



**Interagency Committee on Employees with Disabilities (ICED)
March 4, 2020 Meeting**

A present majority of 9 shall constitute a quorum

Ex-Officio Member	Name	Present	Phone	Absent
Co-Chair, Human Rights	Director Jim Bennett	X		
Designee	Donna Hardy	X		
Co-Chair, Human Services	Director Grace Hou			
Designee	Francisco Alvarado	X		
Attorney General	AG Kwame Raoul			
Designee	Pamela Blackorby	X		
Central Management Services	Director Janel L. Forde			
Designee	Lisa Williams	X		
Civil Service Commission	Timothy D. Sickmeyer, Chairman			
Designee				
Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities	Director Kimberly Mercer- Schleider			
Designee	Margie Harden	X		
Lt. Governor	Juliana Stratton			
Designee	Dartesia Pitts			
Secretary of State	Jesse White			
Designee	Bill Bogdan	X		
State Comptroller	Susana A. Mendoza			
Designee	Kevin Derrig			
State Treasurer	Michael Frerichs			
Designee	Rosemary Laudani			
Veterans Affairs	Director Linda Chapa LaVia			
Designee				
Employees with Disabilities				
Department	Name	Present	Phone	Absent
Human Services	Matt Abrahamson	X		
Human Services	Nathan Painter	X		
Vacant				
Vacant				
Vacant				
Vacant				

Vacant				
Other Attendees	Names			
	Ryan Croke	X		

ICED Committee Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2020

Roll Call

- The roll was taken, and the meeting was called to order at 1:40.
- The December 4, 2019 minutes approved by Director Bennett and seconded by Ryan Croke

Disability Legislation Update

Director Bennett and Ryan Croke spoke of two bills represented by Rep. Maud. One dealt with strengthening leave of absence for policies for a family member desiring to care for a person with disabilities. *The other dealt with strengthening the rights for people with disabilities at the workplace and other public places.* Further information regarding these bills will be forthcoming from Director Bennett and Ryan and e-mailed to all committee members.

Also spoke at length about bill 20 ILCS 415-17B Trainee Program, Diversity Program (taking affect July 1st 2020) which includes:

- Law that requires CMS to train people and with disabilities as opposed to going through an interview
- Separate eligibility list
- Agencies have not accepted the general positions that can be applied unilaterally across the state - 1 Support Role (clerical) and 1 Professional Role.
- Ironing it out for a state agency that employees more than 1500 (primarily DCFS, Corrections, DHS, and Transportation)
- Going to try to bring other agencies on board that employ less than 1500
- Brandon Singer with CMS is the head person with this bill initiative

ADA Survey and Furniture Portability Update

Lisa Williams gave an update on her efforts with the statewide ADA Coordinators and property exchange efforts. CMS hopes to employ a centralized warehouse and exempt accommodation requests through procurement as site people are not knowledgeable about the ADA law. Accommodation requests would be received

by the ADA coordinators and they would see how much the accommodation costs. The ADA coordinators would consult with the warehouse and use existing state-owned furniture. This would save the state money and shorten response time. ADA coordinators would be kept informed of types of requests, information, etc. by either an annual or bi-annual meeting. Director Bennett asked if the survey results could be shared with all committee members, and Lisa said she would e-mail members the results.

**DRS Director Rahnee Patrick mentioned there was an ADA Celebration in July in Chicago; *Francisco, Floyna, and BAJA* are the organizers for this.

Committee Formation and Volunteers

- Nomination Committee for ICED Membership – TBD
Director Bennett said there were nominations in the system that went back to 2016 that they are trying to weed out and determine who is still interested
Said there was 4 or 5 new nominations for people with disabilities, including the desired candidate from DOIT
- Hiring Process Review for People with Disabilities
Donna Hardy – IDHR
Ryan Croke – IDHS
Lisa Williams -CMS
(More could be placed, but all that volunteered in the meeting)
- Annual Awards Ceremony (October 2020) Committee – TBD

Annual Ceremony Update

Francisco Alvarado gave an update. The ceremony will be held at the State Library across from the Capitol building. Francisco stated that there have been 150 attendees to the ceremony in the past when it was held at this location. It was proposed to reserve the first-level atrium with the expected number of people that are going to attend. The proposed theme is, “**Celebrating Those Who Make a Difference.**” Francisco also stated that the dancers who did the entertainment last year could do it again this year. Had a variety of dances they could do that would be different. Ryan Croke said that Horace Sparza – Director of the Independent Living of Suburban Cook County– could participate. He plays the keyboards. He also said Billy Altum – Rural Independent Living Director – could participate.

ICED Annual Report

Director Bennett said the report was pending, and they were working on it.

2020 Committee Meeting Calendar

- April 1, 2020
- June 10, 2020 (Changed from June 3rd)
- August 5, 2020
- October 5, 2020 (ICED Awards Ceremony in Springfield)
- December 2, 2020

Presentation

DHS, Division of Rehabilitation Services ~ Planning and Business Development Unit
Rahnee Patrick gave a presentation of the new PBDU unit in place of Sherry Sparks (Supervisor) who had another commitment. The purpose of the Unit is to reach out to businesses to ascertain what their needs are to help DRS talent become gainfully employed. The new Unit launched April 1, 2019.

Public Comment

No public comment was made

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 3:02 pm

****Note –** This meeting was conducted utilizing the new Webex forum so members could call in from their desk for those who could not attend in person at the JRTC (Chicago) or Harris (Springfield) buildings. Donna Hardy indicated that future meetings would take place using this new format.