



Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council (PaRC)

55 Utley Drive, Camp Hill, PA 17011

Voice: (717) 975-2004 or (888) 250-5175 TTY: (888) 559-2658 Fax: (888) 524-9282

Email: parc@parehabilitationcouncil.org Website: parehabilitationcouncil.org

The mission of the Council is to inform and advise the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, the State Board of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Legislature, and the Governor on the diverse issues affecting employment of people with disabilities.

FULL COUNCIL HYBRID MEETING

TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2024

Best Western Premier The Central Hotel & Conference Center

Zoom Virtual Platform

AGENDA

- 10:00 AM **WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS:** William De Paz Melo, Chair
- PaRC Mission Statement
 - Roll Call of Council Members – Nichole Wade, Meeting Moderator
 - **ACTION: Approval of today's meeting Agenda**
 - **ACTION: Approval of meeting minutes from Full Council meeting on May 08, 2024**
 - **ACTION: Approval of meeting minutes from Special meeting on May 28, 2024**
- 10:10 AM **PaRC FISCAL REPORT (4th QUARTER):** Julia Barol, Member at Large
- ACTION: Approval of PaRC 4th quarter Fiscal Report**
- 10:15 AM **CHAIR REPORT:**
- Introduction of new PaRC members, Christie Cyktor and Julianna Rodrigues
 - Full Council Meeting Dates for 2025 Calendar Year 2025
 - Wednesday, February 12, 2025 (VIRTUAL)
 - Wednesday, May 07, 2025 (HYBRID) ** on site location to be determined
 - Wednesday, August 13, 2025 (HYBRID) ** on site location to be determined
 - Wednesday, November 12, 2025 (VIRTUAL)
 - Discussion and support of creating an Ad Hoc Committee to study the mission of both the PaRC and the State Board and prepare a report on the feasibility of potentially combining the two.
 - **ACTION: Approval of changing PaRC Standing Committees to work sessions**

NEW BUSINESS: Committee Chairs

- CAREERLINK COMMITTEE: Andrew Pennington, Chair

ACTION: *Approval of Committee goals for FY 2024-2025*

- GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE: Susan Tomasic, Chair

ACTION: *Approval of Committee goals for FY 2024-2025*

ACTION: *Approval of forwarding Ms. Cindy Duch's application, resume, and letters of reference to the Governor for consideration of appointment to the PaRC representing the category of Parent Training and Information (PEAL Center)*

ACTION: *Approval of forwarding Mr. Rob Wallington's application, resume, and letters of reference to the Governor for consideration of appointment to the PaRC representing the category of Business/Labor/Industry.*

ACTION: *Approval of forwarding Ms. Kait Gillis' application, resume, and letters of reference to the Governor for consideration of appointment to the PaRC representing the category of Workforce Development Board.*

ACTION: *Approval of forwarding Ms. Mallory Irwin's application, resume, and letters of reference to the Governor for consideration of appointment to the PaRC representing the category of Young Adult.*

ACTION: *Approval of adding Commonwealth Technical Institute at Hiram G. Andrews Center Ad Hoc Committee to list of PaRC's Standing Committees*

ACTION: *Approval of Social Media Committee bylaw changes*

ACTION: *Approval of creating mentoring program for new PaRC member*

ACTION: *Approval of creating a standing committee to review employment related issues that do not fit directly into any of the other committees.*

- LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Passle Helminski, Chair

ACTION: *Approval of revised State Position Paper to include Service Dog language*

ACTION: *Approval of removing HB342 from the State Position*

ACTION: *Approval of adding [HB1834](#), [SB1094](#), [HB2419](#) to the State Position Paper*

ACTION: *Approval of adding [HR7208](#) to the Federal Position Paper*

ACTION: Approval of purchasing MYPLS Communication Connection Service for FY 24-25

ACTION: Approval of Letter to PA General Assembly regarding protection of Service Dogs

ACTION: Approval of Letter to Senator Casey regarding protection of Service Animals

ACTION: Approval of Letter to Commissioner Allen regarding the affect CIE has on Waiver Services and Medical Assistance

ACTION: Approval of Letter in response to CSAVR Action Alert informing of potential budget cut to VR services at the Federal level

- POLICY COMMITTEE: Lynn Heitz, Chair

ACTION: Approval of Committee goals for FY 2024-2025

- SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE: Susan Tomasic, Vice Chair

ACTION: Approval of Committee goals for FY 2024-2025

ACTION: Approval of PaRC Veterans Brochure

- TRANSITION COMMITTEE: Julia Barol, Chair
- AD HOC COMMITTEE - HIRAM G. ANDREWS CENTER (HGAC): William Paz De Melo, Chair
- AD HOC COMMITTEE - OVR HEARING OFFICERS / MEDIATORS: Andrew Pennington, Chair

11:00 AM **BREAK (10 minutes)**

11:10 AM **OVR DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
Ryan Hyde, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), Executive Director

12:00 PM **PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes each)**

12:15 PM **LUNCH (1 hour)**

1:15 PM **OVR REPORTS**

- Financial Needs Test Policy
- Quarterly Progress Report State Plan Goals

- **District Office Report**

1:45 PM **STAKEHOLDER UPDATES**

- **Client Assistance Program (CAP)**
- **Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH)**
- **Statewide Independent Living Council (PA SILC)**
- **State Workforce Development Board (PA WDB)**
- **PA Department of Education (PDE)**

2:05 PM **BREAK** (10 minutes)

2:15 PM **COUNCIL WORK**

- **2022-2023 Annual Report update** – Julia Barol, Member at Large
- **Conference Reports:**

National Coalition of State Rehabilitation Council (NCSRC) / Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR) Spring 2024 Conference – Julia Barol, Michelle Mitchell, Andrew Pennington, William Paz De Melo
- **Other**

3:15 PM **PUBLIC COMMENT** (3 minutes each)

3:30 PM **ADJOURN**

***NEXT PaRC FULL COUNCIL MEETING: Wednesday, November 13, 2024
Virtual Meeting via Zoom***