

MINUTES OF MEETING

Georgia State Rehabilitation Council (SRC)

October 22, 2025, 1pm – 4pm

125 Athens West Parkway, Athens, Georgia 30606

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Juliet Hardeman, Chairwoman
Matthew Barnes, Vice Chair
Jo Ellen Hancock
Jerry Haywood
Katie Hearn, Public Outreach
Lisa Leiter, Membership
Moses Little
Michele Mason, Policy
Cherise Mlott
Joy Norman
Jennifer Page, Parliamentarian (Virtually)
Myndi Pryor, (Virtually)
Charity Roberts
Samuel Verniero

Guests

Jeff Allen, GVRA
Erica Aponte, GVRA
Jennifer Howell, GVRA
John Pilgrim, GVRA
Brentsen Wyatt, GVRA
Andrea Waddy Wills, GVRA
Erica Aponte, GVRA
Arlene Fowler, SRC Liaison
Stephanie Cutrufelli, CAP
Juan Wade
Anna Marie Reich, RCLD
Mark Crenshaw, GSU
Sheryl Arno, GSU

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Peggy Venable
Chris Wells, GVRA Executive Director & Ex Officio Member

Opening and Welcome

Chairwoman Hardeman welcomed everyone and called the meeting order at 1:01 p.m.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Chairwoman Hardeman performed a roll call and recommended the approval of the minutes and current agenda.

On motion of Ms. Hancock, seconded by Mr. Barnes, and unanimously carried, the Council approved the agenda as presented.

On motion of Ms. Roberts, seconded by Ms. Hancock, and unanimously carried, the Council approved the minutes of the previous meeting.

Chair Update – Juliet Hardeman

Chairwoman Hardeman reminded the Council members on the following

- Complete the Annual Affidavit of Public Official by January 31, 2026.
- The SRC Annual Report was submitted, however it will be posted for public review after minor changes are made to the format of a couple of charts within the report.
- NCSRC Conference is on March 28th and 29th in Washington, D.C.

Chairwoman Hardeman introduced the 2026 Election Results and asked for approval by the Council for the following positions:

- Chair – Julie Hardeman
- Vice Chair – Michelle Mason
- Member-at-Large – Katie Hearn Stitch
- Parliamentarian – Jennnifer Page

On motion of Ms. Mlott, seconded by Ms. Leiter, and unanimously carried, the Council approved the slated officers for the 2026 calendar year.

Public Comment

Mr. Juan Wade, a SSDI claimant, spoke on his medical status and the fact that he has been waiting 733 days for a medical determination, which has caused him great physical and financial agony.

Mr. Wade was directed to send his information to Arlene Fowler, SRC Liaison, who gave her contact information in the chat, so that she could direct his inquiries and information to the proper person.

Regents Center for Learning Disorders (RCLD) – Anna Marie Reich

Ms. Anna Marie Reich, Liaison for the Regents Center for Learning Disorders at Georgia Southern University, shared the following information regarding the RCLD

- *Who They Are* – One of three Centers established by the University System of Georgia Board of Regents to provide assessments, resources, and conduct research related to students with learning disorders and other disorders that may impact academic functioning.
- *What They Offer* – Comprehensive Assessments, Consultation, Training, and Research
- *Who Is Eligible* – Students admitted and/or enrolled in any public college or university in the University System of Georgia
- *Scheduling an Evaluation* – Contact the college or university's disability services office to request a referral, complete the required paperwork, and complete a comprehensive evaluation, which costs \$500.
- *Institutions Served by the Georgia Southern RCLD* – ABAC, Albany State, College of Coastal GA, Fort Valley State, Georgia College and State University, Georgia Southern, East Georgia State College, Middle Georgia State, Savannah State, South Georgia State, Valdosta State

SRC Committee Reports

- ***Membership – Lisa Leiter***

There are a number of terms expiring in April 2026. The Membership Committee Chair, Lisa Leiter, is working with the Governor's Office for reappointments. Ms. Leiter further asked those planning on leaving to assist with recruiting someone to fulfill their spot.

- ***Public Outreach - Katie Hearn***

No update.

- ***Policy - Michele Mason***

The Comprehensive Service Plan Audit for WIOA participants of the Technical College System of Georgia is complete and ready for review. The Policy Committee Chair, Michele Mason, recommend Council members review.

- ***CAP – Jennifer Page***

CAP Report Committee Chair, Jennifer Page, reported on recent activities and updates within the Client Assistance Program. Ms. Page further offered to send anyone interested a copy of their new CAP brochure and instructed participants to drop their email in the chat.

GVRA Updates – Jeff Allen, Provider Relations Administrator

On behalf of Executive Director, Chris Wells, Mr. Allen provided information related to:

- Status of the Case Management System
- CSNA RFP Update
- Updated Heat Map of Students with Disabilities served as of December 31, 2025

GVRA Updates – John Pilgrim, Legislative and Governmental Affairs Liaison

On behalf of Executive Director, Chris Wells, John Pilgrim, Legislative and Governmental Affairs Liaison, shared the following:

- The Legislative Session Calendar
- Bills enacted effective January 1, 2026
- The EFC has been dissolved and responsibilities moved to the GVRB Board
- Senate Bills he is following that may have an impact on GVRA or our clients (SB 158 and 222 regarding the Commission on the Blind/Visually Impaired, GIB, BEP, and VR)
- 325 Advisory Program – Funding support for providers and higher education assistance
- Graduations at RWS and CSC
- GVRA Day at the Capital on February 10th from 12:00 – 4:00 pm

Georgia IPSE Presentation – Mark Crensha and Sheryl Arno of Georgia State University

Mark Crenshaw and Sheryl Arno with Georgia State University spoke on the Inclusive Postsecondary Education (IPSE) in Georgia and across the nation. They shared the following:

- What is an Inclusive PSE Program?
- Principles of IPSE
- Pivotal Skills Learned in Higher Education
- Locations of Georgia IPSE Programs
- How Students and Families Pay for IPSE
- Employment Outcomes for Georgia IPSE Students
- Recent DOAA Program Audit Findings

New/Old Business

- Reminded Council members of the Meetings Dates for 2026
 - January 21, 2026
 - April 22, 2026
 - July 22, 2026
 - October 21, 2026
- CTISO Day at the Capitol on February 4, 2026
- GVRA Day at the Capitol on February 10, 2026 (Please let John Pilgrim know if you plan to attend.)

Public Comment & Adjournment

Chairwoman Hardeman opened the floor for public comment. The only request was submitted via email by Juan Wade at 12:14 p.m. before the meeting began at 1:00 p.m. As Mr. Wade already addressed the SRC members, Ms. Hardeman asked if he had any further comments. There being none, Chairman Hardeman called for a motion to adjourn.

On the motion of Ms. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Hancock, the board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:23 p.m.