TBI Council Notes

October 2, 2025

Promote | Advise | Engage

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY
Strategic Partnership Advisory Council of Washington State

Meeting Begin: 9:03 a.m.

Regular Business

Welcome: Taylor Brummett, Chair

- Council Member Introductions

Housekeeping: Maralise Hood Quan, Facilitator

Mission – Meeting Norms: Will Hitchcock, Vice Chair

Executive Committee Report: Taylor Brummett, Chair

- Reviewed work accomplished by Executive Committee (EC) since the last meeting
- Taylor Brummett, Chair, met with Representative Doglio, Interim DSHS Secretary Bea Rector, TBI staff, and TBI advocates. Discussed HB1848 and the importance of the newly funded programs.
- EC is considering an in-person/hybrid meeting in May 2026. Survey inquiry will be released soon.
- Two Letters of Support were provided on behalf of the TBI Council to Partnerships for Action, Voices for Empowerment (PAVE) and PAVE & FACT.
- Provided input on the Proviso statement of work and the Bridge statement of work.
- EC served as the Governance committee to facilitate updated bylaws, committee, and recruitment policy & procedures.
- EC strives to reintroduce committees and encourages all Council members to sit on a committee.

Approval of Minutes: **Taylor Brummett, Chair**

Motion: Approve the October 3, 2024 Minutes
First: Katie Mirkovich Second: Tracy Kahlo
Yes: 11 No: 0 Abstention: 1
Decision: **Approved**

Motion: Approve February 6, 2025 Minutes
First: Brittany Lenihan Second: Daphne Nolte
Yes: 11 No: 0 Abstention: 1
Decision: **Approved**

Motion: **Approve May 2, 2025 Minutes**
First: Brittany Lenihan Second: Heather Bahme
Yes: 11 No: 0 Abstention: 1
Decision: **Approved**

Motion: Approve the Bylaws
First: Brittany Lenihan Second: Katie Mirkovich
Yes: 10 No: 0 Abstention: 2
Decision: **Approved**

Motion: Approve Committee Policy & Procedures
First: Brittany Lenihan Second: Tracy Kahlo
Discussion:

- Grammar changes

Motion: *The motion was revised to* **Accept the committee policy and procedures with the changes stated as the S and the C is the lowercase and adding "the" in front of Pathways and change "path" to paths.**
First: Brittany Lenihan revised motion Second: Tracy Kahlo
Yes: 10 No: 0 Abstention: 2
Decision: **Approved**

Motion: Approval of Recruitment Policy as presented
First: Katie Mirkovich Second: Brittany Lenihan
Yes: 10 No: 0 Abstention: 2
Decision: **Approved**

Question during approval of minutes and policies & procedures:

- From the May minutes, did the Council advocate for WA211?
    - No, they were not able to address and advocate at that time
- It appears that we have Governor appointed vacancies.
    - Yes, TBI staff and TBI Council Chair have been working behind the scenes with DSHS staff and Boards & Commissions to have the Governor make appointments.
    - Progress has been made and expect appointments soon.
    - With the change in Governor's and Legislative session appointments have had lower priority.
    - Boards & Commissions work on appointments for over 2,000 Boards and Councils statewide.

Break

Report to Council: **Kim Conner, TBI Council Coordinator**

- Budget Proviso report-out (FY2025) and HB1848 execution (2025+).
  - RFI / RFP, bridge contracts prior to full implementation of HB1848.
  - Bridge contracts given to same providers as proviso recipients, with input from Council on statement of work.
  - Rollout of HB1848 coming soon, have started the prep work for this in several ways (comms, website updates, new staff pdfs).
  - Hiring of two positions to manage the HB1848 part of the RCW, hoping to hire in the next month or so.
  - Preparation for HB1848 implementation (development of statement of work, hiring, etc.).
- Communications update
  - Get Support page update and relevance to current and upcoming work Get Support | DSHS.
  - This is part of prep and implementation of HB1848 and related changes, strategic alignment and planning.
- Budget and in-depth clarification about how we get it, how it works, rules must follow, timelines, best practices in budgeting, etc.
  - Explanation of how the traumatic brain injury account is unique in funding, and so in budgeting and contracting as well.

WA 211 Report: Wanda Oliver, WA 211

- Streamlined organization for efficiency.
- Changed model for statewide call center: contracting with Crisis Connection.
- Official launch in January 2026, soft launch occurring now.
- Reviewed TBI data.

Questions: Resource Directory | Washington 211

- WA211 can add question to intake that identifies DV/IPV to track.
- Data includes chat, email and text.
- Traffic from website clicks to TBI resources: this information is available.
- Community Care Hubs: WA211 has informal partnership and seeks to formalize.
- HELPS screening tool: is there a link for a screening tool for people to self-identify on website?
  - WA211 can work with TBI Council Coordinator to establish
- On main topic on website for employment, is there a link for pathways to employment?
  - Yes, users can navigate to employment on the website

Update RCW: HB1848: Taylor Brummett, Chair

Review RCW: HB1848 portion

- Increase traffic infraction fees. $5 to $10 per traffic infraction.
- Public awareness campaign.
- Program funding.

- Prioritized in-person support groups, community integration activity, and peer-to-peer mentoring and navigation for the TBI community.

FY26/27 Budget: Review & Accept

- Reviewed FY26/27 budget categories.
- Discussed in detail and depth how budgets are prepared.
- The traumatic brain injury account will have unspent funds from FY2025.
- $1.111M was shifted to general funds. TBI account has approximately $400K-$600K of unspent funds. TBI Council Coordinator will update at the February 2026 meeting.
- Legislature appropriated approximately $1.695 to TBI "base" budget.
- Per HB1848, 30% of budget must exclusively be used for specific programs.
- Based on projected funding of $3.597M, that would be $1.079M for HB1848 programs.
- The numbers do not math. TBI Council Coordinator has been working with Office of Financial Management (OFM) and Home and Community Living Administration (HCLA) fiscal staff to resolve.

Questions:

- Do we receive interest on unspent funds?
    - TBI Council Coordinator will follow-up

Motion: Approve of Budget

First: Chad Second: Brittany

Discussion:

- Will: If the budget isn't mathing, we should step back and take a look.
- It would be better if we were budgeting from funding on hand.
- A committee should take a look at this.
- Request to send to committee and come back and discuss.

Chad rescinded Motion

Motion: The biennial budget be sent to budget committee for more time to review and the Executive Committee will create the budget committee.

First: Will Hitchcock Second: Katie Mirkovich
Yes: 10 No: 0 Abstain: 1
Decision: **Approved**

Council agreed to continue meeting past 11:30 to hear public comments. Chat function was opened at 11:25 for participants to enter their public comment.

Public Comment: Maralise Hood Quan

Serry Bauer:

- Pre COVID the TBI community was thriving and state conference. After COVID, lost all of our funding and lost many in-person group and lost training.
- How important the community is and the intent was to restore in-person support statewide.
- Serry worked on HB1848.
- Serry does everything in-person and doesn't use WA211 because of mental fatigue.
- Serry invited attendees to Olympia support group.

Desiree Douglas:

- Sent letter to the Council.
- Shared personal story and how she started in-person support groups.
- Was a previous Council member.
- Important community supports went away around COVID.
- Has studied neuroplasticity and the importance of community supports to heal the brain.
- Sent letter to Council through TBICouncil@dshs.wa.gov

Meeting Adjourn: **11:46 am**

Attendees:

Council Members Present: Taylor Brummett, Eric Rainey-Gibson, Brittany Lenihan, Cecil Daniels, Dana Allard-Webb, Katie Mirkovich, Tracy Kahlo, Heather Bahme, Will Hitchcock, Daphne Nolte, Chad Anderson, Amanda Kersey Sullivan, Jessica Blanchard

Council Members Absent: Nick Mehrnoosh, Julia Terlinchamp

Others Present: Kim Conner, Lauren Miles, Dru Aubert, Maralise Hood Quan, Heather, Steven, Parker Hallof, Desiree Douglas, Valerie Wootton, Frank Jackson, Serry Bauer, Sheri Barronian, Janet Novinger, Lydia Mills, Elizabeth Gordon

Next Meetings:

February 5, 2026
May 7, 2026