SUMMARY MINUTES

**Texas Governor’s Committee on People with Disabilities**

October 1, 2019

El Paso Community College Administrative Services Center, Board Rm. A200

9050 Viscount, El Paso, Texas 79925

Zoom webinar link: <https://zoom.us/j/296592288>

# Call to Order

Dylan Rafaty moved to call the meeting to order. Chair Bangor began the meeting at 8:18 a.m. then Committee members introduced themselves.

# Members Present

Aaron Bangor, Ellen Bauman, Evelyn Cano, Archer Hadley, Richard Martinez, Linda Millstone and Dylan Rafaty

# Members Absent

Andrew Cohen, Elizabeth Dickey, Emma Faye Rudkin, Amy Scott and Marco Trevino. Richard Martinez moved to accept the absences of Ms. Scott and Mr. Trevino as excused. The motion was seconded and approved. The other members had not submitted a request for an excused absence.

# Exofficio Representatives Present

Dana Williamson, Health and Human Services; Claudia Peden, Texas Workforce Commission; Michael Strawn, Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation; Justin Porter, Texas Education Agency; Sandra Breitengross Bitter, Texas State Independent Living Council; and Robert Schuller, Department of Family and Protective Services

# GCPD Staff Present

Ron Lucey, Randi Turner, Nancy Van Loan, and Lindsey Zischkale

# Visitors

Marc Salazar, Dolores Salazar, Veronica Heredia, and Elvira Ungos, Volar Center for Independent Living; Raul Zamarripa, Francisco Grajeda, and Josue Rodriguez, ADAPT/PACT; Adriana Cordero, University of Texas El Paso CHS; Lori Breslow and Joe Perez, Health and Human Services; Xavier Bañales, Gillian Sammy, Robert Fernandez, and Jose Martinez, Project Amistad; Kandace Decker and Bobby Alcala, Texas Workforce Solutions Region 1; Celeste Contreras, Imagine Enterprises; Kristi Lai; and Michael Murray, Office of Disability Employment Policy, US Department of Labor

# Approval of August 21-22, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Dr. Bangor noted an error on the draft meeting minutes on page 6 - should be “training” instead of “traction”. Dylan Rafaty moved acceptance of the Minutes as amended; the motion was seconded and approved.

# Public Comment

Josue Rodriguez, ADAPT: There are challenges to recruitment and retention of community attendants due to low wages. Another barrier is lack of accessible, affordable, integrated housing and separate from services. He asked the Committee for support in keeping folks out of nursing homes.

Celeste Contreras, Imagine Enterprises: works in cooperation with federal, state, private agencies, schools and non‑profit organizations that serve SSI and SSDI beneficiaries. Imagine Enterprises serve 400-600 Texans in 146 Central and West Texas counties. Their Work Incentive Planning and Assistance program enables beneficiaries to receive accurate information allowing a successful transition to work. They are piloting a virtual program with HHSC to enhance services and identify benefits for which beneficiaries may be eligible.

Marc and Dolores Salazar: Dolores has cerebral palsy and is a stroke survivor. She spent time during her childhood in a state institution. She later moved home, attended school, graduated with a degree in social work and now is involved in advocacy. The Medicaid waiver program allows Dolores to participate independently in the community. Mr. Salazar commented that Texas must reduce the waiting list of 81,000 for the CLASS program. Texas refused to provide funds for the 2020 Census that could result in underreporting of people with disabilities, which means further loss of federal funding. Texas has refused to give attendants a living wage of $15. GPS and biometric verification invades privacy so practical humane alternatives are needed.

Michael Murray greeted everyone on behalf of the deputy assistant secretary of US Department of Labor. He will be a panelist during the HireAbility employer forum hosted by the Workforce Solutions Borderplex on Oct. 2. ODEP’s technical assistance center, Employer Assistance and Resources Network on Disability Inclusion renewed a grant with the Council of State Governments on gauging and preparing youth with disabilities for work.

Blane Barnes is a Vietnam Veteran with a disability. Accessible parking is not sufficient or safe for folks who drive vans carrying wheelchairs. (written)

The Arc of Texas issued a statement on the death of Denton State Supported Living Center (SSLC) resident Kevin Lewis and disappearance of El Paso SSLC resident Edna Rojo. The Arc is concerned with Texas’ capacity and commitment to protect the quality of life and safety of the residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities at Texas’ 13 SSLCs. SSLC authorities must be held accountable for their negligence. (written)

# Presentation: Medicaid Coverage for Evidence-based PTSD Treatments

Elisa Borah, PhD is a research associate professor at The University of Texas at Austin’s Steve Hicks School of Social Work, and director of the Institute for Military and Veteran Family Wellness, with Dell Medical School’s Department of Psychiatry. Dr. Borah worked with soldiers from Fort Hood returning from combat and experiencing symptoms of Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Common symptoms are avoidance, isolation, numbing, not feeling connected, avoiding memories but also re-experiencing what brings the trauma back to their thinking, and really affects their sleep. Statistics tell us that 7% to 8% of Americans experience PTSD in their lifetime. Several populations are likely to benefit from quality PTSD treatment: people experiencing trauma, fear of harm or being killed, refugees and human trafficking victims. Veterans receive significant disability payments through the VA for having a PTSD diagnosis. Treatments, developed in the ‘80s for sexual assault survivors, include cognitive processing therapy (CPT) and prolonged exposure (PE) therapy. Providers discuss treatment options and patients choose which treatment makes sense for them.

Licensed professional counselors and social workers, clinical psychologists, and psychiatrists deliver these therapies. The Strong Star training initiative received a Texas Veteran and Family Alliance grant from HHSC to train mental health providers on CPT and PE therapies with a potential to reach many clients. The most common training is an intensive three-day skills-based workshop followed by certification and practice. Required consultation ensures the therapist has achieved competency followed by 6-12 weeks of review to ensure the practitioners are achieving therapeutic goals. The training organization delivers certification. A barrier is the time therapists take away from their clinical practices to get the needed education to meet the standards. Dr. Borah recommends that the Committee consider supporting ongoing training of clinicians across the state who can reach not only veterans and service members and their families, but to all individuals who undergo trauma and would benefit from effective treatment.

Lindsey Zischkale read a draft Committee policy development proposal on evidence-based PTSD treatments. There is a critical shortage of mental health professionals with experience in treating PTSD. Adding CPT and PE therapies for PTSD treatment to the state’s Medicaid state plan or increasing access to appropriate treatment will help. Making treatment reimbursable through Medicaid may increase the provider pool. Staff will research possible funding from Texas’ Crime Victims Compensation Fund for training.

Motion: Ellen Bauman moved to push this proposal forward by directing staff pursue various funding options and how the state’s Medicaid plan might be changed. The motion was seconded and approved.

# Presentation: Volar Center for Independent Living

Veronica Heredia described Volar’s available programs. Volar provides many services to the community free of charge including an outreach conference. Independent Living Skills classes occur weekly providing consumers with support to maintain community integration and an independent lifestyle. Transportation Services assist with certification for Lyft services and train individuals how to use the city’s bus route system. Transition Services is a youth leadership program related to employment, education, independence, and self-advocacy. Support Services focus on housing assistance programs, affordable housing and home ownership. Purchase Services assists with durable medical equipment, home modifications, vehicle modifications, prosthetics, hearing aids, eyeglasses. A Lending Closet shares equipment until purchases can be complete. Peer Counselors pair with other consumers experiencing similar circumstances.

# Reports from Invited Exofficio Agency Representatives

Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS)

Robert Schuller reminded members of the original inquiry on how DFPS addresses placement of children who are deaf or hard of hearing within Child Protective Services, or communicates with parents who are deaf or hard of hearing. Subject matter experts will present a five-point action plan at a future GCPD meeting.

A committee will steer the public/private partnership as DFPS moves towards a community‑based care model in which a third-party vendor will provide the provision of traditional CPS services. The 36th annual Adult Protective Services conference will feature more than 40 workshops on topics such as guardianship, mental health resources for vulnerable populations, and working with clients who have disabilities.

Department of Licensing & Regulation, Architectural Barriers (TDLR)

Michael Strawn discussed the agency’s report. TDLR is integrating knowledge on trafficking and advocacy through all programs they regulate. TDLR is hiring hundreds of new employees for the motor fuels, motorcycle safety education and human trafficking programs. Architectural Barriers division reviews 2,000 projects per month. Approvals are down from 18% to 10% because of stringent nature of their reviews. Two Registered Accessibility Specialists workshops are coming up plus ongoing recruitment with universities.

Curriculum was approved for the driver education hour course in American Sign Language. They are reviewing the accuracy of the voiceover and subtitles for the videos. TDLR will not receive a course fee. Driver Education schools and online providers will get the fee ($35-$100 online or $300-$400 in person).TDLR handles the licensing of the schools and course providers.

TDLR has been licensing Transportation Network Companies since 2017 and currently have 14 providers. The Legislature requires a report from the licensees at the end of a two-year licensing period. It will require legislation to continue the pilots.

Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)

The report includes updates on HHSC’s disability programs and public meetings. Dana Williamson highlighted bills with significant impact to the agency. House Bill 4533 directs HHSC to conduct a pilot to examine the potential to have services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) moved to Managed Care. The IDD System Redesign Advisory Committee shares advice on the process.

Senate Bill 1207 focuses on STAAR Kid’s program and making improvements to the Medically Dependent Children’s program (MDCP). Service coordinators are required to share the results of the STAAR Kids screening assessment (SK-SAI) with MDCPs, and parents or guardians. There is an opportunity to dispute the results if there is disagreement. HHSC initiated a review process to ensure managed care organizations are following state policies and guidelines in the STAAR Kids program. They are working with the STAAR Kids Advisory Council to improve SK-SAI data integrity in reporting, reducing errors and correcting a more actionable assessment. They discovered opportunities for additional training related to the accurate completion of the assessment forms and the service planning documents.

Responses to follow up items:

* Complaints involving someone receiving HHSC services, or a family member of that individual, are referred to the HHSC Ombudsman's office, although a complaint may originate in another department and be transferred to the Ombudsman.
* $4 million for crisis intervention & crisis respite services was an addition to Legislative Appropriation Request.
* Implementation of electronic visit verification includes training and working with vendors. The only time the system acknowledges where you are, is the moment when you log in.
* Active abuse, neglect or exploitation investigations by law enforcement involving SSLC residents are confidential. A mortality review process exists when a resident dies.
* Individuals may be on an interest list but may be receiving other services. HHSC tries to locate each person needing services before removing them from an interest list.
* Ms. Williamson referred concerns to the Rate Analysis Department regarding the codes Audiologists use.

Texas Education Agency (TEA)

Dr. Justin Porter noted the biggest problem in Special Education in Texas is identifying kids to receive services. TEA has state level supports to assist schools in their Child Find processes. An ARD committee has 45 days from an initial referral to determine a student’s eligibility. Last year approximately 500 districts received $8 million in federal funds as reimbursements to make identification processes happen on the timelines that are required by law. Senate Bill 500 (86R) provided $50,000 to local educational agencies to evaluate students with disabilities eligible for special education services, compensatory services, and extended school year services. Highly trained professionals with experience in psychology serve as evaluators. Almost 80% of evaluation personnel asked TEA to provide more guidance and clearer expectations around the evaluation processes. An area of growth is evaluators’ struggle in identifying students with dyslexia then providing support. Evaluation personnel reported there is not 100% agreement on evaluation practices within a single district, even with leadership structure and systems in place for consistency in decision making across campuses.

Multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) is a nationally recognized term around responses to intervention. Of the 1,227 school districts in the state, only 15 have a clear practice regarding academic and behavioral intervention as students move from tier 1 to the next. The federal Office of Special Education Programs asked TEA to develop a comprehensive MTSS framework, which will include training modules. Local education agencies (LEAs) including public, private, and charter schools go through a cyclical monitoring process initially a self-assessment with 27 different indicators. TEA leads a desk audit to process the LEA’s policies and procedures, including a parent survey. A risk indicator for non-compliance might trigger an on-site visit.

Response to follow up item:

* The Digital Curriculum Accessibility Advisory Committee has scheduled a meeting; Dr. Porter will include more information next meeting.

Texas State Independent Living Council (TxSILC)

Sandra Breitengross Bitter reported the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) for fiscal year 2020 was extended with minor changes that will be addressed. There will be multiple opportunities for stakeholders to comment on the next three-year SPIL, including a virtual town hall and needs assessment survey. The final plan is due July 1, 2010.

TxSILC is planning an annual transportation summit in January including discussions on Transportation Network Companies and connecting accessible transportation options between midsized Texas cities. TxSILC will submit a formal report to the legislature.

The goal of the Virtual Independent Living Services pilot project with U.S. Administration on Community Living’s Paralysis Resource Center is to develop a process to provide virtual services to Texans living with paralysis in the environment they choose through community-based disability organizations. The definition of paralysis is broad and extends to any loss of use for any limb, and ranges from developmental disabilities to the typical spinal cord injuries. TxSILC is accepting Requests for Proposals for year two.

Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)

New executive leadership include Bryan Daniel Commissioner Representing the Public and named Chair; Aaron Demerson, Commissioner Representing Employers; and Ed Serna, executive director. Claudia Peden highlighted agency initiatives in the area of transition. Over 2,700 students with disabilities successfully completed the Summer Earn and Learn program and received workplace readiness training. Ten colleges and universities and 257 students participated in the Explore STEM camps. A statewide capacity-building strategy ensures consistent coordination of services between local vocational rehabilitation and school districts. Over 500 staff and educators participated in the September capacity building conference. Opportunities for veterans to connect with Texas employers occur through Hiring Red White & You! Twenty statewide HireAbility events for job seekers will occur in support of National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Reports on VR services include 71,530 participants served with 58.46% achieving an employment outcome. The Independent Living Services for Older Individuals who are Blind program served 1,928. Managers operating businesses within Business Enterprises of Texas employed 1,591 Texans, including 161 with disabilities.

Responses to follow up items:

* Staff met with Texas Department of Criminal Justice about linkages with offenders to vocational rehabilitation; 4,690 customers with criminal backgrounds received vocational rehabilitation services and 924 achieved a successful employment outcome. A Computerized Criminal History and VR Implications course is mandatory for all VR counselors working with offenders and a second is optional: VR for Customers in the Justice System. TWC’s Texas Pathways to Reentry Grant Project launched in the Lower Rio Grande and Cameron County Workforce Development Boards.
* Clarification on an earlier topic: GCPD asked Vocational Rehabilitation Services to compare the cost of paying for interpreters for a student who is deaf and attending an in-state college versus sending the student to a fully accessible college like Gallaudet where TWC would not need to cover the expense of interpreters.

# Presentation: Health and Human Services Commission’s Description of Board for Interpreters Program

As a follow up to the GCPD’s August meeting, Lori Breslow and Joe Perez explained how the Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services’ Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (BEI) certification program operates. BEI awards multiple certificates. Basic level allows one-on-one interpreting to capture the flow of the conversation at 100 words per minute, with a 70-word accuracy. Advanced level is a faster conversation rate. The process includes receiving the application, checking criminal backgrounds, reviewing college transcripts, and testing. To become certified, a candidate must pass an English proficiency test and a Sign Language performance test that is video recorded, evaluated and scored. Ms. Breslow suggests people take the English proficiency test soon after the completion of the course and before skills are lost. Candidates from Texas as well as out-of-state take the English proficiency test.

BEI staff allocate their time to annual and five-year renewals, coordinating the testing, grading, and correspondence. Financial support for BEI comes from testing and renewal certification fees, the Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and a few out-of-state contracts (Michigan, Illinois, and Missouri). Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board reports about the interpreter training programs in Texas. A report lists whether or not candidates pass within a year of graduation. A second report is federally required and includes names, social security numbers and pass/fail data.

It would be more time efficient for the registrant to download an electronic application form for online completion. Reviewing the form for completeness and mailing all documents to BEI as one packet would streamline the process. HHSC made a commitment to have monthly communications with Texas Society of Interpreters for the Deaf to discuss improving timeline delays. Possible solutions include scheduling additional testing and hosting webinars on the application submittal process. An unofficial transcript could be used to progress through the timeline until an official transcript is processed. HHSC is researching a possible online payment process. An additional employee would help accomplish program goals.

# Executive Director’s Report – Ron Lucey

Office of the Governor’s Deputy Chief of Staff Jordan Hale has agreed to alert local elected officials about the GCPD’s meetings, in case they have disability related questions or would like to issue a local press release. Staff are consistently trying to engage stakeholders across the state. GCPD now has a Facebook account. The budget for fiscal year 2020 is larger than last year’s budget that will allow more professional services and travel. Key outreach since last quarter included event planning for the Lex Frieden Employment Awards, and producing and distributing the National Disability Employment Awareness Month poster. Incorporated into the poster’s design are TWC’s HireAbility and Workforce Solutions and GCPD logos. Govdelivery bulletins will highlight each of the employment award winners, articles on Disability History Awareness Month and White Cane Day.

Mr. Lucey met TWC Executive Director Ed Serna, Vocational Rehabilitation Director Cheryl Fuller and the Arc of Texas to develop a pilot for supported employment. Mr. Lucey met TWC’s Labor Commissioner Julian Alvarez regarding Jason Shaw’s promotion of electrical apprenticeships for Texans who are deaf. Randi Turner coordinated two webinars: Dawn Skaggs from BCFS spoke on inclusive emergency planning and Rose Aird Minette spoke about hearing loss and communication tips for employers and employees.

Mr. Lucey asked members to review the Hurricane Harvey after-action report for possible topics for policy recommendations for the 87th Session. Texas Division of Emergency Management is now part of the Texas A&M System. Lindsey Zischkale will attend a meeting of the Senior Advisory Committee on Homeland Security to provide input on including the needs of Texans with disabilities as they discuss spending federal money.

# Presentation: Texas Workforce Commission’s WorkInTexas.com

Melinda Paninski gave an overview of WorkInTexas, the State Labor Exchange System designed to be an electronic matchmaker for job seekers and employers in Texas. Job seekers upload resumes and search for available openings. All questions with an asterisk require a response and sometimes required subset questions open up. Ms. Paninski strongly encourages job seekers to complete the WorkInTexas profile so employers could access the information and hire them. Employers only see a job seeker’s work experience, credentialing, job history. Workforce Center staff work with employers to post job vacancies and are required to sign confidentiality agreements if reviewing jobseeker information. Employers do not have access to general data questions, such as, “Do you have a disability?” or “Have you ever received Social Security Disability?” Those questions are part of the Participant Individual Record Layout, a federal requirement for system reporting purposes. Veterans have a priority hiring status that employers can see. WorkInTexas does not track employment outcomes. TWC selected GSI’s WorkInTexas system based on successful operation by other states. Texas requested accessibility requirements beyond the minimum on both job seeker and employer sides; other states will benefit. A full accessibility report will be available after the new system launches next year. TWC’s accessibility team and Workforce Innovation department welcome feedback from users. An accessibility guide is online and disseminated to field offices. Users may share concerns with vocational rehabilitation staff, WorkInTexas liaisons or Workforce Development Board staff. Dylan Rafaty would like language added that clarifies the purpose of disclosing a disability.

# GCPD’s 2019–2020 Disability Survey and Discussion of Potential Topics

GCPD is required to report key performance measures to the Legislative Budget Board. A possible partnership with the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs would be a useful tool in developing and administering the survey. Survey responses could benefit the research for the Committee’s policy recommendations. A subcommittee might help identify questions to the community. Drafting survey questions is an art to elicit the data you want. Members discussed the following survey topics: employment in state government for workers with disabilities, ADA compliance in Texas, alternate accessible transportation options, barriers travelers encounter related to accommodations, open-ended questions that align with the Committee’s ten priority areas, and transitional and affordable housing for veterans with disabilities. Collaboration with TWC will allow staff to collect benchmark data through the WorkInTexas database. The Committee might consider drafting a recommendation asking the Office of State Federal Relations to identify transportation grants.

Motion: Dylan Rafaty moved to suggest staff create a survey around a quality of life report format touching on all ten Committee issue areas in both rural and urban areas, with guidance to explore collaborating with the university. The motion was seconded and approved.

# GCPD Member Reports on Community Outreach

Evelyn Cano organized a gala for Capable Kids Foundation. Ground was broken for the inclusive park in Hidalgo County, opening by the end of 2019. They gain expertise from the same company that designs top-notch parks like Morgan’s Wonderland. McAllen and H-E-B, in partnership with Capable Kids Foundation, will also open a Miracle Field for adaptive sports.

Dylan Rafaty encourages local citizens with disabilities to participate on city boards. He will serve a two-year term on Plano’s Community Relations Commission. Focus groups for the Neighborhood Service division are working on the 2020-2024 consolidated plan to identify ways to increase funding mechanisms to improve access for people with disabilities in education, housing and technology. Plano opened its second all-inclusive playground, Liberty Playground.

Richard Martinez toured the San Antonio Lighthouse for the Blind and summer camp for children who are blind. He is introducing nonprofit organizations to high tech companies like Microsoft who offer free software and accessibility training. Mr. Martinez visits with people about local transportation issues daily.

Ellen Bauman works with the Arc of Greater Mid-Cities that includes smaller towns in eight counties. Advocates in the self-determination group continue legislative advocacy and have developed a curriculum to help other areas. She also met with Arc of the United States. The Look Ahead quarterly conference shares information on services and practical resources. Ms. Bauman will be a coordinator for Pathways to Justice, a training program for police departments. Texas Oral Health Coalition is organizing regional chapters advocating for folks with Medicaid in need of dental services. She will lead the North Central Texas chapter.

Aaron Bangor is helping finalize the “Future of Workforce” report that is National Task Force on Employment of People with Disabilities’ second report following “Work Matters.” An FCC advisory committee is formulating recommendations on increasing availability of audio described content on tv, and manufacturers’ integration of real-time text into video. AT&T’s CEO gave an accessibility award combining technology and expression with under-represented voices in media at a ceremony in Los Angeles. DisabilityIn Central Texas held a resource and job fair, in partnership with UT’s Texas Center for Disability Studies and Amerigroup.

# Policy Development based on the Committee’s Primary Issue Areas

*Administrative note: GCPD members discussed the following topics, but there was no action taken because quorum was lost.*

## Identifying and Promoting Assistive Technology Solutions for People with Disabilities

UT Austin’s Texas Assistive Technology Partnership has legislative responsibility for promoting assistive technology (AT) and has a small equipment loan program. TWC’s vocational rehabilitation services provides AT in the context of an employment outcome. Students are first exposed to AT in the classroom, but can only utilize the school’s AT until graduation. Big companies are often willing to provide free software and training for little or no expense. A captioned telephone has a built in screen to display text and is an option for people who cannot hear well. Members’ solutions included a discussion on how to publicize resources, ask organizations to share with their memberships, an invited presentation on HHSC’s Specialized Telephone Assistance Program including available devices and awareness channels they use, and compiling a list of all the different sources of AT assistance for inclusion on the GCPD’s website.

## Accessible Voting and Data Collection on Accessibility of Polling Places

Texas Secretary of State (SOS) certifies voting equipment and promotes compliance with Texas’ Elections Code. Title 7 defines laws for voters with disabilities. The County Clerk serves as administrator for each election. SOS certified a new direct-recording device that electronically marks a voter’s ballot and enters it into a precinct ballot counter. SOS set up a pilot program to help members of the armed forces oversees vote using an absentee ballot. Staff should strengthen the previous recommendation to be more effective in areas of the election process that are not fully accessible to people with the greatest barriers in voting. Staff should invite someone from SOS’s election division to present on the pilot program at a future meeting.

## Teaching ASL for Foreign Language Credit in Texas High Schools

Students receive the benefits from taking Sign Language as studying languages other than English. Teachers drive enrollment for special courses. Sometimes a local group advocates for a certain program. Dual college credit would help entice students to enroll. TEA has data on every course for which students get credit. Are there systemic barriers in not offering ASL? Students in elementary school might benefit from learning ASL. There has been a big push in Texas toward dual language programs, but the school district needs to support it. Appreciation of Deaf culture would further the committee’s goals of increasing participation of people with disabilities.

## Next Generation 9-1-1 and Multi-modal Communication Options that Benefit Texans with Disabilities

Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) provides an infrastructure to allow varied communications with emergency service personnel, particularly the 9-1-1 call takers in the emergency centers around the State. Kelly Merriweather, executive director for the Commission on State Emergency Communications, extended an opportunity for GCPD to provide input on disability-specific needs. NG9-1-1 has been included in GCPD’s policy recommendations. GCPD discussed forming a subcommittee last April, including Committee members and subject matter experts from the disability community. Input should include types of communications that would benefit individuals with hearing, speech and cognitive disabilities, feeling safe when first responders come to your house, if there is a service animal, family dynamics, etc.

# Future Meetings

There was discussion to have a meeting in Waco in January. Motion by Evelyn Cano for staff to explore a location for next meeting held in Waco, in late January. Motion was seconded and approved.

# Adjournment

Not abridging any member of the public’s rights to vote to end the meeting, Dylan Rafaty moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:10 p.m. The motion was not seconded because quorum had been lost.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Van Loan, Executive Assistant

# Follow Up Items

* TDLR: Are Driver Education providers required to have law enforcement experience?
* TDLR: Request for Architectural Barrier division’s complaint data
* TDLR: Request for status of rule-making for implementing House Bill 3163
* HHSC: Are Department of Justice monitors involved in Texas State Supported Living Center mortality review processes?
* TxSILC: Provide links to available avenues for receiving stakeholder input
* TWC: E-mail address for use in reporting WorkInTexas concerns

(<https://twc.texas.gov/files/jobseekers/workintexas-registration-usage-tips-twc.pdf>)

* TEA: Data from PEIMS on offering different languages
* TEA: Bring to future GCPD meetings topics the Committee could use to formulate policy