

Speaker Paul Thissen  
Minnesota House of Representatives  
State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

August 16, 2013

Dear Speaker Thissen,

Please find attached the information requested by the Legislative Commission on Planning and Fiscal Policy on the identified DEED-related advisory groups. The information that follows does not include details on the NextGen Energy Board; while DEED participates in that group, it is administered by the Department of Agriculture.

DEED also participates in a number of groups and boards that serve both advisory and executive functions (for example, the Job Skills Partnership Board and the Urban Initiative Board). If you would like further information on these types of groups, please do not hesitate to let us know.

My best regards,



Katie Clark Sieben  
Commissioner

## Minnesota State Independent Living Council

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**Statutory authority:** M.S. 268A.02, subd. 2

**Expiration:** none

**Mission:** The Minnesota Statewide Independent Living Council works to advance the philosophy of independent living by maximizing the choices, leadership, empowerment, independence and productivity of persons with disabilities; in doing so, it promotes the integration and full inclusion of persons with disabilities into American society. This council is required by federal law.

**Duties:** Jointly develop and sign (in conjunction with DEED) the Minnesota State Plan. Monitor, review, and evaluate the implementation of the State Plan. Coordinate activities with the State Rehabilitation Advisory Councils established under Section 105 of the Rehabilitation Act and Councils that address the needs of specific disability populations and issues under other Federal law. Ensure that all regularly scheduled meetings of the Statewide Independent Living Council are open to the public and sufficient advance notice is provided. Submit to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education all periodic reports as the Secretary may reasonably request and keep all records, and afford access to all records, as the Secretary finds necessary to verify the periodic reports. Review and/or approve the Administrative Agreement between Vocational Rehabilitation Services, State Services for the Blind, and the Statewide Independent Living Council annually.

**Membership:** Members are compensated at a per diem rate set by Minnesota Statute 15.0575. They are also reimbursed for expenses incurred when conducting official business in the manner and amount authorized by the Commissioner's Plan.

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|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| • Kathleen Hagen | • Cynthia Moore   | • Randy Sorensen     |
| • Heidi Johnson  | • William Negaard | • Brian Wagner       |
| • Michele Kyler  | • Suzanne Renfroe | • Julia Washenberger |
| • Idelle Longman | • Sean Roy        | • Connie Lee Berg    |
| • Larry Lura     | • William Rudolph |                      |
| • Mark Mertens   | • Sharla Scullen  |                      |

**Meeting schedule:** The Statewide Independent Living Council generally meets the second Friday of each month. Its next meetings are October 11<sup>th</sup>, November 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup>, and December 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Budget:** The Statewide Independent Living Council has a budget of \$295,461 annually; it is entirely federally funded through Rehabilitation Act (Title VII, part B) funds. This budget includes eight meetings of the SILC; one annual forum; education/training programming for SILC Members; provision of reasonable accommodations/per diems; a Statewide Independent Living Council Coordinator position and other staffing costs; minutes/note taker costs; support of general operations of the Centers for Independent Living; provision of outreach to unserved/underserved populations (State Services for the Blind); studies and analyses, gathering of information, and development of model policies and procedures; presentations of information, approaches, strategies, findings, conclusions, and recommendations to federal, state, and local policy makers; and support activities to increase capacity of public or nonprofit agencies and organizations.

**Reports:** The Minnesota Statewide Independent Living Council publishes its Annual Report and 704 Report annually. It is also responsible for producing a state plan every 3 years.

**Web site:** <http://www.mnsilc.org/index.htm>

## Minnesota State Rehabilitation Council

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**Statutory authority:** M.S. 268A.02, subd. 2

**Expiration:** none

**Mission:** The Council assists the Vocational Rehabilitation Services program of the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development in make decisions about the state's Vocational Rehabilitation Services program. Vocational Rehabilitation serves thousands of people with severe disabilities throughout the state, helping them reach their vocational goals. This council is required by federal law.

**Duties:** Advise state government on the performance of Minnesota's Vocational Rehabilitation Services programs, particularly on the extent, scope, and effectiveness of vocational rehabilitation services. Advise and assist in preparation of the State Plan for Vocational Rehabilitation Services. Review and analyze the effectiveness of, and consumer satisfaction with, vocational rehabilitation services. Report to the Governor and the US Department of Education on the status of vocational rehabilitation programs (Annual Report). Coordinate activities with other state councils with interest in the issues pertaining to disability and employment. Hold hearing and forums as necessary to carry out the duties of the Council.

**Membership:** Members are compensated at a per diem rate set by Minnesota Statute 15.0575. They are also reimbursed for expenses incurred when conducting official business in the manner and amount authorized by the Commissioner's Plan.

- Christine Bauman, vocational rehabilitation counselor
- Scott Berscheid, business, industry, and labor representative
- Emma Corrie, business, industry and labor representative
- Al Hauge, Department of Education
- Mickey Kyler, Statewide Independent Living Council representative
- Gloria LaFriniere, White Earth Vocational Rehabilitation
- Clayton Liend, community rehabilitation provider
- Hector Matascastillo, disability advocate
- Andie Moore, PACER
- Kimberley Peck, DEED Vocational Rehabilitation Services Director
- Sherri Rademacher, former vocational rehabilitation program participant
- Claire Reeve, business, industry and labor representative
- Anne Robertson, Client Assistance Project, Minnesota Disability Law Center
- Chuck Ryan, business, industry and labor representative
- John Schatzlein, recipient of vocational rehabilitation program services
- Bob Wagner, former recipient of vocational rehabilitation program services
- Nick Wilkie, disability advocate

**Meeting schedule:** The council meets monthly, generally on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. Its next three meetings are August 28<sup>th</sup>, September 25<sup>th</sup>, and October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Budget:** This group charges its costs to a larger pool of funding and its budget varies year to year. Aside from member compensation as described above, it also incurs costs for accessible meeting accommodations. Its funding is primarily, if not exclusively, from federal dollars.

## Minnesota State Rehabilitation Council, continued

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**Reports:** The State Rehabilitation Council issues an annual report to the U.S. Rehabilitation Services Administration and the Governor. These are required by federal law, are tied to federal fiscal years, and generally are published at the end of each calendar year. Reports are available for 2011 and 2012 on the web site listed below.

**Web site:**

[http://www.positivelyminnesota.com/JobSeekers/People\\_with\\_Disabilities/Disability\\_Councils\\_Committees/State\\_Rehabilitation\\_Council.aspx](http://www.positivelyminnesota.com/JobSeekers/People_with_Disabilities/Disability_Councils_Committees/State_Rehabilitation_Council.aspx)

## Minnesota State Rehabilitation Council for the Blind

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**Statutory authority:** M.S. 248.10

**Expiration:** none

**Mission/duties:** The Minnesota State Rehabilitation Council for the Blind, working on behalf of Minnesotans who are blind, visually impaired, or deaf blind is charged with insuring that State Services for the Blind is in compliance with mandates under Title IV of the Workforce Investment Act. The Minnesota State Rehabilitation Council for the Blind strives to insure that Minnesotans who are blind, visually impaired, or deaf blind receive the best possible services under the law. This council is required by federal law.

**Membership:** Members are compensated at a per diem rate set by Minnesota Statute 15.0575. They are also reimbursed for expenses incurred when conducting official business in the manner and amount authorized by the Commissioner's Plan.

- Connie Lee Berg
- Angela Christie
- Steven Ditschler
- Jennifer Dunnam
- Scott Eggen
- Kathleen Hagen
- Robert Hobson
- Steve Jacobson
- Christine Marble
- Jeff Mihelich
- Michael O'Day
- Kristin Oien
- Kenneth Rodgers
- Rochelle Roehrich
- Richard Strong

**Meeting schedule:** The council meets at least six times a year in St. Paul, most recently on August 1<sup>st</sup>. It will meet on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup> as well.

**Budget:** The group's fiscal year 2014 budget is \$37,330. Its funding comes primarily, if not exclusively, from federal dollars.

**Reports:** The State Rehabilitation Council for the Blind is required to submit annual reports to the Governor and to the Rehabilitation Services Administration. It also publishes annual work plans and annual programmatic goals.

**Web site:**

[http://www.positivelyminnesota.com/JobSeekers/Blind\\_or\\_Visually\\_Impaired/State\\_Rehabilitation\\_Council\\_for\\_the\\_Bli nd/index.aspx](http://www.positivelyminnesota.com/JobSeekers/Blind_or_Visually_Impaired/State_Rehabilitation_Council_for_the_Bli nd/index.aspx)

## Trade Policy Advisory Group

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**Statutory authority:** M.S. 116J.9661

**Expiration:** January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020

**Mission/duties:** The Trade Policy Advisory Council was established to advise and assist the governor and the legislature regarding United States trade agreements. The council will advise the governor and the legislature on matters relating to United States trade agreements; assess the potential impact of federal trade agreements on the state's economy; advise the governor and the legislature of the group's findings and make recommendations, including any draft legislation necessary to implement the recommendations, to the governor and the legislature; determine, on a case-by-case basis, the impact of a specific federal trade agreement by requesting input from state agencies, seeking expert advice, convening public hearings, and taking other reasonable and appropriate actions; request information from the Office of the United States Trade Representative necessary to conduct an appropriate review of government procurement agreements or other trade issues; and receive information obtained by the United States Trade Representative's single point of contact for Minnesota.

**Membership:** To be determined. Members receive no compensation or expense reimbursements.

**Meeting schedule:** To be determined, but the group must meet at least once per fiscal year and must hold its first meeting before February 15<sup>th</sup> of 2014.

**Budget:** \$50,000 per year from the state general fund.

**Reports:** The group has no statutory reporting schedule since the establishment of new federal trade agreements is fairly infrequent.

**Web site:** None yet.

# Governor's Workforce Development Council

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**Statutory authority:** M.S. 116L.665

**Expiration:** None

**Mission:** The Governor's Workforce Development Council exists to analyze and recommend workforce development policies to the governor and legislature toward talent development, resource alignment and system effectiveness to ensure a globally competitive workforce for Minnesota. This council is required by federal law.

**Membership:**

- Inez Wildwood
- Twyla Flaws
- Mo Amundson
- Laura Beeth
- Commissioner Brenda Cassellius
- Rep. Karen Clark
- Commissioner Katie Sieben
- Pamela Deal
- Steven Ditschler
- Frank Forsberg
- Russell Hess
- Sen. John Hoffman
- Commissioner Lucinda Jesson
- Mayor Michael Jugovich
- President Eric Kaler
- Joe Kalkman
- Rep. Andrea Kieffer
- Shar Knutson
- LaRohn Latimer
- Larry Mareck
- Harry D. Melander, Jr.
- Marlene Moulton Janssen
- Sen. Carla Nelson
- Edward Reynoso
- Chancellor Steven Rosenstone
- Mary M. Russell
- County Commissioner Rhonda Sivarajah
- Roy Smith
- David Ulrich

**Meeting schedule:** The Governor's Workforce Development Council generally meets quarterly and its next meeting will take place on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Its previous meetings this year took place on February 7<sup>th</sup>, May 9<sup>th</sup>, and August 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Budget:** The Governor's Workforce Development Council has a budget of \$350,000 and has in the past been fully federally funded. Roughly ¾ of the group's costs are staff expenses; the remainder of its budget goes toward meeting expenses, travel reimbursements for Council members, printing costs, and other administration.

**Reports:** The group's primary responsibility is issuing reports and recommendations. Recent publications include:

- Profiles of Green Training Projects Around Minnesota
- The Most Competitive Workforce in the World
- All Hands on Deck
- Minnesota's Primary Care Shortage
- Working to Close the Skills Gap
- Smart Investments, Real Results
- Strengthening the Skills of Our Workforce

**Web site:** <http://www.gwdc.org/>

## Youth Employment Grants Advisory Committee

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**Statutory authority:** M.S. 116L.363

**Expiration:** None

**Mission/Duties:** This council was created to assist DEED's Commissioner in selecting eligible organizations to receive program grants for YouthBuild. Now that the YouthBuild program receives direct allocations, it is no longer in use.

**Membership list:** None

**Meeting schedule:** None

**Budget:** None

**Reports:** None

**Web site:** N/A