**Arkansas State Rehabilitation Council**

**Called Meeting Minutes**

**January 26, 2022**

**9:30 A.M.**

**Attendees:**

**Council Members:** Jonathan Taylor, Chair; Keisha Pilot, Co-Chair; Alex Scott; Tom Masseau; Carol McDearmon; Dr. Charles Green; Dr. James Grover; Kelley Sharp; Robert Fagan; Bonnie Boaz, Proxy for Matt Sewell.

**Arkansas Rehabilitation Services (ARS) Staff:** Joseph Baxter, ARS Commissioner; Christy Lamas, ARS Deputy Commissioner; Charles Lyford; Jim Moreland; Bernice Gunter.

**Identified Members of the Public:** Mollie Hernandez and Jennifer Goodwin, Disability Rights Arkansas.

**Call to Order:** Arkansas State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) Chair, Jonathan Taylor called the meeting conducted via teleconference (Zoom) to order at 9:31a.m. Following rollcall, a quorum was declared.

**WIOA 2-Year State Plan Update-Commissioner Joseph Baxter & Deputy Commissioner Christy Lamas:**  The Council convened to review and approve the ARS potion of the WIOA 2-year state plan update. A copy of the update with track changes was sent to Council members prior to the meeting for review. Commissioner Baxter reported that areas addressed in the update primarily focused on progress made on goals and objectives of both the VR and supported employment programs, the number of clients currently being served, and reporting current staffing and projected staffing needs. The Commissioner also stated that the reason for the called meeting was to provide the SRC an opportunity to review the document prior to the Public Comment period that begins February 11, 2022, and ends March 11, 2022. Deputy Commissioner Lamas reviewed the draft 2-year update with Council members providing a general overview of changes made. The Commissioner requested that any comments be submitted during the public comment period. Chair Taylor requested that SRC members review the document carefully and submit any questions to be addressed during the public comment period to Bernice and copy him and the Commissioner. After much discussion Chair Taylor asked for a motion to approve the draft report as presented. Dr. Green made a motion to approve the report as presented and Mr. Fagan seconded. The Council concurred. Discussion followed regarding the need to reschedule the March SRC quarterly meeting to March 14, 2022, as the 2-year update must be submitted no later than March 15, 2022

**Announcements-Jonathan Taylor**

* The next scheduled SRC meeting- was rescheduled for Monday, March 14, 2022, via Zoom @ 10:00 A.M.

**Adjournment**

With no additional business to conduct a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The Council concurred.