

**IDAHO COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***2011 Spring Meeting***

**5-Year Planning Session – Wednesday, April 27, 2011**

**Council Meeting - Thursday, April 28, 2011 – Friday, April 29, 2011**

**Council Office, 700 West State Street, Boise, ID 83702**

**MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, April 27, 2011**

**5-Year Planning Session  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**See attached agenda and  
meeting summary**

Council members present: Jim Baugh, Toni Belknap-Brinegar, Shiloh Blackburn, Dona Butler, Ritchy Cardwell, Dave Dekker, Jane Donnellan, Jo Lynn Garrison, Kristyn Herbert, Debra Parsons, Joe Raiden, TeRonda Robinson, James Steed, Joni Sullivan, Paul Tierney, Denise Wetzel

Council members absent: Bettina Briscoe, Julie Fodor, Chris Lynch, Lisa Robbe

Guests: Mary Arndt, Acena Dekker, Pam Blackburn, Trina Balanoff, Marsha Bracke, Colleen Steinman, Jean Christensen (Division of Medicaid)

Staff present: Marilyn Sword, Amanda Holloway, Tracy Warren, Christine Pisani, Shane Carlton

Sign-in/out sheets were distributed.

**THURSDAY, April 28, 2011**

**Work Team Meetings**

Work Team Meetings (concurrent) 8:30 am to 10:00 am

- Community Living
- Education Participant Directed Services
- Self Advocacy and Self Determination

**Meet in Committees**  
(See separate committee minutes for details)

Council Committee meetings (concurrent) 10:15 am to 12:15 pm

- Governance
- Membership
- Public Policy

**Call to Order**

James Steed called the meeting to order at 1:08 pm

Council members present: Jim Baugh, Toni Belknap-Brinegar, Shiloh Blackburn, Dona Butler, Ritchy Cardwell, Dave Dekker, Jane Donnellan, Jo Lynn Garrison, Kristyn Herbert, Debra Parsons, Joe Raiden, TeRonda Robinson, James Steed, Joni Sullivan, Paul Tierney, Denise Wetzel

Council members absent: Bettina Briscoe, Julie Fodor, Chris Lynch, Lisa Robbe

Guests: Mary Arndt, Acena Dekker, Pam Blackburn, Trina Balanoff, Jean Christensen (Medicaid), Jacquie Daniel (Maternal & Child Health), Tim Gerlitz (Division of Medicaid)

<p><b>Call to Order</b></p>	<p><u>Staff present:</u> Marilyn Sword, Amanda Holloway, Tracy Warren, Christine Pisani, Shane Carlton</p> <p>Sign-in/out sheets were distributed.</p>
<p><b>Recognition Awards</b></p>	<p>Kristyn Herbert was recognized for her 9 years of service to the Council. She was presented with a certificate of appreciation by Marilyn. Council members and staff shared stories about Kristyn.</p>
<p><b>Inclusion Award</b></p>	<p>Council Members watched the video of the Inclusion Award presentation at the Kroc Center in Coeur d’Alene on May 4, 2011. Marilyn and Denise presented the award.</p>
<p><b>Introductions</b></p>	<p>Introductions were made for the benefit of new members. Chair nomination forms were passed out after introductions.</p>
<p><b>Approval of Minutes from January 2011 Meeting</b> →</p>	<p>Council reviewed the minutes from the January 2011 meeting.</p> <p><b>Toni motioned to approve the minutes as written. Dona seconded the motion. Motion carried.</b></p>
<p><b>Chair’s Report</b> <i>James Steed</i></p>	<p>The Pocatello SALN chapter held a fund raiser (<i>Chicken Noodle for Kenny’s Noodle</i>) to raise funds for a chapter member who has an upcoming surgery in Seattle to help control his seizures. \$300 was raised.</p> <p>SALN had their elections and Shiloh was elected chair. James serves as the liaison between the Council and SALN. The Pocatello Chapter remains involved with Civitan, a service organization. An Easter egg hunt was held to benefit Head Start.</p> <p>James, along with Joe Raiden testified on the Medicaid cuts. With Marilyn and Christine, James also visited with individual legislators.</p> <p>James coordinates ADA Day in Pocatello (July 26<sup>th</sup>). James asked for recommendations of names of people in the Pocatello area who have helped to involve people with disabilities to be nominees for the Kento Award.</p>
<p><b>Director’s Report</b> <i>Marilyn Sword</i></p>	<p>Marilyn has spent most of her time since the last meeting on legislative issues. The staff has also spent a good deal of time working on the five-year plan.</p> <p>Marilyn has been representing the Council on the Idaho Home Choice project which is Idaho’s MFP Grant that was awarded to Medicaid. This five-year grant focuses on moving people out of institutions and into the community. The grant will provide transition services over and above service coordination or support brokerage that residents would be getting. To assist with transition, individuals will get 8 hours a month for three months prior to discharge and 8 hours a month for three months after discharge. They are also eligible for up to \$2,000 per person for</p>

<p><b>Director's Report</b> <i>Marilyn Sword</i></p>	<p>goods and services. The project's goal is to transition 332 people out of institutions, 31 of whom are targeted to be people with developmental disabilities. Marilyn will be participating on the Idaho Home Choice Advisory Council through the end of the project (2016).</p> <p>Marilyn also participated in a meeting sponsored by the Department of Insurance on the new health insurance exchange for Idaho under the new federal health care law. At this point, it looks like the exchange will be a web portal where people can go to compare plans and to register for the exchange. The Department of Insurance was successful in getting a \$2.2 million federal grant to establish the exchange but the state legislature pulled the money out of their appropriation. The Department of Insurance is being asked to develop the exchange without the benefit of the federal grant or any additional state funds.</p> <p>Marilyn participated in the interview for the new AmeriCorps Accessible Transportation Network Project Director who will see the project through to completion in August. She is a former AmeriCorps member from Canyon County.</p> <p>Marilyn attended a Resource Advisory Panel meeting for the Person Centered Hospital Discharge Planning Grant that Idaho State's Institute of Rural Health has. Dave Dekker also serves on this panel.</p> <p>Dr. Michael Graham has stepped down as the head of Vocational Rehabilitation and Dr. Trudy Anderson is serving in the interim. Marilyn met with Trudy about the Council's concerns regarding employment and what philosophies we hope they look for in hiring a new administrator.</p>
<p><b>Financial Report</b> <i>Amanda Holloway</i> ➔</p>	<p>Amanda presented the financial report and contracts report.</p> <p><b>Debra Parsons moved to accept the reports with the correction to the 2011 federal grant balance noted by Amanda (In columns C and F, the figures for FY11 should match Column B = \$477,839). Joni Sullivan seconded the motion. Motion carried.</b></p>
<p><b>Report on Legislative Session</b></p>	<p>Marilyn and others presented a report on the Legislative Session and the issues the Council was active in or monitoring. The Power Point presentation will be attached to the minutes.</p> <p><u>Children's Services Redesign</u>: The Council did not oppose redesigning children's services but opposed the rules as they were written. Opposition was based on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budgets are not being individually set and children will be</li> </ul>

**Report on Legislative Session**

*Continued*

placed in a budget tier which may or may be adequate to meet their needs.

- There was an expectation that plan developers would be online to help. It has not been clear until recently, but it appears that plan developers will be FACS staff. There is a concern about the possible delay in training for those plan developers.
- There was an issue of not having intervention services available to people who were not waiver eligible. Even on the Act Early Waiver, the amount of services that could be purchased with the budget was still less than what is evidence-based practice. There was also concern that the 3-6 age restriction on the Act Early waiver was too narrow, particularly if children are not diagnosed until 5 years of age.

Changes to ISSH: The council supported the bill to define the criteria for admission to ISSH which also included a new hearing process for those family members who might disagree with the decision to transition their relative out of ISSH. This is part of a three phased plan that the Department proposed as the result of a committee that met during the summer of 2009 and recommended a variety of changes, including developing crisis capacity around the state.

Personal Care Attendant Rates: The Council opposed the cuts to personal care attendant rates. This bill would eliminate service coordination for participants of the A&D Waiver. HB260 removed all references to automatic rate increases based on anything other than an appropriation bill.

Consumer Directed Services Rules: Rules were modified to allow families to direct services for their children. Also Support Brokers must attend the initial training. This is not required under self direction. A parent or legal guardian cannot be a paid community support broker for their minor aged child. The Council will monitor the implementation of these rules.

The priority this session was around the Medicaid cuts and budgets. There was no discussion on revenue or tax increases even though there was support by many for the cigarette tax increase.

Cuts to DD Services: HB221 made a whole list of cuts to services for people with developmental disabilities. It retired people from the DD Waiver and moved them over to A&D Waiver at age 45.

**Report on Legislative Session**

*Continued*

It put into law all of the temporary rules. It eliminated developmental therapy for the 500 adults in Idaho who were just getting DD services on the state plan. It eliminated preventative dental services. It implemented budget tiers for adults similar to the Children's Redesign. It would move Medicaid to a managed care model. This bill was held and replaced by HB260.

HB260: The following items were dropped between HB 221 and HB 260:

- The retirement of people with DD from active treatment and moving them to the A&D waive at age 45 was dropped.
- The element of HB221 that eliminated developmental therapy for state plan only participants was dropped.
- There was a requirement in HB221 that psychiatrists had to prior authorize PSR services

HB260 also includes language that previously was in temporary rules resulting from intent language in last year's Medicaid appropriation (HB701). The Council opposed those temporary rules.

Certified Family Home changes: Rules were adopted that restrict CFH providers from being guardians for individuals living in their homes unless the individual is a relative. This was supported by the Community Care Advisory Council and our Council. The rules also include some safety and sanitation changes.

TBI Trust Fund: Senator Corder indicated that he would be willing to sponsor a bill that would create a trust fund that would be used for people with traumatic brain injuries and would be funded by enhanced fines for certain moving traffic violations. . The bill was drafted but it never received a bill number and never made it to hearing.

Education Reform: The public education system was significantly changed. Teacher contracts, pay for performance and online learning requirements were some of the major components of the bills presented this session. The pay for performance looks at the school as a whole and not individual teacher performance.

Sheltered Workshop contracts: HB169 brought by a workshop provider that was not getting the contracts that he felt were due his organization. This provider went to his local legislators and they put together this bill that would have required the Council to solicit and maintain a list of employment providers that serve people with disabilities and have that list on the Council web site

**Report on Legislative Session**

*Continued*

as a place for the public to go to locate these organizations as Vendors. Council staff explained that this was not consistent with the Council's mission or philosophy and the sponsor agreed to pull the bill.

Privatizing ISSH: Representative Bilbao brought legislation that called for the Department of Health & Welfare and the Department of Administration to work with stakeholders and pull together a request for proposal to privatize ISSH as an ICF and to sell off the other property in the best interest of the state. The Council met with Rep. Bilbao and learned that his understanding was that this would result in ISSH being a facility for crisis placement for people with dual diagnosis. The bill passed the House but the Council and FACS met with Chairman Lodge when it reached the Senate side and explained that this bill did not solve the problems that Rep. Bilbao was concerned with. Senator Lodge held the bill.

Consolidation of VR and Commission for Blind: This bill came forward late in the session and called for a task force to study the impact and potential cost savings of combining Voc Rehab and the Commission for the Blind. The task force was to include the Council although we had not been notified. The Commission for the Blind was opposed and when it was revealed that the study would cost \$21,000, the bill was held in committee.

Building Code Changes: Representative Luker presented a bill that would make some changes to the building code permitting exemptions from the building code requirements for certain remodels, enhancements or expansions. SILC, ADA Task Force and others made sure that any of these amendments would still have to meet accessibility requirements. This bill passed.

Freedom of Conscience for Health Care Professionals: Last year a bill was passed that allowed health care professionals to refuse to participate in a plan of care that violates their moral code. When this happens, the provider has to transfer the patients care to another professional who does not have an objection to caring out the plan. This was originally about abortion and birth control but it raised issues as to whether it applied to doctors who had moral objections to carrying out someone's living will in which the patient does not want to have life prolonging treatment. The Council did not participate in testimony on this bill.

Federal Health Care Nullification: HB298 would prohibit Idaho agencies and their employees from participating in

<p><b>Report on Legislative Session</b> <i>Continued</i></p>	<p>implementation of any part of the Affordable Health Care Act that is not mandatory or any part of the Act that did not have to be acted upon before 2014. This bill passed both houses and was sent to the Governor. The Governor recognized that it was going to cause a lot of problems for Idaho in setting up our health care insurance exchanges. He vetoed the bill but said that he would issue an executive order that was stronger. Idaho joined several other states in bringing suit against the federal government regarding the constitutionality of the law.</p>
<p><b>Committee Reports/Recommendations</b></p> <p><b>Consumer Leadership:</b></p> <p><b>Governance:</b></p> <p><b>Membership:</b></p>	<p><b>Consumer Leadership:</b> Shiloh gave the CLC report. The caucus discussed its role in the Council. Members decided that they would like to go back to reviewing the packets so that each member could be better informed and understand the issues. This would allow them to better participate in full Council discussions. The foals/purpose of the CLC is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To understand the packet materials</li> <li>• Promote leadership development</li> <li>• Identify important issues and bring them up in full council</li> </ul> <p>The CLC has decided to start its own Facebook page to keep up with the issues that they are interested in. The group also discussed next steps regarding guardianship background checks.</p> <p><b>Governance:</b> Marilyn reported for the Governance Committee. Amanda will be the Council representative to the Early Childhood Coordinating Council as they prefer it is a staff person.</p> <p>Reorganization of staff will be tied to new plan activities and projects.</p> <p>The use of interns was discussed. Marilyn has talked with BSU about potentially using 1-2 interns to create an historical display wall in the Council office using materials from ISSH. A student from Iowa who will be in Idaho for the summer will also be working on updating “Keys to the Future” for the Council.</p> <p>The committee reviewed the recommendations from NACDD regarding changes to the DD Act when it is reauthorized. It gave the committee a good opportunity to become more familiar with the Act and what some of those changes might be.</p> <p>Marilyn provided an update on the health insurance exchanges and Medicaid’s Money Follows the Person grant.</p> <p><b>Membership:</b> Tracy reported for Membership. Over the last 2 months, the committee has conducted 16 interviews of Council</p>

	<p>applicants; 11 parents, 2 self-advocates and 3 agency representatives. In addition to reapplications there are three vacancies. Recommendations were agreed on to be sent to the Governor with all applications for appointment.</p>
<p><b>Public Policy:</b></p> <p>→</p>	<p><b>Public Policy:</b> Debra Parsons reported for Public Policy. There was lengthy discussion about what position to take on the background check requirement for guardianship. There is already a law that says that if someone does not have a successful background check, they cannot have guardianship or conservatorship. The only issue we had is that the background check is discretionary and a guardian can refuse to have one done. The committee feels that the background check should be a requirement but this will need to be taken up by the legislature.</p> <p>There was discussion of trying to get a status update on Safe and Supportive Schools by bringing it up at the next CID meeting. An action of the Consortium could be to write a letter to Tom Luna about this being a priority and requesting the task force be reconvened to start looking at how to make this happen in Idaho for all students.</p> <p>Christine passed out a document on Medicaid's cost reductions frequently asked questions on HB 260.</p> <p><b>Dave Dekker moved to accept the committee reports. Debra Parsons seconded the motion. Motion carried.</b></p>
<p><b>Recess</b></p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 4:58 pm</p>
<p>FRIDAY, April 29, 2011</p>	
<p><b>Call to Order</b></p>	<p>James Steed called the meeting to order at 8:32 am.</p> <p><u>Council members present:</u> Jim Baugh, Shiloh Blackburn, Ritchy Cardwell, David Dekker, Jane Donnellan, Jo Lynn Garrison, Kristyn Herbert, Debra Parsons, Chris Lynch, Joe Raiden, TeRonda Robinson, James Steed, Paul Tierney</p> <p><u>Council members absent:</u> Toni Belknap-Brinegar, Bettina Briscoe, Dona Butler, Julie Fodor, Lisa Robbe, Joni Sullivan, Denise Wetzel</p> <p><u>Guests:</u> Pam Blackburn, Jess Gilkison, Acena Dekker, Trina Balanoff, Jacquie Daniel</p> <p><u>Staff present:</u> Marilyn Sword, Amanda Holloway, Tracy Warren, Christine Pisani</p> <p>Sign-in/out sheets were distributed.</p>

**Progress on 2011 Outcomes**

Promoting Positive Behavioral Supports: Partially Met - 50%. We have made some progress related to the Safe & Supportive Schools Task Force that was formed over the last few years. The rules were drafted but they were not run last session. We may see something this next year.

School Districts Alternatives to Graduation: Partially Met - 50%  
The Council participates on a graduation guidance committee, hosted by the State Department of Education. By this fall, we will be coming close to 75% or more toward meeting this outcome. The Council is developing information for students and families about school district alternative measures to meet graduation requirements.

Inclusive Educational Practices: Partially Met - 75%. With budget cuts in the schools, additional training for teachers will be difficult. It is not likely that this outcome will be met at 100%.

Information and training on transition issues: 100% met. The Council has been providing students, family members and educators from 75% of Idaho school districts information and training on transition. This includes support for the Tools for Life Conference, the Youth Leadership Forum and the Moving On Transition Binder.

Employment: Partially met – 20%. Each year, the Council supports Disability Mentoring Day activities and it is having a great impact in local communities. What began in one community (Idaho Falls) has spread to other areas; last fall the Council provided funds to groups in five communities. There has been a great turnout for these events and great employer involvement. The plan outcome was to increase the number of people receiving state funded integrated employment in the community 25% more than the number of people receiving segregated employment services. It is unlikely that we will come any closer to meeting the target with funding reductions.

Participant directed services information and training. 100% met  
500 people with developmental disabilities and families have received awareness information and training on participant directed waiver options. This includes My Voice, My Choice self-directed services and family directed services, Person Centered Planning grant trainings, three teams around the state that are doing Powerful Tools for Caregivers training to help caregivers to sustain themselves and make sure that their own needs are being met.

Progress on 2011 Outcomes  
*Continued*

Council Initiatives for Quality Assurance in Community Supports: 100% met. The Council had four initiatives that can be counted here, including Council participation on the self-directed services quality assurance committee.

Information on Community Supports & Services: 100% met. By 2011, 1000 people with Developmental Disabilities will have access to information they need to obtain services and supports in their communities. The IdahoHelp Community Resource Directory was developed under the Person Centered Planning grant. The Council also provides information through the website, newsletters and emails as well as through the Powerful Tools for Caregivers training.

Improve the Quality of Direct Support Staff: 90% met. The Council has accomplished this goal through support for the Human Partnerships conference every fall. This is something that we have done through the years by supporting the Community Partnerships Conference every fall. Last year, the Council provided \$4,500 to the conference and there were 540 attending. There were 37 sessions and 26 presenters.

Emergency Preparedness: Partially Met – 40%. Most of the work on this outcome was done in prior years with Ron working with the Bureau of Homeland Security and counties to help them develop disaster preparedness plans. Some counties have very basic information but less than what is desirable. With fewer staff, it is unlikely that further work will occur on this outcome. One staff member has been diminished.

Provide Information to the Public about People with Disabilities. 100% met each year. Information has been distributed through the newsletter, website and Facebook; most of the information that is disseminated each year is done during the legislative session.

Informing Policymakers: 100% met. Activities for this outcome generally take place during the legislative quarter. However, we also shared information via an electronic version of our newsletter, a printed annual report distributed to legislators and other elected officials, and position papers and testimony on legislative issues.

Conference Funding: 80% met. Each year, \$5,000 is allocated to support self advocates and family members to attend conferences. This year there have been no requests yet. This may be due to fewer conferences being offered and the cost of travel has gone up.

Progress on 2011 Outcomes  
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Plan Coordination and Oversight: 80% met. This is new to the plan this year and allows Council meetings to oversee the plan implementation to be included in the plan. By the end of the year, this will be 100% met.

Housing: Neither of our housing objectives was achieved. One objective was to develop a multiple housing unit with specific minimal occupancy requirements by this year. This was based on conversations that Ron was having with developers and family members and trying to get something put together. This was never able to materialize. No more work will be done on this during this plan year. Under the homeownership objective, there were a variety of strategies that have been in place over the course of the five-year plan. Most recently, it was that we would provide people with a plain language brochure about home ownership. This has not been doable with the current staff resources. If materials are put together, CLC would be a good review group to review them

Quality Assurance: 100% met. Five training opportunities on principles of self-determination and leadership development are provided to parents and self-advocates in each of the H&W regions by 2011. This was a difficult goal to meet due to the way it was worded. There are some regions that this is difficult to make happen. Through the self-advocacy conference in October. Joe Raiden, Shiloh Blackburn, Sandra Abend and Erick Yearly presented on self-advocacy issues at the Tools for Life Conference in Idaho Falls. Council staff will continue to report on leadership training that becomes available. Most of the training over the last five years has been through Partners in Policymaking, SALN and Tools for Life.

Self-Advocacy Statewide Organizational Structure: 100% met. SALN met in January and focused a lot of its attention on providing information on legislative issues. SALN held an election in March and Shiloh Blackburn was chosen as president, Dave Dekker as Sergeant-at-Arms and Sandra Abend as Treasurer. Mike Smith continues to serve as vice-president and Lisa Propst serves as secretary. SALN will be transitioning out of the Council as a project to its own organization and has been working with Council staff on the steps needed to accomplish that. LINC has offered office space in Boise for a part time SALN coordinator for SALN.

Determined to Vote: 100% met. This goal was met last quarter through the Determined to Vote trainings that ended in October.

<p>Progress on 2011 Outcomes <i>Continued</i></p>	<p><u>.Abuse and Neglect Prevention and Victim Support:</u> This goal was not met throughout the five years. The Council did not have the staff resources to meet this goal although consideration was given to partnering in a grant with The Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence. This would have consumed a considerable amount of staff time and would not have allowed the Council to drive the work over the next five years. Council staff currently sits on the Justice Alliance for Vulnerable Adults committee. This is a committee that is staffed through Boise State’s Elder Abuse Grant. They are also considering people with disabilities under the vulnerable adult population. They are hosting a conference in June and raising awareness around abuse of vulnerable adults.</p> <p><u>Transportation:</u> 80% met. This is the final year of the AmeriCorps Accessible Transportation Project. SILC has been the lead agency with financial and program support from the Council. It has focused on building transportation capacity at the local level is not distinguished between serving people with disabilities and serving everyone. It is fortunate that the Division of Public Transportation has reorganized and aligned with the kinds of things that the grant was trying to do. The Community Transportation Association of Idaho is looking at applying for another AmeriCorps grant to continue this work.</p>
<p><b>Presentation – QA Report Self Directed Services</b></p>	<p>Tim Gerlitz with Medicaid – Bureau of Developmental Disability Services presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Self Direction Quality Oversight Committee’s Quarterly Quality Assurance Report (See presentation handout). Tim also passed out a few copies of the draft Medicaid School-Based Services Proposal (See attached handout).</p>
<p><b>Federal Issues</b></p>	<p>A continuing resolution was passed for the remainder of the current fiscal year to provide the funding for councils, protection and advocacy agencies and university centers. For 2011, the Council received an appropriation that was .2% less than the 2010 amount. FY2012 funding level remains uncertain although we have heard that it may drop to the 2008 or even 2006 level. This will have a direct impact to what we do in our plan.</p> <p>The “Keeping All Students Safe Act” is legislation at the federal level that has been introduced by Representative George Miller from California. It is uncertain how it is similar or different from what was proposed last Congress.</p> <p>The White House Disability Group said that there is going to be</p>

**Federal Issues**

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four initiatives to give states more flexibility to adopt innovative new practices for more coordinated care for people on Medicaid and Medicare while reducing costs. 15 states will receive federal funding to develop better ways to coordinate care for people with developmental disabilities with Medicare and Medicaid coverage. Idaho is not one of the states participating. All states will receive increased flexibility for HCBS. All states are eligible to receive more money to develop simpler and more efficient information technology systems for Medicaid enrollment. There are a lot of of what those will be in terms of their impact on the service system in Idaho.

There is discussion at the federal level to transform Medicaid to a block grant system. Under a block grant, each state would get a set amount of money regardless of the number of services provided. The states would get a lot of freedom to decide what they are going to do with the money. Block grants can be more or less restrictive depending on how the statute is written. In most block grants, states will get the same match rate. Right now, Idaho gets one of the best match rates in the country. If the feds were to even out those match rates, Idaho would be losing millions of dollars.

Currently, Medicare is a federally run health insurance program. There are a lot of required minimums. The plan under the House Republican proposal is that there would not be a federally administered health insurance plan. There would be vouchers for people who qualify to buy their own insurance. This will affect millions of people with developmental disabilities if this proposal goes through.

On the national level, most disability organizations are working hard to try and derail both the block granting of Medicaid and the Medicare voucher system.

The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities just put out a notice about new legislation that is being presented called the IDEA Fairness Restoration Act. If you go through a special education hearing and win, under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, your attorney's fees will be paid by the school district. This use to cover other costs of taking up an appeal. For example, hiring expert witnesses to testify. There was a supreme court decision, Arlington vs. Murphy that found that you can be reimbursed for attorney's fees but not for other costs. Even if parents win their cases, they would only be reimbursed for

<p><b>Federal Issues</b> <i>Continued</i></p>	<p>attorney's fees and would have to shoulder the other costs themselves. This could be a real deterrent for parents wanting to exercise their due process rights.</p>
<p><b>Member Reports</b></p>	<p>Shiloh will be moving to Pocatello.</p> <p>After two years of negotiating with banks, realtors and EPA, Debra signed contracts to buy four acres of property for her new business employing people with disabilities. The business will be restoring furniture to resell.</p> <p>Vocational Rehabilitation has formed a search committee to review applications and pass on recommendations regarding the hiring of a new administrator. Jane is on that search committee. She is not sure on the timeline on the hiring of the administrator. Jane indicated that she would be willing to pass on to the committee a list of qualities that the Council would like to see in a new Vocational Rehabilitation Administrator.</p> <p>Vocational Rehab has had its budget cut like most agencies. The budget most are concerned about is the budget for extended employment services. The budget reduction to EES is \$154,000. This will result in longer waiting lists for those long term supportive services with employment. There were other cuts in regards to the general fund.</p> <p>Toni and Jo Lynn attended the Powerful Tools for Care Giving training and are preparing to put on a class in McCall. Classes will be Tuesdays, beginning the 17<sup>th</sup> of May at 12:30 – 1:30.</p> <p>The Nampa chapter of SALN has had some issues with some of the members. The chapter has had staffing and funding issues. Shiloh has offered to help the Nampa Chapter get back on track.</p> <p>Paul had the opportunity to go to the Meridian Transition Program and do some mock interviews with some of the kids. There were people that came in from other companies that came in to help with the interviews. Some of them had kids from the transition program working at their companies. The mock interviews were tailored to the interests of the kids.</p> <p>DRI's second annual fund raiser will be held in Boise on the May 26<sup>th</sup> at the Visual Arts Collective in Garden City. There will be food, music and silent auctions. There will be a screening a documentary film titled "For Once in My Life." Tickets are available online. DRI still needs auction items.</p>
<p><b>Election of Council Chair for 2011 Term</b></p>	<p>All five nominations that were received were for James Steed. <b>James accepted the nomination. James was voted chair by</b></p>

➔	<b>unanimous consent.</b> His application will be sent over to the Governor's Office for appointment.
<b>Agenda Items for Next Meeting</b>	New member orientation on Wednesday before the July meeting. Christine would like to recognize the Determined to Vote project during that meeting. Possibly invite the Secretary of State. Review and approve the final draft of the five-year plan. Recognize Beau Stiles for coordinating YLF.
<b>Meeting Evaluation/Adjourn</b>	Meeting evaluations were distributed and meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.