



Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment (GCDE)
Employment Workgroup Meeting | Feb 26, 2026, | 9:00-9:45am

Minutes

1: Welcome to the Employment workgroup meeting – call to order – Brit N.

Meeting called to order by presiding Chair Brit Nuckles at 9:05am. Welcome to all. Nice to see some Spring weather, despite being under the weather. Emily sent agenda to Amy, will ping staff. Might be quick.

2: Roll Call –Brit N.

- i. Members expected: Ivyanne Van Der Peet (*absent*), Amy Cloud, Brit Nuckles [Yvonne conflict]
- ii. Staff: Emily Spears, Elizabeth Gordon (Elaine Stefanowicz TBD)
- iii. **Present:** Brit Nuckles, Amy Cloud

3: Housekeeping rules –Brit N.

- a. Standard housekeeping rules reviewed: Please state your name prior to speaking, raise your hand to make a comment, and speak slowly & 1 at a time. This is a safe space for ideas.

4: Recruitment discussion – Brit/all

- **This is a small group. We will need to build up membership for 2026 once new members are appointed**, and could consider asking folks (i.e., Lucas, Cullyn) who participated in the Employer Awards program formerly. **Discuss recruitment.**
- **Ideas included:**
 - a) Possible to email to the group with some of our goals, folks could join if interested.
 - b) Could we do a plug at GM? Purpose, roles, goal seems important: even if funding for the program doesn't exist as it has before – still things to address (employment discrimination, education/acknowledgement, connection to employers, etc.)
 - c) We could also plug when we orient new members (no timeline on that yet). Will we have new folks by the March meeting? Meeting today w/ Boards & Commissions (hoping appts. are ready soon – more coming).

5: Planning activities –Brit/all

- a. **Status update on member assignments**
 - a. Staff has reviewed (TBD) the **resource guide**. **Should we target send out in early 2026?**
 - b. **Thoughts from group:**

- i. Could this be posted publicly as part of a resource library for newcomers?
Possible plug at GM.

b. Recap of actions proposed at last meeting

a. Ideas for 2026 activities: we will revisit these ideas when new members are appointed to get buy-in before proceeding – need interest/support/responsibility. Amy doesn't have strong expertise in any areas but has interest in all the topics.

- i. Lunch and learns focused on disability employment (supported employment)
 - Amy liked this idea (info on discrimination law, changes, resources, advocacy, choice, what it looks like, empowerment tips: audience specific i.e., employees, employers, community orgs panel sharing benefits. Could we record?). Brit is willing to focus on this from a legal perspective.
- ii. Brainstorming on actionable strategies for transportation & employment (PWD)
 - 1. Host a statewide meeting on transportation?
- iii. Training on reasonable accommodation for job interviews
 - This could be folded together with the lunch & learns.
- iv. Resource sharing on tax incentives/benefits for hiring PWD (include WLAD info)
- v. Hosting ADA trainings in partnership with the NW ADA Center
- vi. Partnering with the statewide EO 24-05 employment consortium workgroup

5: Next Meeting date, time, and cadence– reminder –

- a. Our next meeting will be on **Thu., Mar. 26 at 9am**. Members should have received a calendar invite for the 2026 meeting series (**4th Thurs. at 9am**) from Emily. **We'll see folks at GM tomorrow.**