



Governor's Committee on Disability Issues & Employment (GCDE)

General Membership Meeting

Friday, February 27, 2026, 10:00am-3:00pm

Minutes

10:00: Welcome, housekeeping, roll call – *Yvonne Bussler-White, GCDE Chair* (10 min)
Meeting called to order by presiding Chair Yvonne Bussler-White at 10:02am.

Standard housekeeping items reviewed: state your name before speaking, speak slowly and 1 at a time. *Participants will have cameras and unmuting disabled for security purposes. Please raise your hand to make a comment* and staff will unmute you and enable your video. **Send a message to the host** for technical assistance. This is a safe space for ideas.

Roll call: members, Associates, staff, and guests.

Members present: Dave Carl, Lucas Doelman, Yvonne Bussler-White, Kristina Sawycky, Amy Cloud, Angie West, Kristin DiBiase, Napal Tesfai, Steve Lewis, Nancy Zellers, Cullynn Foxlee, Lyn Sowdon

Quorum: 9 met

Associates present: Courtney Williams, Shauna Bilyeu, Lucy Barefoot, Kim Conner

Staff present: Emily Spears, Elaine Stefanowicz, Elizabeth Gordon

Guests present: Babs Roberts

RA providers: Connie Church (CART), Kelly Brunson (ASL), Karen Carlson (ASL)

10:10: Work Requirements under HR1 (For the People Act) – *Babs Roberts, Dept. of Social & Health Services* (35 min)

Babs Roberts of DSHS was introduced & gave their presentation on HR1 and SNAP.

They discussed the HR1 changes related to SNAP

-Yvonne thanked them for their presentation afterwards [will send out slides after w/ resources].

10:45: Members-at-Large (MAL) – Recognize this year's MAL and new chairs – *Yvonne Bussler-White* (10 min)

Yvonne recognized this year's MAL: Lucas Doelman, Nancy Zellers, & Amy Cloud.

She also recognized this year's new chairs: Brit Nuckles (EWG) and Dave Carl (CO).
She thanked them for serving in these roles for 2026 on behalf of GCDE and is excited for the work to come this year.

10:55: Associate Member Spotlight: Washington State Independent Living Council –
Courtney Williams, Executive Director (20 min)

Courtney Williams of WASILC was introduced & gave their presentation on their work.
They discussed an overview of WASILC and what WASILC does (role, goals, etc.) for member awareness of partner work, and reviewed their relationship with the CILs.

Yvonne thanked them for their presentation afterwards.

11:15: Break – all (15 min)

Yvonne dismissed everyone for break at 11:15am.

She noted that this is a break for our RA providers as well, so please limit side conversations.

She asked them to return promptly at 11:30am for the next presentation.

11:30: Brain Injury Council – Kim Conner, Executive Director – see PowerPoint in packet (30 min)

Kim Conner of the TBI Council was introduced for their presentation.

They discussed: overview of the TBI Council; their statewide plan; public awareness & outreach; support groups, community integration activities, peer-to-peer mentoring & navigation; information & referral, and Q&A/resources.

They also provided a **PPT presentation** with this information, sent in advance of the meeting.

Yvonne thanked them for their presentation afterwards.

12:00: Lunch – all (45 min)

Yvonne dismissed everyone for lunch at 12:00pm.

She noted that this is a break for our RA providers as well, so please limit side conversations.

She asked them to return promptly at 12:45pm for the next presentation.

12:45: Executive Order (EO) 24-05 and EO 25-09 Updates, Digital Equity Forum –
Elizabeth Gordon, GCDE Executive Director (45 min)

Yvonne introduced Elizabeth for their presentation.

Elizabeth discussed their work on EO 24-05 and EO 25-09, as well as DEF/policy work.

Yvonne thanked them for their presentation afterwards.

Note: their presentation slides will be sent after the meeting.

1:30: Action planning for 2026: intro – Yvonne Bussler-White, GCDE Chair (15 min)

Yvonne introduced the vision for our Action planning exercise for 2026.

The group will discuss together: what we accomplished in 2025, and what we want to accomplish in 2026 under the theme of Visibility & Action.

She asked folks to be thinking about their answers to these questions over the next break and be **prepared to discuss after the break.**

1:45: Break – all (15 min)

Yvonne dismissed everyone for break at 1:45pm.

Note that this is a break for our RA providers as well, so please limit side conversations.

She asked them to return promptly at 2:00pm for the next portion of the planning exercise.

2:00: Additional work on action planning – Yvonne Bussler-White, GCDE Chair (45 min)

Upon return from break, the group discussed together: what we accomplished in 2025, and what we want to accomplish in 2026.

Note: the presentation slides with notes will be sent after the meeting.

2:45: Wrap up and next steps – Yvonne Bussler-White (15 min)

Yvonne quickly **recapped action items:**

Elizabeth's slides will be sent after the meeting

The **action planning slides** will be sent after the meeting.

Presenter **contact info & slides** will be sent after the meeting.

3:00: Adjourn

*Next GCDE General Membership Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 15, 2026, from 10am-3pm. Note that this is a **change from the prior schedule** on 5/22.*

Accommodations have been changed and the **calendar invite updated** accordingly.