

STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (SILC)
DECEMBER 12-13, 2006
RAMADA AIRPORT INN – SIOUX FALLS

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Arneson, Linda Biffert, Betty Coon, Patrick Czerny, Ryan Green, Vona Johnson, Grady Kickul, Kathi Skogland for Marilyn Kinsman, Thomas Kober, Jamie Mack, Gaye Mattke, Roxanne Rice, Betsy Valnes and Gary Wald. MEMBERS ABSENT: Josia Fuerst and Philomine Moran. OTHERS PRESENT: Greg Brandner, Matt Cain, Vicki Kerkvliet, Ann Van Loan, Marla Bull Bear, Joel Niemeyer, Colette Wagoner, Shelly Pfaff and Lorie Jirschele. Interpreters were Julie Paluch and Marlee Dyce.

OPENING ACTIONS: **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS** – The meeting was brought to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chairperson Tom Kober. Everyone introduced him/herself. **MEETING PROTOCOL** – Tom reminded members of the meeting protocol sheet attached to their agendas. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – There were no changes to the agenda at this time. **MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA MADE (M), SECONDED (S) AND CARRIED (C).** **APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER SILC MINUTES** – There were no corrections to the minutes; **MOTION TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 2006 MINUTES – MSC.**

TIME FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS: Joel Niemeyer, Executive Director of the North Central Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America (NCC-PVA) asked to address the Council. He challenged the Centers for Independent Living (CILs) to consider sporting and recreational activities i.e., bowling, hunting, golf, fishing and other adaptive recreational activities as means of fundraising. He stated that South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks did not require licenses for events specifically for people with disabilities. Joel further challenged the CILs to be more aggressive with advocacy in their communities in the areas of structure/systems accessibility and systems change. Joel announced that Ryan, on behalf of NCC-PVA, had nominated the City of Sioux Falls for an accessibility award, and that the city had made

the national finals. Ryan indicated that KELO Land News was airing a story about the award that night at 10:00 p.m. Ryan thanked Matt Cain for hosting a noon open house at Prairie Freedom Center.

DRS DIRECTOR'S REPORT: DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS – Grady stated that recent elections have created a “lame duck” session in Congress. The Workforce Investment Act (WIA), including the Rehabilitation Act is going into its fifth year without reauthorization. He predicted that Congress would not be able to agree on appropriations and would instead pass a continuing resolution for funding. Grady announced that Medicaid Buy-In has been renamed Medical Assistance for Workers with Disabilities (MAWD). The Departments of Social Services (DSS) and Human Services (DHS) have worked together with the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to create the infrastructure to implement MAWD in SD. Grady stressed that consumers would not pay any premiums for the insurance, but they would be responsible for co-pays. He stated that MAWD would be rolled out slowly, one person at a time to insure that disability determinations would be made correctly. Grady asked members to refer anyone who might be eligible to himself or Greg at DRS, or to Cassie Stoesser or Hoby Abernathy at Black Hills Special Services Cooperative. MAWD applicants must be able to answer “yes” to all of the following four questions:

- Are you working?
- Do you have a significant disability that is functionally limiting?
- Do you have assets that total less than \$8,000?
- Do you have unearned income of less than \$623 per month?

Grady was asked to explain the term asset. He responded that everything a person could liquidate with the exception of a home, one automobile and personal belongings are considered assets. Vona asked if someone from DRS could come and explain this criterion to their housing managers because they had the potential to make a huge impact on supported housing and the homeless. Grady indicated that after DRS knew the process was working correctly, this

could be arranged. BUDGET UPDATE – Grady noted that the Governor’s annual budget address was given on December 5th. The Governor focused on the increase in mandatory funding – increased fiscal responsibilities of the states. Grady explained that because of federal budget cuts, all but one of the Career Learning Centers in SD would be closing by July of 2007. He added that the DHS budget would receive approximately 3% increase for provider inflation and that five more individuals would be added to the Assisted Daily Living Services (ADLS) Program if the Governor’s budget is passed as presented. RSA 2005 ANNUAL REVIEW REPORT – Grady stated that they had received the 2005 annual review from RSA. He was pleased that neither DRS nor SBVI had any compliance issues. Sue Rankin-White, our State Liaison with RSA, congratulated SD on their agreement with the South Dakota Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities to support the Board and SILC. Grady indicated that this had been written up as a “promising practice”. RSA 2007 ONSITE MONITORING REVIEW – Staff distributed copies of an e-mail communication from Rankin-White on the proposed 2007 monitoring process (see attached). Grady noted that he and Gaye would participate on a conference call with Rankin-White on Thursday. She will be part of the five-person team that will come to SD in June 2007 to do the monitoring review. Other team members will include persons from RSA’s IL, fiscal, VR and data areas. During the June visit, they will also do an onsite review of one CIL. Grady stated that unofficially, Prairie Freedom Center had been chosen in a random drawing. He added that Tom as SILC Chair will continue to receive regular correspondence on the monitoring review from RSA.

DSBVI DIRECTOR’S REPORT: DIVISION UPDATE – Gaye reported that SBVI had purchased another 25 closed captioned televisions through DakotaLink. Demand for the units has been much higher than anticipated. She stated that the Division of SBVI would only be receiving budget increases to meet the federal allotment for client services. A new Home Management Rehabilitation Teacher with a background in occupational therapy has been hired. Gaye noted that Erin Dosch from Pierre has resigned. BOARD UPDATE – The Board

of SBVI met last Friday. One priority of the Board is to have focus groups in place for January and February. A new consultant has been hired to finalize the details. Public meetings are also being planned, one of which is scheduled for the evening of April 12th in Sioux Falls followed by a Board meeting on the 13th. The second public meeting is slated for April 20th during the National Federation of the Blind conference in Pierre. Gaye added that proposed rules for medical supplies under Medicaid include a low-vision aid exclusion, which has sparked criticism from organizations that serve the blind and the elderly.

DRS IL PROGRAM SPECIALIST REPORT: SFY2007 SILC BUDGET – Staff distributed copies of the current budget picture (see attached). Greg reviewed the content of the report. He stated that the CILs were earning their budgets quite rapidly and they must earn their remaining dollars before May 31st. So far this fiscal year, we have spent \$1,472 in strategic planning funds; \$1101 went for NCIL membership and the remainder was for Betsy to attend the NCIL conference. Shelly stated that two CILs have requested strategic planning funding request information in the last two weeks. One \$1500 request pledged last fiscal year has not yet been spent. She added that if the SILC decides to hold any public meetings, those expenses would also come out before the end of May. QUAD SQUAD UPDATE – Greg announced that the Division had lost contact with the Quad Squad. The SILC has repeatedly asked them to appear before the Council and to submit a written report of their activities. If Quad Squad funding is suspended, it will leave an unspent amount of \$6960 that must be allocated. Shelly stated that in the past, the Budget Committee has been given time to look at this type of situation. MOTION TO SUSPEND QUAD SQUAD FUNDING AND TO HAVE THE BUDGET COMMITTEE LOOK AT SUGGESTIONS FOR DISTRIBUTING THE RESULTING MONIES – MSC. ADLS QUALITY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY – Greg announced that CMS is requiring states to develop a quality management strategy for the ADLS program. Comprehensive monitoring of the program has not been successfully completed in the past. One component is remediation

and improvement, which requires public input. Greg stated that a Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement Committee would be formed including a representative from DRS, a waiver specialist from the Division of Developmental Disabilities, two representatives from DSS who would have oversight capabilities, waiver participants and their families. He added that the SILC had always been interested in ADLS and had a major influence on the program, so he suggested that a SILC member be part of the committee. Greg asked if anyone was willing to serve, and Jamie Mack volunteered to serve. Grady noted that stiff monitoring requirements had been handed down from CMS and it seemed like a logical fit for the SILC to be involved. He added that Jamie's willingness to serve and to report back to the SILC was greatly appreciated. **MOTION TO APPOINT JAMIE MACK TO THE QUALITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE - MSC.**

SILC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT: STRATEGIC PLANNING GRANT AWARDS – Shelly asked that all requests for strategic planning funds be submitted as soon as possible. **2007 CIL STAFF TRAINING EVENT** – Shelly indicated that the 2007 CIL Staff Training has been scheduled for April 10-12 at Cedar Shore Resort. She asked the CILs to send suggested training topics to her by the end of December along with an estimate of rooming/accommodation needs. One center will be asked to assist with the training; she said that it seemed to work very well last time. SILC members were welcomed to participate in the training, and to let staff know if they wished to attend.

SILC FUNDING SUB-COMMITTEE PRESENTATION: Ryan explained the history behind forming of the SILC Funding Sub-Committee. In the past, discussions were held on the how to disperse funding to the CILs in a more equitable manner. As a result, the Sub-Committee was appointed this year. None of the members (Ryan, Vona, Roxanne, Linda and Betsy) thought that it would be an easy process. Ryan indicated that he was very satisfied with their results. He thanked all the members of the Sub-Committee for their hard work, and he gave special thanks to Greg and Shelly for their

technical assistance. Ryan also thanked the CIL directors for meeting with them and for providing valuable input. Originally, Tom had been the Chair of the Sub-Committee, but he had to resign when he accepted a new position with CSD. Ryan asked Shelly to explain the time factor of developing the formula for Betsy who was ill. She reviewed the timetable starting on March 15th when the Sub-Committee was established and ending with their last conference call on November 28th. Shelly estimated the total time to develop the formula and come to a consensus as about 30 hours, but she stressed that it was very difficult to estimate all the time Roxanne put into developing the power point presentation. Shelly underlined that they only wanted to use factual information, members took their charge to heart and they followed the process with a lot of consideration and care. Next, Ryan asked Linda to elaborate on their decision-making method. Linda explained that after each stage of the process, members discussed all the information and did not approve any of their findings until they could reach consensus. She stated that the formula was developed after many hours of dialog and that she was proud to be a part of this endeavor. Ryan referred the Council to the handout entitled "SILC Funding Sub-Committee Consensus Points" (see attached), and he reviewed the points of the document. Two other documents were dispersed, "CIL Funding Information" and a "CIL Service Area Map" (see attached). Greg explained that due to color mixing on the map, it was difficult to see that the Native American Advocacy Program (NAAP) served areas around Pierre, Charles Mix and Moody Counties. Vona and Roxanne presented the report. They explained why CSD was excluded from the formula and then went on to describe the formula criteria – geographic area, percent of disabled population and individual consumer achievements. They added that the CIL 704 reports were used for much of the data. They indicated that NAAP was also excluded from the formula so as to keep them at minimum \$250,000 funding. Gary pointed out that the budget figure for OIL on page 7 might not be correct and will need to be verified. Other needed corrections were identified including:

- Page 10 OIL should be 20.26%
- Page 11 Total on chart should = \$144,924
- Page 12 2nd column should = \$1,778,580
- Page 14 PFC & WRDI old allocations are flip-flopped
- Page 15 Net changes from above must be corrected

Ryan asked all SILC members to give the information some thought over night. He added that their intent was to have the funding formula adopted. On behalf of DRS, Grady thanked the Funding Sub-Committee. He stated that the content of the recommendation was very significant, and he asked members for frank and open discussion when the meeting reconvened. He stressed that they all might not be able to come to a consensus tomorrow. Linda stated that this was just the beginning; as realities change, so most likely would the funding approach. Vona believed that they must also look at performance in the future in terms of funding. Shelly added that part of the struggle in analyzing all the information was the lack of consistency in 704 reporting. Grady asked if the new reporting system helped to clarify things. The answer was, not really, unless there was way to come to a consensus on definitions/interpretations of the items on the report. Discussion ensued on how CILs report services on the 704 reports. Ann stated that all the CILs should be on the same page when counting services and that having the same software would help. Some conversation followed related to cost and who would purchase such software, without any decision being made.

Meeting was adjourned for the day at 4:30 p.m. so the Budget and Strategic Planning/Advocacy Committees would meet.

Meeting reconvened at 8:35 a.m. on December 13th. Betsy Valnes and Marla Bullbear joined the meeting at this time.

DIALOGUE/ACTION ON SILC FUNDING SUB-COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS: At this time Ryan took over control of the meeting as Vice-Chair, and he asked the CIL Directors and CSD's representative to provide comments on the proposed funding recommendations.

PFCIL – If implemented as proposed, this approach would impact this CIL more than any other. Believes the sub-committee used a good process, as they sought to identify an approach that would be equitable to all. Question the soundness of the formula if it does not apply to all funded parties. Questioned the use of census figures, believing that the number of people with disabilities is under-reported in these figures. Fully respect the work of the sub-committee, just not sure that this is the best approach, and asked to be able to look at it further prior to any decisions being made on its use.

NAAP – A greeting in Native language was the starting point of these comments. Spoke to all being here for the same reason – to help people. Have concerns that we continue to seek new ways to divide the current pie, rather than look at ways to increase the size of the total available pie. It is a known fact that Native Americans are under-represented in census figures, and thus a concern as to how this impacts the formula. One difficulty is that when looking at 704 reports, often we are not comparing apples to apples due to not all CILs interpreting and reporting on the 704 report in the same way. Respect all the time and energy put into this process and leading to arrival at this point.

WRDI – This CIL would benefit the most from implementation of the proposed recommendations. There is such great need for services statewide, and each CIL is trying to figure out how to stretch their budgets to have the greatest impact. Thanked the sub-committee for its work and the commitment of time and energy it has meant to members. Wondering if other ideas would be explored, and if SILC staff might be able to look for grants that could fund IL services.

OIL – Thank you to the sub-committee for its work. Uncertain that the proposed formula is correct, and believe it should be studied further. Goal was to find an approach to funding that would be more equitable than the current process. Some people would gain and others would lose with the proposed formula – did not expect it to have such a dramatic impact on some CILs. The SILC is trying to address their past approach to funding with these recommendations, recognizing that these past efforts were not as equitable as it may have seemed at the time.

CSD – Big concerns because this IL program does not receive any federal funding; they rely on the SILC (general funds) for funding of the IL services they provide statewide. Also with the proposed approach, some SILC allocated funds can only be used in support of specific services i.e., HMAD; TAD and there is no flexibility to move these dollars around for operating expenses. CSD is unique, and if their budget is lessened, other CILs will need to provide services for persons with deafness and hard of hearing, which could mean significant increases to their budget expenditures due to a need to provide effective communication i.e., interpreter services.

Ryan thanked the CIL and CSD representatives for their comments. He then turned to the SILC for their thoughts. Some of the comments made were:

- Excellent job on work done thus far. Encourage need to consider elements such as waiting lists, numbers currently being served, geography and the uniqueness of specific populations i.e., Native Americans, and how this impacts the delivery of services.
- A 20% funding shift for any CIL or program would be significant, and fear it would be cutting services to those currently being served.
- Lots of information has been provided, and maybe the work of the sub-committee isn't over yet.

- Some conversation on the SILC's history in trying to make the most effective and efficient use of available funds. Past actions have led to increased equitability, but there is still work needing to be done. We are closer to our goal than we have been in the past. There would be even greater disparity in funding if the SILC hadn't taken their earlier actions.
- A question was raised as to whether the sub-committee considered performance outcomes in their formula? It was explained that it is a part of the formula, and it is weighted the least within the formula.
- Explanation was provided on federal funding priorities – (a) give an inflationary increase to currently funded programs; (b) create new CILs; and (c) if any funds remain, direct to states and seek their recommendations on its use.
- On a national level there was a push to get increased funding for IL services. Currently no one is going after more IL funding, in fact, there will be a 1% cut in the coming year.
- Recommended that a formula for future funding would be a good starting point.
- The sub-committee limited its look at performance outcome measures, due to the fact that it could not find a source of data that would allow for fair comparison from one CIL to another. It was agreed that performance outcomes are important, yet they have greater potential to be easily manipulated. What's needed now is concrete suggestions for how the formula might be changed.
- Question was asked if SILC members could agree with the sub-committee's consensus statements.
- Sub-committee members spoke to their previous attempts to weight formula criteria differently, and the outcome of such changes being minimal – most often hurting those already most affected by the formula.
- The reason for respecting the \$250,000 minimum base budget for all CILs was the past SILC commitment to reaching this goal and its recent attainment of it.

- Formula makes sense – major concern is how implementing it would have an immediate, and in some cases a very significant impact, on some CILs.
- No guarantees with this or any other formula, but it is as close as we've come in past attempts to an equitable approach to funding decisions.
- Suggested that possibly the CIL directors and CSD representative could meet and discuss these recommendations further and as a result, possibly come up with a different formula.
- Possibly could phase in this approach over a few years i.e., five years – thus lessening the immediate impact on those agencies receiving the funding.
- Not the SILC's place to direct Boards of CILs on how to spend the allotted funds.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE SUB-COMMITTEE'S REPORT AND TO IDENTIFY WAYS OF PHASING IN THE SUB-COMMITTEE'S PROPOSED FORMULA AND RELATED RECOMMENDATIONS –

MSC. Grady asked that any final action be delayed until the March meeting. In the meantime, he asked that the SILC Executive Committee be given the charge to meet with the sub-committee to work up a proposed plan of action for implementation that will be presented to the full SILC for consideration and action during their March meeting. It was agreed this meeting would also include representation of the three signors of the State Plan for Independent Living – SILC Chairperson and two DSU directors. **MOTION TO HAVE THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, SPIL SIGNATORIES AND FUNDING SUB-COMMITTEE MEET AND RECOMMEND IMPLEMENTATION APPROACHES TO THE APPROVED FORMULA – MSC.** Staff asked that these individuals remain following the conclusion of the meeting, so a date and time could be set for when they would meet.

At this point Ryan turned the meeting back over to Tom, and Tom as SILC chairperson, thanked everyone for their work and commitment to this process.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: BUDGET COMMITTEE – Gary referred to the budget report provided by Greg during yesterday’s portion of the meeting. The committee recommended moving \$2,000 from Strategic Planning funds to SILC travel, anticipating the current budget amount will not be adequate for meeting total expenditures. A question was asked if the committee had any recommendations about the amount that had been allocated to the Quad Squad (\$6,960). NAAP has submitted a proposal to provide peer support services using these funds. Before doing anything with these funds, the committee recommended that the SILC investigate the possibility of purchasing software for all the CILs to use. It was further recommended that since we’re within six months of the end of the fiscal year, the NAAP peer support proposal be considered for funding in the next fiscal year budget. Concerns were raised that these funds were focused on service delivery in the past, and that they need to continue to have that focus in the future. **MOTION TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF \$2,000 FROM STRATEGIC PLANNING FUNDS TO SILC TRAVEL AND STUDY THE USE OF THE \$6,960 IN SUPPORT OF A ONE-TIME PURCHASE OF SOFTWARE FOR CILS USE IN 704 REPORTING – MSC.** STRATEGIC PLANNING/ADVOCACY COMMITTEE – Linda referenced the draft SILC work plan that had been previously sent out. She asked that SILC members provide comments to staff by January 31st. Linda also reported that if the SILC wishes for this committee to explore 704 report information and explore how portions of this data might be used in funding and other considerations, the committee is willing to accept that charge. Consensus was that the SILC’s action to accept the Funding Subcommittee’s report, including their consensus statements, resulted in this charge being given to the committee.

ASSOCIATION OF CILS REPORT: Ann reported that the association is still working on acquiring its 501 c(3) status. She also reported that Independent Living Day is at the Capitol on January 31st.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NEWS AND ISSUES: Roxanne reported on the “United We Ride” grant. She indicated that there will be meetings across the state to gather input on the status of coordination, gaps in services, and potential approaches to filling those gaps. Roxanne also reported that the public transit providers are continually in search of additional funding for services. They are working on educating the public on their services. They annually host a day at the Capitol, and it was agreed that it might be good to have them join with others to host an event. Roxanne then invited Shelly, as SDCCD Executive Director, to speak to the “United We Ride” efforts. Shelly asked for the ability to step out of role as SILC staff, and it was granted. Shelly reported that a survey of providers has been completed, as well as a survey of State level stakeholders. The next step, as Roxanne reported, is to get out to communities. We anticipate talking with a variety of people i.e., riders; VR staff; CIL staff; senior center participants. We’ll be asking about the current status of services, where gaps currently exist and how those gaps might be filled. An issue was brought up about unmet need in Sioux Falls, and a short discussion followed on the Sioux Falls Transit for All Study Group and the Sioux Falls Public Transit Advisory Board (PTAB), for which Ryan Green is the chairperson. These groups are aware of the issue, and a public meeting will be held in the future where input can be provided. Also, Ryan invited individuals to participate in the PTAB monthly meetings held the last Monday of every month.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES: Kathi Skoglund represented DSS at this meeting. She reported that as of December 4th Marilyn Kinsman is the new Director of the Adult Services and Aging Division of DSS. Much of DSS’ efforts have been directed to the “Own Your Future” effort, which encourages people between the ages of 45 and 65 to plan for housing, retirement, long term care insurance and other

aspects of life as we live longer; and Medicare Part D re-enrollment, which runs from November 15th through December 31st. AARP completed a survey, and they found that 90% of Part D enrollees were happy with their current plan. DSS has also been working on provider reimbursement matters. Grady will contact Marilyn Kinsman about serving on the SILC, and once he has had that conversation, he'll follow up with the Governor's office as is appropriate.

SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY: Vona provided an update on (1) Home and Housing Tax credit; (2) First time Home Buyer Program Step-Up Mortgage Rate; (3) Homeless Conference to be held in Chamberlain March 13 – 14 focusing on “chronic homeless families”; and (4) the Homeless Coalition having a tree in the Capitol for the holidays.

CIL REPORTS: Ryan, as Vice Chair, took control of the meeting. CSD – Tom reported that CSD is expanding their ASL classes. They have five now, and they will continue them in the spring. He also reported that they have seen an increase in the number of IL services being delivered – statistics have grown from 28 open cases to 45 open cases. Tom indicated that there would be “open captions” on films in theatres every month. He reported that the family of murdered woman from Sioux Falls has donated a 10-foot screen, LCD projector connected to a television and a laptop for use in training and other events. NAAP – Marla reported that they are finishing up their Federal Home Loan projects – major home modification projects. She also reported that they are receiving a lot of requests for peer support services. OIL – Gary said that their systems advocacy efforts continue, primarily being carried out by Eric Vetter. He thanked Joel and Ryan for helping them with some ADA training and ongoing technical assistance. OIL is working with the Rocky Mountain ADA and IT Technical Assistance Center to host a distance learning ADA training with sites in Aberdeen, Sioux Falls and Watertown. PFCIL – Matt reported that they are working on their 704 report. They served 995 people during the reporting year, higher than previous years. They are also looking at how they provide services and if they are

effective in doing so, especially the four core services. They believe they need to enhance the delivery of the four core services and their effectiveness in meeting consumer needs through these services. They are also looking at ways to increase funding. They are exploring working with the Veterans Administration to provide IL assessments. They are also working on providing more service in the area of budgeting and financial planning for those they serve. WRDI – Ann reported that they were contacted by DSS to start a protective payee program, and they have started one in Pierre. They are expecting to receive some funds from the Community Development Block Grant program to help in modifying rental units; this needs to go through the city council. Tomorrow they will receive \$4,000 from Fannie Mae, and they are expecting to receive some funds from the City of Sturgis – these funds also will help with home modifications. WRDI has had lots of staff changes. They have hired someone to serve the southern Hills territory, and they have hired Linda Two Bulls for the position vacated by Mary Genzlinger’s departure. They are also working on their 704 report – numbers weren’t correct, so are going through all files to gather needed data.

At this point the meeting was turned back over to Tom as Chairperson.

OTHER BUSINESS: As a SILC member, Betsy asked if the SILC would provide some financial support of her participation at the 2007 SILC Congress scheduled for January 11 – 15 in New Orleans. She is the Region VIII representative on the planning committee. She has received partial funding from other sources, so she is seeking funding for her transportation and per diem costs. **MOTION TO APPROVE FUNDS IN SUPPORT OF BETSY’S TRANSPORTATION AND PER DIEM COSTS TO PARTICIPATE AT THE 2007 SILC CONGRESS – MSC.** Mark asked if staff would send out a listing of SILC, staff and CIL contact information. Staff agreed to do so. Betsy was asked to keep her ears tuned to possible funding opportunities for CILs. Betsy said she would definitely do so, and in their planning conversations, it

has become apparent that budget problems are occurring in other states, too.

CLOSING ACTIONS: SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING – Tom shared that the Board of Vocational Rehabilitation is meeting in Rapid City March 22nd and 23rd. After some conversation, consensus was to hold the next SILC meeting in Pierre on March 20th and 21st. It was also announced that the software committee will meet on January 30th at 1 p.m. at the DHS location in Pierre. **MOTION TO ADJOURN – MSC.** Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:50 a.m.