



Aging & People with Disabilities (APD)  
<https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/agency/Pages/apd.aspx>  
Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC)  
in partnership with the Area Agency on Aging  
Monday, February 2, 2026  
Virtual Meeting Minutes

**CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS & CHECK IN** – Called to order. This is a regular meeting of the DSAC. All DSAC meetings are open to the public. Visitors are welcome. This meeting was recorded. ASL Interpreters were provided.

**DSAC MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Cody Guinn (chair)  
George Adams  
James Naegele (vice chair)  
Joanna Wilson  
Kerrie Walters  
Leslie McIntyre  
Sharen Yeager

**EXCUSED ABSENCE:**

Denyce Gavin

**UNEXCUSED ABSENCE:**

Katy Callies

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

**GUEST:**

Roxanne Franklin (Roxi) - Advocate  
Julie Simon – SO consortium for Accessibility in the Arts  
Betsy Miller – Ombudsman  
Silvia Ceron – Social services Emergency Liaison, Office of Resilience & Emergency Management

**STAFF:**

Jeremy Wolf, APD District Manager  
Ann Marie Alfrey, Rogue Valley Council of Governments Executive Director  
Diana Burney, APD SE Medford  
Trevor Gaither, APD West Medford

**CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS:** What is Your Favorite Sweet Treat

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Cristina Gardner, James's caregiver told us about some of the issues that home care workers are experiencing. In 2018 they lost their medical, dental, vision care and 401K, although the union is still taking stipends. It would cost \$500 per check to get health coverage from Marketplace, and she makes \$10 too much for OHP. When entering information into the payroll app, there are too many passwords and lots of upgrades and her service plan only pays for so much, which is more money out of pocket. It is being upgraded every two months, which changes the whole

system, then she needs to go to the DSO, stand in line and there is nobody there other than Catherine that can help her and all the other caregivers that are having issues, and she is not always available. She has level three patients, should be getting back salary, she is not getting raises, and the classes are never available. She gets passed around from the Union, Portland and other offices and none of them have any answers.

Jeremy suggested reaching out to the homecare commission, SEIU, and the DSO managers (Patrick Vejar and Mickie Miner). There is overlap with who can help with what, but the managers should be able to provide some guidance with that. There are supports for the time capture system as well, that the office can connect her to. Jeremy supervises the managers, so if you need help above them, please reach out to him. ([Patrick.d.vejar@odhs.oregon.gov](mailto:Patrick.d.vejar@odhs.oregon.gov) 541-776-6233; [Mickie.a.miner@odhs.oregon.gov](mailto:Mickie.a.miner@odhs.oregon.gov) 541-613-2218).

Roxi shared her concerns about the Jackson County Housing Authority violating reasonable accommodations for herself and others. Complaints have been made and nothing has been done. For example, they are supposed to call as well as send emails for important notices. Ann Marie shared this link to the Fair Housing Council of Oregon to report housing discrimination - <https://fhco.org/report-housing-discrimination/>

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** n/a

**APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2026 MINUTES:** Minutes are unanimously approved as presented, with one person abstaining. (Kerrie & Joanna 2<sup>nd</sup>)

**APPROVAL OF FUNDS FOR THE ACCESS SENIOR FAIR 03/24/2026 at Rogue X:**

Funds are unanimously approved as presented. (George & Sharen 2<sup>nd</sup>)

**PRESENTATION FROM SO CONSORTIUM FOR ACCESSIBILITY IN THE ARTS (SOCAA):** Julie Simon

Julie gave a power point presentation that she will share with us to include with the minutes. Here are some bullet points from the presentation –

- Their website is a work in progress but is up and available.
- Everyone should have access to the arts.
- If there is a cultural event at a park, this service could be available for it.
- They are new and do have not a lot of funding, haven't done any formal programming other than informational presentations and getting the word out.

- Looking for grants where they can provide the training and be able to provide funding for people that people can request for these services as well as a library of physical ADA items that could be borrowed.
- We can refer people / organizations to them, they will not give legal advice though.
- They do work with all aspects of accessibility – mobility, sensory and cognitive disabilities.
- You can contact them at soaccessedu@gmail.com

## **UPDATES & NEWS:**

### **Jeremy –**

- Federal budget – SNAP benefits are funded through September of this year, so this funding lapse will not affect it like last time.
- State budget – They should hear something sometime later this month or next month.
- Access Senior Fair – APD will have a table at the event also.

### **Ann Marie –**

- RVCOG, SDS and Food & Friends will also be at the Senior Fair and there will not be breakout presentations this year.
- SAC / DSAC orientation was last week, thank you to all that attended.
  - If you would like a hard copy of the handbook, let Diana know your mailing address so one can be sent to you. (George, Roxi, James, Silvia)
- They are working on their request for funding from their distribution for the Jewel Brooks Charitable Trust Distribution. It is only for Jackson County senior citizens. In the past it has been used for home modifications and repairs; to support behavioral health programs; transportation and emergency funds, which can include food, prescriptions, etc. If you can of anything else that is a big gap in senior citizen services, please let her know right away. The fund is \$80,000.00. Transportation will likely be part of this.

## **INFORMATION SHARING:**

- Accessible Parking Workgroup –
  - Not much new to report, we talked about partnering with a larger agency to do some PSAs
- SAC / DSAC Joint Advisory Council –
  - Members are needed. The SAC is getting a new person that might be joining.
  - Once Roxi is a DSAC member, she will be eligible to be the interim chair for the advisory council.

- The state is getting ready to start the short session, which is when they hit the ground running and figure out if there is anything to advocate for.
- Ann Marie will let us know when the new meeting scheduled is set.
- George's Updates –
  - George and Cody discussed that he Oregon Spinal Cord Injury Connection has a grant to purchase a piece of equipment that works with any wheelchair to raise it up, tilt it back and give the dentist direct control and there is no transfer needed. It will be installed at a local dental office in Southern Oregon. Here is the link to the survey – <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8OHWvgiFOiUT2StbvIYD8rgumwQru-hjnuEpVdJsW8ksbrg/viewform?usp=sharing&oid=117918159106764939787>
  - If RVRTD measure goes through in May, it will apply to Saturday hours and extending hours Monday – Friday from 6:00pm – 8:00pm.
  - Valley Lift Committee will be taking applications in November to approve funding for transportation to different entities.
  - Centers for Medicare services (CMS) has asked George to be an advisor. 3/4/26 will be his first meeting. Let George know if you have items for the agenda.
    - Provider Time Capture (PTC) system issues were requested.
  - Provider Time Capture (PTC) system will require multi-factor two-step verification as of 4/14/26. It is a federal requirement for protection of information. On the mailer it has guidelines and links.
    - If you would like to complain about the PTC system getting more complicated and the barriers it has created -
      - Reach out to legislation / senators
      - Send the state representatives letters
      - Put on the CMS agenda
      - Talk to the Provider Navigator Team
- Announcements and Upcoming Events –
  - Don's memorial - If anyone can't attend in person, here is the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V2FnITfnWxE>. Diana will email out the memorial information today.
  - Joanna talked about the Deaf Activities of Southern Oregon Facebook Group. they have events twice a month.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** 4:32

**NEXT MEETING:** March 2, 2026, 2:45 – 4:30

This message is also attached as a PDF file for accommodation purposes. This document will be provided in alternate formats upon request, including but not limited to language other than English, large print, captions, braille, audio file, American Sign Language interpretation. Please contact [APD.ServiceEquityCommunications@odhs.oregon.gov](mailto:APD.ServiceEquityCommunications@odhs.oregon.gov) for alternate format.