



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, April 6, 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)
Denyce Gavin
George Adams
Joanna Wilson
Katy Callies
Kerrie Walters
Leslie McIntyre

EXCUSED ABSENCE:

James Naegele (vice chair)
Sharen Yeager

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE:

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

GUEST:

Roxanne Franklin (Roxi) – Advocate
Dave Gross – SAC Member
John Curtis – Advocate
Betsy Miller - Ombudsman

STAFF:

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

CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS: If you were to write your autobiography, what would be the title?

PUBLIC COMMENT: John Curtis discussed Medicaid coverage changes with hydrophilic catheters, which are single use, pre-lubricated and used by many people with disabilities. Public comment can be given at the link below by 5/14/26. John will send Diana more information to forward out. If you have questions, you can reach John at johndcurtis14370@gmail.com.
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HERC-Comments>

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: n/a

APPROVAL OF MARCH 2026 MINUTES: Minutes are unanimously approved as presented. (Katie & Denyce 2nd)

NEW DSAC MEMBER VOTE – ROXANNE FRANKLIN: Membership is unanimously approved. (George & Leslie 2nd)

DSAC BUDGET REVIEW:

We have \$3,364.72 in our budget to use by 6/30/26. We may be using some for the Public Service Announcement (PSA), but we will know more next week. We also need to purchase more swag, as we used most of it at the senior fair.

PRESENTATION FROM SAC / DSAC JOINT ADVISORY COUNCIL – DAVE

GROSS: Dave Gross reviewed the purpose and goals for the Joint Advocacy Committee, the plan for getting ready for legislative session, what they need and other great information. The power point presentation will be shared with the minutes. Dave's email address is - grossdj.144@gmail.com. The first meeting will be on 5/18/2026.

Candidate Forums are a great opportunity to share our stories of our struggles and the direct impacts of their decisions. State and/or Federal officials or somebody from their staff will typically appear virtually. Nicole at O4AD does legislative training if we are interested in that.

UPDATES & NEWS:

Jeremy –

- Legislative Session – APD has no direct funding cuts for this biennium. There are budget gaps to be filled with vacancy savings, hiring delays, etc. They are preparing for the 2027 – 2029 biennium, by holding sessions with community partners and staff to find out what priorities APD should focus on.
- Oregon Eligibility Partnership (OEP) received funding for positions primarily for House Resolution (HR) 1 new work requirements for SNAP and Medicaid, as well as improving systems and technology. One thing is that they are putting smart chips in SNAP EBT cards to reduce skimming and theft. Once benefits are stolen there is no way to replace it. Additionally, the EBT cards replacements will need to be done by calling Salem instead of coming to the offices.
- Oregon Project Independence Medicaid (OPIM) is still going strong, two-year renewals are starting. Official OPIM APD brochures have been made, and the offices should be getting them soon.

Ann Marie –

- 04AD takes place in person in Salem on 4/15/26 and has a virtual option for the morning session (plenary, 9:00-12:00) and the afternoon advisory council breakout group (1:00-4:00). You need to be registered, let Diana know so she can get your information to Ann Marie. Dave is going in person and will share more information about it.
- Budget for 7/1/2026 is due to the budget committee by 4/22/26, they are making sure that the Older American Act revenue will carry them through all the programs they are trying to deliver.
- The first annual update to the four-year area plan is next and they will be looking at new goals and how the old goals did. One success was bringing on board a caregiver group from the Alzheimer's Association that they could no longer support.
- Oregon Project Independence Medicaid (OPIM) is getting 30 – 40 approvals per month. A full-time case manager load is 75 per case manager, so there are not enough case managers, and the preferred timelines are not being met.

INFORMATION SHARING:

- Accessible Parking Workgroup –
 - Nothing new to report this month, Diana will be inviting the PSA person to the next accessible parking meeting.
- Access Senior Fair Recap –
 - The fair was very busy, with about 2500 participants, we got some signatures on the petitions and gave out most of our swag.
 - Cody went out to the parking lot a couple of times to put postcards on vehicles that were improperly parked in accessible parking.
- George's Updates –
 - Advocacy application – you have until May to fill it out.
 - Fighting evictions in nursing homes and assisted living facilities, there is a meeting coming up on 4/29/26, 11:00am. George will send the information to Diana to share.
 - Navigating the social security administration options for advocates meeting on 4/14/26 11:00am - register before the 14th. George will send the information to Diana to share.
 - New rule changes before 4/21/26 regarding dental, pharmaceutical services with OHA and OHP CCO. George will send the information to Diana to share.
 - RVTD transit bill vote is coming in May, which should be for the whole county.
- Announcements and Upcoming Events –
 - Joanna – some states are wanting to use AI instead of ASL interpreters, but as the AI models do not use facial expressions and/or

- body language, it does not work well for the deaf community. Leslie says that it works for some things for the blind, but not for others, but the smart glasses she uses has helped with her independence, although the accuracy is about 75%.
- Leslie would like accurate information for what applies to us in Oregon, as a lot of the information she sees doesn't affect us locally. Jeremy thinks that Jane Ellen might be good a good fit to come to our meetings to discuss policies. There are also community meetings that give updates to partners, where Nakisha and Jane Ellen share information, which might be easier than finding a time then can attend our meeting.
 - We need suggestions for presenters for future meetings, please let Diana know.
 - Roxanne will contact the organization from the Senior Fair that talked about end-of-life planning that comes out to your home for one fee for everything.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 4:30

NEXT MEETING: May 4, 2026, 2:45 – 4:30

This message is also attached as a PDF file for accommodation purposed. 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 for alternate format.