



**Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA)
Arizona Department of Economic Security (ADES)
Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)
Independent Oversight Committee (IOC) Statewide Meeting
Open Meeting Minutes**

5328 E Washington St, Building C, Phoenix, AZ 85004
10:00am – 12:40pm

Welcome and Introductions

IOC Members Present: **Karen Van Epps** (Chairperson District Central), **Lynda Stites** (Co-Chairperson District South – Tucson), **Deidra Freedman** (Chairperson District West), **Pat Thundercloud** (Vice-Chairperson District West)

IOC Members Absent: **Mary Haynes** (Chairperson District South – Sierra Vista) and **Suzanne Hessman** (Chairperson District East)

DDD Staff Present: **Eric Houghtalin** (DDD IOC Liaison), **Jeffrey Yamamoto** (DDD IOC Liaison), **Richard Kautz** (DDD Chief Advocate)

ADOA Staff Present: **Matthew Hanson** (Assistant Director) and **Veronica Peralta** (Grant Compliance Manager)

On the Phone: None

Public: None

District Updates

Deidra Freedman: advised that the DW is now at 8 members and will be working on the guidelines. She anticipates that the DPM will be attending the next DW IOC meeting.

Linda Stites: advised that the committee was at full membership.

Karen Van Epps: advised that she's worried that APS reports are coming back unsubstantiated a lot. She advised that the committee is talking about the topic of restitution and how the committee feels about adding a restitution policy. She proposed that the committee stance is that the members being asked to pay for damage be screened by the committees. She also mentioned the Article 9 re-wright and the SSA \$2,000 limit.



**Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA)
Arizona Department of Economic Security (ADES)
Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)
Independent Oversight Committee (IOC) Statewide Meeting
Open Meeting Minutes**

5328 E Washington St, Building C, Phoenix, AZ 85004
10:00am – 12:40pm

District South – Sierra Vista (**Eric Houghtalin**): advised that District South Sierra Vista is up to 12 members as of April 2019. The members of the committee have been invited to the monthly PRC meetings.

District North (**Eric Houghtalin**): advised that District North is getting close to falling below four members. One member retired recently due to health concerns.

Pat Thundercloud: suggested recruiting retirees in the District North area.

District East (None Present): absent and unable to offer update.

ADOA Updates

Matthew Hanson: advised about the history and future of the ADOA involvement in the IOCs. He advised that the agency is still looking for the proper role for them to fill with the IOCs. He advised the disposition of the former Liaisons from ADOA. He updated the IOC with the current Interim ADOA Director.

Deidra Freedman: requested a cooperation mechanism (means of communication) between IOCs (e.g., between DDD and DCS).

Matthew Hanson: advised that he would be looking into the idea of either having a forum to communicate, semi-annual meetings, or some other means of communication between agency IOCs. He also advised that there is a new bill being discussed that may affect the IOC in the future (HB2059 - Congresswoman Bartow is the sponsor). He advised that he is not completely aware of how this will affect each of the IOCs.



**Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA)
Arizona Department of Economic Security (ADES)
Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)
Independent Oversight Committee (IOC) Statewide Meeting
Open Meeting Minutes**

5328 E Washington St, Building C, Phoenix, AZ 85004
10:00am – 12:40pm

Article 9 Updates

Karen Van Epps: advised that article 9 was pushing toward SMI (seriously mentally ill) members to be on behavior treatment plans.

Deidra Freedman: advised that the HCBS policy will also act as a protection for the members as well. She advised that the non-chemical (non-drug) part will change. She has advised that she sits on the AHCCCS ALTCS Advisory council and that CMS just approved the new HCBS policy. She advised that there will be a paradigm shift as to how our members who are living in group homes, ADHs, and CDHs will have human rights recognized. She continued to say that unless there is a medical issue (e.g., medical issues to access to food) they would need to have access to food at any time they desire. She advised that food is often used a reward in behavior treatment plans. She advised that with behavior treatment plans, HCBS rules will have to be used as well as article 9.

Protocol to Visit State Funded Homes

Richard Kautz: advised that there has been no update since the last statewide meeting.

Notice to Cure Regarding Incidents

Karen Van Epps: advised that DDD only passed 2 of the 12 items that were being reviewed.

Deidra Freedman: asked **Richard Krause** to notify the committees of the progress and the requirements.

Richard Kautz: advised that he believed that DDD should have an investigative group.

Deidra Freedman: asked how the IOCs could help asking for an investigative unit.



**Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA)
Arizona Department of Economic Security (ADES)
Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)
Independent Oversight Committee (IOC) Statewide Meeting
Open Meeting Minutes**

5328 E Washington St, Building C, Phoenix, AZ 85004
10:00am – 12:40pm

Richard Kautz: advised that the IOCs could come up with a white paper asking **Asst. Director, Dr. Green** to install a unit.

Deidra Freedman: advised that the investigator should not be DDD staff but should be attached to the **Richard Kautz's** office.

Report Abuse & Neglect Committee

Karen Van Epps: No information available. Item skipped.

Quality Assurance Update

Richard Kautz: advised that QA will likely not be subject to another RFP (request for proposal). He advised that he communicated with Chris Deere and that he mentioned no future RFP being drafted.

Program Support Services Update

DDD (**Richard Kautz**): Asked the committees about the type of hand out recruiting card they wanted to use. Advised the committee of the ADOA site where they can find agendas and minutes for IOC meetings. Advised the committee that they are getting minutes in a written format now. The next statewide meeting is set for July 17, 2019. He asked the committee if the same location was acceptable (the committee agreed that it would work).

Eric Houghtalin: advised the problems with guardians and parents in getting handouts or mailed items.



**Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA)
Arizona Department of Economic Security (ADES)
Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)
Independent Oversight Committee (IOC) Statewide Meeting
Open Meeting Minutes**

5328 E Washington St, Building C, Phoenix, AZ 85004
10:00am – 12:40pm

Karen Van Epps: added that not all people are tech-savvy and may not be friendly to the idea of getting information by social media. She asked the Liaisons to communicate DDAC meetings to the IOC members in the local area. She noted that she had some difficulty finding the agenda/minutes site.

Deidra Freedman: advised that it was easier to search for the page using an internet search.

Eric Houghtalin: advised of the recruiting efforts in District South that have worked to increase the sizes of the committees. He noted that a lot of the IOC increase recently has come from grassroots efforts and Indeed.com.

Deidra Freedman: suggested that she might have a classmate from a law school that could end up applying.

PRC Issues Discussion

Pat Thundercloud: raised concerns that the programs were not implemented for 1-2 months.

Deidra Freedman: believes that the issue might be exclusive to District West.

Karen Van Epps: advised that the plans being presented should have a person that knows the member present at the meeting.

Pat Thundercloud: raised concerns that PRCs don't involve someone that know the member personally when writing the plans. She also shared the concern that the member might not have the mental ability to understand the processes when the sign for it.



**Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA)
Arizona Department of Economic Security (ADES)
Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)
Independent Oversight Committee (IOC) Statewide Meeting
Open Meeting Minutes**

5328 E Washington St, Building C, Phoenix, AZ 85004
10:00am – 12:40pm

Public Fiduciary Financial Reports

Pat Thundercloud: advised that in a PRC that a member never had a public fiduciary report from the member. She also advised that Maricopa County put out a statement that anybody that needs a public fiduciary should be able to get one.

Karen Van Epps: advised that there was an insurance agent that was targeting DDD members for burial plans that were overcharging them.

Richard Kautz: advised that the agent in question might not work for the company that she had before.

Deidra Freedman: asked if the public fiduciary is required to disclose funds. She suggested that they sit down with the courts.

Guidelines Discussion

Pat Thundercloud: Skipped. She advised that her questions were answered prior to the meeting.

Roundtable

District East (**Suzanne Hessman**): Not present.

District Central (**Karen Van Epps**): Nothing noted.

District South – Tucson (**Linda Stites**): Nothing noted.

District South – Sierra Vista (**Amy Schroeder**): Not present.

District North (**Cynthia McKinnon**): Not present.



**Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA)
Arizona Department of Economic Security (ADES)
Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)
Independent Oversight Committee (IOC) Statewide Meeting
Open Meeting Minutes**

5328 E Washington St, Building C, Phoenix, AZ 85004
10:00am – 12:40pm

District West (**Diedra Freedman**): Nothing noted.

Adjournment

Deidra Freedman adjourned the meeting at 12:04pm. The next Statewide meeting is set for July 17, 2019 at 10:00am. The meeting will take place at Phoenix.