Consumer Directed Employer Rate Setting Board

July 15, 2026
9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Minutes

ATTENDANCE

Online or Onsite	Name	Role	*Voting Member	^Advisory Member	Notes
	Bledsoe, Ben	CDE	*		
Onsite	Brannan, Pam	RSB Staff			
	Cleveland, Annette	Senator		^	
Onsite	Declet, Sonya	RSB Staff			
Online	Erickson, Eric	Licensed HCA		^	
Online	Gantala, Mike	Int. or Dev. Disabilities Org.			
Onsite	Glickman, Adam	SEIU	*		
	Goodfellow, Gwen	Home Care Worker			
Online	Harris, Paul	Senator			
Onsite	Hollimon, Cynthia	OFM	*		
Online	Raske, Martha	State Council on Aging		^	
Onsite	Rector, Bea	DSHS	*		
Onsite	Schlesselman, Diana	RSB Staff			
Online	Schmick, Joe	Representative			
Onsite	Strange, Cheryl	Board Chair		^	
	Tharinger, Steve	Representative		^	
Online	Williams, Courtney	Phys. Disabilities Org.		^	

Public attendees (Note: not all attendees present for entire meeting.)

Jim Lord and Michael Howard, Home Care Coalition Executive Committee members
David Mancuso, Senior Research Scientist, DSHS Research and Data Analysis
Jonathon Smith, DSHS

AGENDA MINUTES

Topic	Discussion Highlight	Action items/Outcomes
Welcome	Chair	Welcome by Board Chair to all attendees.
Approval of Minutes for July 13, 2026	CDE Program Team Board member requested change to minutes. Vote is contingent on the change needed to the minutes. The impact of WA care spending needs to be changed to the adjustment is for the CURRENT Biennial Budget. Update completed by CDE Program Team and approved minutes will be posted.	Vote of yes by the voting board members. 3 Ayes*, 0 Nays. *One voting member was absent
Old Business	Chair and Facilitator	
Home Care Agency Administrative Rate		
Home Care Agency Admin Costs & Discussion	**Jim Lord** and **Michael Howard** presented on the Home Care Coalition. Board Questions: Q: Do the agencies receive the number of authorized hours before the process? A: Yes, they do not start process until have care assessment and authorization. Q: If the agency does not perform well in reviews, is there a way to deal with the shortcomings? Also, what kind of turnover is there in the agencies? Example two years or less? A: There is an opportunity to go through the monitoring process along with corrective action process and training. Not that much turnover with their agencies. Michael Howard presented on Statutory Costs Q: What census was used for the percentages in the presentation? A: It is a weighted average. Board member commented on different contacts and the industry resulting in some varying percentages. Q: How would the B&O back period adjustment amount be used? A: Considerations of wages and inflation. Also, costs related to computers and needs for refreshing hardware and how this can be put off due to agency budgets. There are multiple considerations. Comment on absorbing cost impacts and ability to maintain stability in the system. Q: What active prevention of injury are agency taking? A: Risk mitigation starts with training. Working together on the home care service delivery system.	

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	Q: Are they using remote caregiving to help caregivers get back to work after an injury? A: They look at being kept on salary or time loss benefit. And they bring caregivers into the office for light duty work when possible. Jim Lord presented on Partnering to Support Agency Care Management. Board member shared an observation on B&O and costs. Also, on L&I and the Rate Setting Board. Board discussed observations on the AP labor rate. Comment on law change bringing more transparency. The RSB is not setting the labor rate. Jim Lord shared observations on bringing issues forward as it relates to B&O and of the RSB. The Board Chair shared the importance of everyone coming forward to share their testimony for understanding.	
Break		
Workforce Data		
Workforce Data & Discussion	**David Mancuso** presented on Workforce Data Board Question: Q: This is strictly an age-based analysis and doesn't take into account cost of living or disparity of wage? A: Yes, this is only age based. Q: What is the impact of getting to 2050 and having a gap between workforce and client? A: The gap will be folks in need going without services they need. Board member commented that's the outcome we're trying to avoid. There is a focus on raising job quality and recruitment and retention. Also look at if we need to innovate on how we delivery services. Board member observed this could be bigger if counting in WA Cares. Board member observed seeing similar patterns to Medicaid from the perspective of people who want to be at home. Board member commented on how people are showing up in the system for services and what does or does not show up in the data.	
Caseload Revenue Forecast		
Review of State Caseload Revenue Forecast & Discussion	**Jonathon Smith** presented on Summer 2026 Caseload Forecast Updates. Board Questions:	**Action item:** Follow up on the trend in DDA caseload forecast.

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	Q: For skilled nursing facilities, assisted living, and adult residential care, this assumes biennial rebasing? A: Yes, biennial rebasing and adjustments, some phase outs and other add-ons. For assisted living and adult residential care, statutorily rebase every two year. Q: Numbers reflect people receiving services, not that need the service? A: Yes. And includes federal HR1 bill reductions. Bea Rector asked about dampening of trend in the developmental disability caseload. Q: On the Per Capita, the AP rate is higher and the IP average hours are higher? A: Yes, due to a number of factors. Significant difference in acuity of clients. Q: Is there a dampening trend in DDA as well as HCLA? A: Will have to double check this but is primarily being applied to HCLA.	
Public Comment	In-room attendee shared comments on her work including health and issues with being able to afford medications. In-room attendee shared comments and presented a petition signed by 5100 caregivers and members of SEIU 755 calling on the CDE to maintain adorable health care and wages and asking for a labor rate that supports caregivers, clients, and communities. The Board chair accepted the only paper copy of the petition and thanked the in-room participants. A digital copy will be sent to DSHS staff. Online attendee shared comments on caregiver wages and issues with losing hours and having no safety net and living paycheck to paycheck and issues when unable to work. Online attendee Brandy Monts, Executive Director for the Washington State Developmental Disability Council, spoke to the work of their committees regarding legislative priorities, one of which is the workforce or lack of workforce. Also spoke of the Council's five-year plan and its areas of focus. Addressed people with developmental disabilities and the concept of incarceration. Explained the Bridge Forward conference. Shared more information on system supports. Q: What is the waiting list, how many are on it, and has it increased or decreased? A: Don’t have that information now but will provide.	**Action item:** DDA information on the waiting list, the number now, and number increased or decreased?

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	Online attendee shared that she is a program director for a nonprofit agency for home care services in Eastern WA. Shared context with regard to services. This included comprehensive safety assessment and various safety information and impact to L&I ratings. Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council information from Brandi Monts: • State Plan survey results: WADDC 2025 State Plan Survey Results | WADDC • Bridge Forward final technical report: Bridge Forward Conference • DDC Legislative Priorities: Public Policy News | WADDC	
Adjourn	Chair Thanked the people in the room for joining in on the meeting today. The next meeting is on August 5.	Meeting adjourned at 11:44am.