact – DVR requesting focus. Cayte said once we all digest it, Amy can draft something up. Have a conference call to discuss role and function. Dec conference call. Send suggestions to Amy and she will integrate into one revised draft. From practical standpoint, getting contracts through is a concern.

Supplemental funding was built in to recognize shift of Wistech to DHS. Assessment of what's already out there. Are we exceeding in certain areas and missing in others. Nice info to work with before jumping in to capacity building. Facilitate a good process. Include consumers or do we need two different assessments. The needs assessment can go in a number of different directions. We can structure it appropriately so people can participate as they want to. The original intent was to gain a systems perspective and some referrals, determine how systems interact, and pick up on any patterns.

Kathy asked if ILC's send out surveys to consumers. What if Wistech works with each IL, bring in pizza, do it more conversationally, in a work group. We could record it and pull it all together to share with council and figure out how to move forward. We could network with VA's.

Timeline is to be considered also. Holidays will take some people out of the game. Nov 14 meeting isn't exclusive. Go ahead and forward to reps.

Google forms work with screen writer. Not doodle poll. Qualtrics/Survey monkey- we always attach a work doc as well. Survey monkey is most accessible.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Becky Albright