



Andy Beshear
Governor

Jaime Link
Education and Labor Cabinet Secretary

Special Called Meeting Minutes

January 30th, 2023

9:00am – 9:30am

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 819 7743 6984

Passcode: **430611**

Members Present: Amanda Friend, Annette Jett, Amanda Owen, Cora McNabb, David Allgood, Diana Merzweiler, Frank Huffman, Jeff Edwards, Jeff White, Katie Wolf Whaley, Merry Reid Sheffer, Morgan Turner, Rebecca Wilson, Tal Curry, and Todd Coffey.

Members Absent: Dawn Gardner, Gretta Hylton, Jessica Beaven, Leslie Hoffmann, Lori Norton, Dina Klimkina, Michael Rimer, Patricia Seybold, Robert 'Larry' Taylor, Staci Cain, and Zach Morgan.

Staff Present: Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (KYOVR) Administrator, Nanci Howard

Welcome/Roll Call:

KYOVR Administrator, Nanci Howard, welcomed those in attendance to the special called meeting. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

Meeting materials consisted of a State Personnel Development Grants (SPDG) abstract and a draft letter of support from Chair of the Employment First Council, Katie Wolf Whaley. These materials were presented to the full council via electronically and on screen in real time. To summarize, the abstract provided to council members states, *"The Kentucky Department of Education's Office of Special Education and Early Learning (OSEEL) is preparing a grant application for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), U.S. Department of Education. The State [SPDG] program provides grants to help state educational agencies (SEAs) reform and improve their systems for personnel preparation and professional development of individuals providing early intervention, educational, and transition services to improve results for children with disabilities."*

Chair Katie Wolf Whaley welcomed everyone and explained the importance of the letter and why the Department of Education were soliciting support of the SPDG application. She opened the floor for discussion.

Council member, David Allgood, stated the information is pretty cut and dry and expressed his support.

Council member, Zach Morgan, expressed his support, but also proposed including concrete information in the letter asking for results of the program. He stated, for the sake of time this may not be a current option.

A motion was made by council member, Cora McNabb, to approve the letter of support. Jeff Edwards, second.

Vice Chair, Frank Huffman, asked staff to read the letter aloud. Nanci Howard agreed and read the letter to the full council. Mr. Huffman asked if the council would agree to including language in the letter that pertained to how individuals who are on the waiver could still work and to provide training to educators regarding the information. Chair, Katie Wolf Whaley, explained the full council could not dictate the type of training the Office of Special Education and Early Learning could conduct and that the letter is simply a show of support for their grant application process. Mr. Huffman stated he understood.

The Chair called for additional discussion. No further discussion. No abstentions or oppositions. Motion carried unanimously.

No further business was discussed. Meeting adjourned at 9:13am.