



408 Washington Avenue, West Plains, Missouri 65775 ❖ Phone 417-257-2630 ❖ Fax 417-257-2633 ❖ MO Relay 711

Committee for Inclusion
11:00 AM, Tuesday July 22, 2025
Twin Pines Conservation Center – Winona, Missouri

Meeting was called to order and roll call was taken.

In attendance: Jennifer Taylor, Diana Ball, Lisa Engelhardt

By Web Ex: Nicole Reese

Lisa Engelhardt called the meeting to order. Copies of the minutes from the April 22, 2025 meeting were made available. Diana Ball made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Jennifer seconded the motion and with all members present in favor the minutes were approved as written.

Lisa updated the group about the changes to the Equal Opportunity Officer for the region. To date the transition has been smooth. All required postings in both job centers have been updated with Glen Farrow's contact information. Lisa also provided a general update of the WIOA Programs. The Work Experience Program currently has people in Howell, Oregon, Ozark and Douglas counties. Positions include zoology, IT and welding that are specific career goals for those participating. Staff have made presentations to RootED (high school seniors with IEP & 504), ASCEND (college students with Neurodivergence and Autism) and Firefly staff (individuals with disabilities and foster care).

Dana Allen has been hired to replace Robin Thomas at Vocational Rehabilitation. This position has traditionally chaired the Committee for Inclusion. The committee plans to postpone filling the chair position until Dana has a chance to get oriented to the job and the board.

Jennifer Taylor shared that at the NASWA Conference she learned that the US is 10 years behind on building ships and submarines for the military.

The committee asked that people with disabilities be included in the early entrance to the next job fair event. They would also like to see an event where employers receive information about the challenges people with disabilities face and how those challenges can be accommodated.

With no other business to discuss, Jennifer Taylor made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Diana Ball seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Next meeting: 11:00 AM, October 28, 2025 at the Twin Pines Conservation Center – Winona, Missouri.