



**OKLAHOMA**  
**Rehabilitation Services**

# *Commission for Rehabilitation Services*

## **Commissioners**

**Janet Barresi, Theresa Flannery,  
Lindsay Hanna, Kelsey Lee, Lance Robertson,  
Noel Tyler, and Kevin Wallace**

Regular Meeting

There is no video conferencing for this meeting

Disability Determination Services  
9801 N. Kelley Avenue, West Entrance  
Oklahoma City, OK 73131

June 10, 2026

Empowering Oklahomans with Disabilities

**State of Oklahoma  
Commission for Rehabilitation Services  
Regular Commission Meeting  
June 10, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.**

Disability Determination Services  
9801 N. Kelley Avenue  
Oklahoma City 73131-2433

Commissioners: Chair, Theresa Flannery; Vice Chair, Dr. Janet Barresi; Members, Lindsay Hanna, Kelsey Lee, Lance Robertson, Noel Tyler, and Kevin Wallace

Sign Language Interpreters are provided for public accessibility. There is no virtual attendance option for this meeting.

Public Comment: To sign up to speak, please sign up on arrival prior to the start of the meeting. Public comments will be limited to three minutes per person.

**AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

*Theresa Flannery, Chair*

**2. Statement of Compliance with the Open Meeting Act**

*Kathleen Arrieta, Commission Assistant*

**3. Public Comments**

Public Audience - Under Oklahoma Open Meeting Laws, the Oklahoma Commission for Rehabilitation Services cannot respond to or discuss any matter not on today's agenda.

**4. Presentation of Longevity Certificates**

*Theresa Flannery, Chair*

**5. Chief Operating Officer's Report**

*Randy Weaver, COO*

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- a) Report includes agency and departmental updates, process improvement, case reviews, and program standards.
- b) State office relocation update
- c) Possible discussion

**6. Chief Financial Officer's Report**

*Kevin Statham, Chief Financial Officer*

- a) Financial Status Report

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- Discussion

- b) Operational Audit Overview: FY 22 through FY 24

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- Discussion

- c) FY 2028 - FY 2035 Capital Outlay Request

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- Discussion and possible action

## **7. Human Resources Report**

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*LaChelle Westfahl, HR Director*

- a) Personnel Activity report
- b) Introduction of new staff
- c) Possible discussion

## **8. Priority Group Updates and Portal Referrals**

*Tracy Brigham, Division Administrator, Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired (SBVI)*

- a) Priority Group Updates and Portal Referrals
- b) Possible discussion

## **9. Acceptance of Donations to the Oklahoma School for the Blind**

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*Brent Pearce, Superintendent*

- a) Donation Report for May 2026
- b) Discussion and possible action to accept the donations.

## **10. Acceptance of Donations to the Oklahoma School for Deaf**

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*Dr. Heather Laine, Superintendent*

- a) Donation Report for May 2026
- b) Discussion and possible action to accept the donations.

## **11. Acceptance of Donations to the Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (OLBPH)**

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*Kevin Treese, Program Manager III, SBVI*

- a) Donation Reports for May 2026
- b) Discussion and possible action to accept the donations.

## **12. Review of the May 13, 2026 Commission Meeting Minutes.**

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*Theresa Flannery, Chair*

- a) Discussion and possible action to modify and/or approve the minutes.

## **13. Election of Officers to the Oklahoma Commission for Rehabilitation Services**

*Theresa Flannery, Chair*

- a) Discussion and possible action

## **14. New Business**

*Theresa Flannery, Chair*

- a) Any matter not known about, or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting 25 O.S. § 311.

**Proposed Executive Session Pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(1) to discuss agenda items 15 and 16.**

*Theresa Flannery, Chair*

- a. Vote to enter Executive Session.
- b. EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(1).
- c. Vote to exit Executive Session.
- d. Possible action regarding item(s) discussed in Executive Session.

**15. Discussion and possible action to convene in Executive Session pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(1), to discuss the “the employment, hiring, appointment, promotion, demotion, disciplining or resignation” of the Executive Director, to include approval, modification, or rejection of a potential severance package.**

**16. Discussion and possible action to convene in Executive Session pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(1), to discuss the “the employment, hiring, appointment, promotion, demotion, disciplining or resignation” of a potential Acting Executive Director, to include compensation and establishing signing authority.**

**17. Discussion and possible action to establish the hiring process for a new Executive Director, including, but not limited to, determining necessary job qualifications and requirements for candidates, and the process for hiring an Executive Director, including, but not limited to, whether to utilize a search firm and/or to create a Hiring Committee.**

**18. Adjournment**

*Theresa Flannery, Chair*

- a) Discussion and possible action

**Note: “Possible action” by the Commission includes, but is not limited to, approval, authorization, adoption, rejection, denial, amendment, taking no action, or tabling the item for disposition at a later date or time.**

**Next Commission meeting: Wednesday, August 12, 2026**



# Chief Operating Officer's Report

**Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services**  
**Chief Operating Office's Report**  
**June 2026**

**DRS Headquarters Relocation Update**

DRS continues progressing toward the planned headquarters relocation with a target move date beginning July 1, 2026. The dates below have been scheduled with the movers and staff have been notified of their move dates.

- Finance – July 1, 2 and 6
- Human Resources – July 8–10
- Communications – July 13–14
- Executive – July 15–17 and July 20
- MSD – July 21–24

To date, major planning milestones have been completed, including RSA approval on May 29, 2026, for \$169,058.18, commencement of office cabling, and owner-funded door modifications. Coordination efforts continue between DRS staff, technology vendors, and moving contractors to support a smooth transition.

**Financial Overview**

Current projected relocation-related costs include moving services estimated at \$67,352.60 and technology/IT implementation costs of approximately \$100,000. Door modifications and buildout costs are being covered by the building owner. No additional major tenant buildout costs are currently anticipated.

**Operational Readiness**

Planning efforts remain focused on minimizing disruption to agency operations during the relocation process. Current coordination efforts include technology transition planning, vendor scheduling and sequencing, staff move preparation, operational continuity planning, and facility readiness coordination.

**Next Steps / Timeline**

Upcoming activities include completion of owner-provided door modifications, continued coordination with technology vendors, staff packing and move preparation, office numbering and door labeling, and technology installation activities.

## **Risks / Monitoring**

DRS continues monitoring vendor timelines, technology implementation schedules, and facility readiness to maintain the projected relocation timeline. Staff will continue coordinating with OMES and vendors to proactively address issues as they arise.

## **Process Improvement (PI)**

### **Federal Reporting**

RSA-911 PY25 Q3 has been submitted.

## **AWARE**

We are currently testing a new AWARE version, 2026.1. We have begun utilizing QA Advisor to identify RSA-911 errors for PY25 Q4 and are working to resolve those errors. March 2026 OU Pre-Employment Transition Services have been imported to AWARE. The Employment Support Services Vendor Portal project with Alliance continues.

## **Case Review**

The QA team continues to audit cases. For May, a closed case audit was conducted for cases closed between March 16, 2026 and April 15, 2026. The review included 91 randomly selected cases. Twelve candidates were considered for the open auditor position, five candidates were interviewed, and one candidate has been referred to Human Resources for final processing.

## **Program Standards, Statistical Research**

The research staff are working on planning and early-stage projects for the Needs Assessment.

## **Power BI**

Updated reports per end-users' requests. Completed one-time requests for end-users. Continued cleanup of reports to remove unnecessary items.

Respectfully submitted by

Randy Weaver, Chief Operating Officer



# Chief Financial Officer's Report

## Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of April 30, 2026

Agency Summary						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	95,000,151.00	48.9%	70,497,788.13	74.2%	22,473,123.38	97.9%
Travel	1,770,046.00	0.9%	1,277,547.30	72.2%	22,101.85	73.4%
General Operating	27,633,369.00	14.2%	15,731,910.76	56.9%	9,032,509.56	89.6%
Office Furniture & Equipment	3,493,699.00	1.8%	1,652,998.95	47.3%	682,885.12	66.9%
Client / General Assistance	56,029,813.00	28.8%	28,997,995.92	51.8%	23,904,588.01	94.4%
Indirect Cost	10,306,958.00	5.3%	7,885,799.51	76.5%	2,421,158.49	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>194,234,036.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>126,044,040.57</b>	<b>64.9%</b>	<b>58,536,366.41</b>	<b>95.0%</b>

## Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of April 30, 2026

<b>All Programs</b>						
<b>Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind &amp; Visually Impaired</b>						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	30,795,704.00	32.5%	22,842,156.96	74.2%	7,201,921.43	97.6%
Travel	1,280,300.00	1.4%	965,976.90	75.4%	250.00	75.5%
General Operating	9,991,738.00	10.5%	6,504,884.30	65.1%	4,095,017.57	106.1%
Office Furniture & Equipment	1,672,200.00	1.8%	838,897.45	50.2%	288,670.37	67.4%
Client / General Assistance	46,730,813.00	49.3%	23,863,955.65	51.1%	19,973,884.33	93.8%
Indirect Cost	4,248,000.00	4.5%	3,219,921.98	75.8%	1,028,078.02	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>94,718,755.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>58,235,793.24</b>	<b>61.5%</b>	<b>32,587,821.72</b>	<b>95.9%</b>
<i>Vocational Rehabilitation Grant</i>						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	27,947,251.00	31.2%	20,747,764.56	74.2%	6,528,101.73	97.6%
Travel	1,245,300.00	1.4%	947,052.73	76.1%	250.00	76.1%
General Operating	9,298,214.00	10.4%	6,031,946.44	64.9%	3,775,011.15	105.5%
Office Furniture & Equipment	1,417,330.00	1.6%	694,625.11	49.0%	288,670.37	69.4%
Client / General Assistance	45,944,667.00	51.2%	23,538,218.47	51.2%	19,599,039.24	93.9%
Indirect Cost	3,858,836.00	4.3%	2,957,690.78	76.6%	901,145.22	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>89,711,598.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>54,917,298.09</b>	<b>61.2%</b>	<b>31,092,217.71</b>	<b>95.9%</b>

## Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of April 30, 2026

All Programs Oklahoma School for the Blind						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	7,565,178.00	63.1%	5,969,790.51	78.9%	1,446,637.94	98.0%
Travel	92,200.00	0.8%	63,271.47	68.6%	420.00	69.1%
General Operating	2,822,702.00	23.5%	1,467,743.78	52.0%	565,470.33	72.0%
Office Furniture & Equipment	560,410.00	4.7%	206,769.13	36.9%	58,991.74	47.4%
Client / General Assistance	42,000.00	0.4%	30,095.67	71.7%	0.00	71.7%
Indirect Cost	912,770.00	7.6%	705,093.87	77.2%	207,676.13	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,995,260.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>8,442,764.43</b>	<b>70.4%</b>	<b>2,279,196.14</b>	<b>89.4%</b>

## Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of April 30, 2026

<b>All Programs</b>						
<b>Oklahoma School for the Deaf</b>						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	9,578,719.00	49.5%	6,814,684.38	71.1%	2,271,081.40	94.9%
Travel	248,540.00	1.3%	163,532.85	65.8%	450.00	66.0%
General Operating	6,893,030.00	35.6%	3,652,350.46	53.0%	1,970,931.25	81.6%
Office Furniture & Equipment	816,457.00	4.2%	403,429.03	49.4%	333,916.36	90.3%
Client / General Assistance	672,000.00	3.5%	140,266.84	20.9%	306,215.00	66.4%
Indirect Cost	1,136,688.00	5.9%	888,248.15	78.1%	248,439.85	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,345,434.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>12,062,511.71</b>	<b>62.4%</b>	<b>5,131,033.86</b>	<b>88.9%</b>

## Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of April 30, 2026

All Programs						
Disability Determination Services						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	38,154,742.00	68.5%	28,036,368.68	73.5%	9,797,866.56	99.2%
Travel	52,001.00	0.1%	11,661.71	22.4%	20,081.85	61.0%
General Operating	4,523,017.00	8.1%	2,417,710.30	53.5%	1,340,487.94	83.1%
Office Furniture & Equipment	381,164.00	0.7%	192,506.35	50.5%	0.00	50.5%
Client / General Assistance	8,585,000.00	15.4%	4,960,511.32	57.8%	3,624,488.68	100.0%
Indirect Cost	4,000,991.00	7.2%	3,066,282.52	76.6%	934,708.48	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>55,696,915.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>38,685,040.88</b>	<b>69.5%</b>	<b>15,717,633.51</b>	<b>97.7%</b>

## Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of April 30, 2026

<b>All Programs DRS Support Services</b>						
	<b>Budget</b>	<b>% of Total Budget</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>% Expended</b>	<b>Encumbrances</b>	<b>% Used</b>
Personnel	8,905,808.00	71.4%	6,834,787.60	76.7%	1,755,616.05	96.5%
Travel	97,005.00	0.8%	73,104.37	75.4%	900.00	76.3%
General Operating	3,402,882.00	27.3%	1,689,221.92	49.6%	1,060,602.47	80.8%
Office Furniture & Equipment	63,468.00	0.5%	11,396.99	18.0%	1,306.65	20.0%
Client / General Assistance	0.00	0.0%	3,166.44	0.0%	0.00	0.0%
Indirect Cost	8,509.00	0.1%	6,253.00	73.5%	2,256.00	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,477,672.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>8,617,930.32</b>	<b>69.1%</b>	<b>2,820,681.17</b>	<b>91.7%</b>

# Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of April 30, 2026

## **Personnel**

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Salary Expense

Insurance Premium -Health-Life, etc

FICA-Retirement Contributions

## **Travel**

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Travel - Agency Direct

Travel - Reimbursements

## **General Operating**

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AFP Encumbrances

Bond Indebtness and Expenses

Buildings-Purchase, Construction and Renovation

General Operating

Inter/Intre Agency Payment for Personal Services

Maintenance & Repair

Miscellaneous Administration Fee

Professional Services

Production, Safety, Security

Refunds, Indemnities, Restitution

Rent Expense

Scholarships, Tuition and Other Incentive-Type Payments

Shop Expense

Specialized Supplies & Materials

## **Office Furniture & Equipment**

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Library Equipment & Resources

Office Furniture & Equipment

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## **Client / General Assistance**

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Social Service and Assistance Payments

## **Indirect Cost**

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# DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES

Operational Audit

For the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024

**Cindy Byrd, CPA**  
State Auditor & Inspector

**Audit Report of the  
Department of Rehabilitation Services**

**For the period  
July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024**



May 18, 2026

**TO THE COMMISSION FOR REHABILITATION SERVICES**

We present the audit report of the Department of Rehabilitation Services for the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024. The goal of the State Auditor and Inspector is to promote accountability and fiscal integrity in state and local government. Maintaining our independence as we provide this service to the taxpayers of Oklahoma is of utmost importance.

We wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the assistance and cooperation extended to our office during our engagement.

This report is a public document pursuant to the Oklahoma Open Records Act (51 O.S. § 24A.1 et seq.) and shall be open to any person for inspection and copying.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cindy Byrd".

CINDY BYRD, CPA  
OKLAHOMA STATE AUDITOR & INSPECTOR

**Background**

The Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS or the Agency) strives to expand opportunities for employment, independent life, and economic self-sufficiency by helping Oklahomans with disabilities bridge barriers to success in the workplace, school, and at home. DRS is composed of five program divisions: Vocational Rehabilitation, Visual Services, Disability Determination, Oklahoma School for the Blind, and Oklahoma School for the Deaf. DRS also relies on Support Services to handle administrative functions. Support Services comprises the Executive Division, Financial Services Division, and Management Services Division.

The mission of DRS is to provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities to achieve productivity, independence, and an enriched quality of life. DRS receives federal funding for services such as vocational rehabilitation and disability determination and calculates an indirect cost rate for administrative expenses attributable to such programs. The indirect cost rate proposal is submitted to the U.S. Department of Education for approval annually.

The governing board for DRS (the Commission) consists of seven members, each appointed for a three-year term. Two members are appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate, two by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, and three by the Governor.

Commissioners as of April 2026 are:

- Theresa Flannery ..... Chair
- Dr. Janet Barresi ..... Vice Chair
- Kelsey Lee ..... Member
- Lindsay Hanna ..... Member
- Kevin Wallace..... Member
- Lance Robertson..... Member
- Noel Tyler ..... Member

**Department of Rehabilitation Services  
Operational Audit**

The following table summarizes the Agency's sources and uses of funds for July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024.

**Table 1: Sources and Uses of Funds for FY 2023 and FY 2024**

	<b>Category</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Sources</b>	Federal Funds and Reimbursements	\$89,328,422	\$93,719,113
	Appropriations	41,573,441	35,703,543
	Income from Money and Property	21,132	5,726,324
	Food & Beverage Sales	212,149	229,337
	Licenses, Permits, Fees	166,097	241,035
	Other Revenues	54,093	58,987
	<b>Total Sources</b>	<b>\$131,355,334</b>	<b>\$135,678,339</b>
<b>Uses</b>	Personnel Services	\$75,386,256	\$83,640,643
	Social Services - Assistance Grants	30,602,647	29,595,548
	Administrative Expenses	10,847,854	11,037,700
	Professional Services	5,907,273	6,091,371
	Property, Furniture, Equipment	5,422,303	2,271,777
	Travel	1,143,620	1,258,289
	Transfers and Other Disbursements	2,536	346,932
	<b>Total Uses</b>	<b>\$129,312,489</b>	<b>\$134,242,260</b>

Source: Oklahoma state accounting system (unaudited, for informational purposes only)

**Scope and  
Methodology**

Our audit was conducted in response to 74 O.S. § 212, which requires the State Auditor and Inspector’s office to audit the books and accounts of all state agencies whose duty it is to collect, disburse, or manage funds of the state.

We conducted this performance audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

In planning and conducting our audit, we focused on the major financial-related areas of operations based on assessment of materiality and risk for the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024. To assess risk and develop our audit objective, we held discussions with management, distributed surveys to Agency personnel, and performed data analysis and prior audit follow-up. These procedures included:

- Reviewing revenue, expenditure, and asset-related data from the state accounting system and gathering information from Agency personnel to assess the related financial processes and trends for any notable risks, including following up with staff on the previous audit finding related to revenues
- Reviewing the Agency’s HR Actions from the Workday system to assess changes that had a financial impact during the audit period and reviewing a selection of payroll approval documentation for such changes
- Reviewing inventory listings and following up with staff on the previous audit finding related to inventory
- Reviewing Commission meeting minutes and pertinent statutes and regulations

One objective related to indirect costs was developed, as discussed in the next section.

We utilized sampling of transactions to achieve our objective. To ensure the samples were representative of the population and provided sufficient, appropriate evidence, the random sample methodology was used. We identified specific attributes for testing each of the samples and when appropriate, we projected our results to the population.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, errors or fraud may occur and not be detected. Also, projections of any evaluation of internal control to future periods are subject to the risk that conditions may change or compliance with policies and procedures may deteriorate.

### Internal Control Considerations

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) emphasizes the importance of internal controls at all levels of government entities. Their *Standards for Internal Control*<sup>1</sup> outline the five overarching components of internal control: the control environment, risk assessment, information and communication, monitoring, and detailed control activities. Any component considered significant to our audit objectives is assessed during our procedures and included as appropriate in this report.

The *Standards for Internal Control* underscore that an internal control system is effective only when the five components of internal control are operating together in an integrated manner. They also stress that documentation is a necessary part of an effective internal control system and is required to demonstrate its design, implementation, and operating effectiveness.

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<sup>1</sup> *Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government*, or the "Green Book," sets standards and the overall framework for an effective internal control system in federal agencies and is treated as best practices for other levels of government. Accessible online at <https://www.gao.gov/greenbook>

**OBJECTIVE** Determine whether the Agency's indirect costs are calculated and allocated in accordance with the provisions of 2 CFR Part 200.

**Conclusion** The Agency's indirect costs are calculated and allocated in accordance with the provisions of 2 CFR Part 200. However, the Agency has the opportunity to improve its underlying expenditure review and related documentation.

**Scope &  
Methodology**

To accomplish our objective, we performed the following:

- Documented our understanding of the indirect cost-related processes through discussion with management and staff and review of relevant documentation and reports
- Evaluated those processes and identified and assessed significant internal controls related to our objective
- Evaluated the following internal control principles outlined in GAO *Standards for Internal Control* that were determined to be significant to our objective. No issues were identified.
  - Management should establish an organizational structure, assign responsibility, and delegate authority to achieve the entity's objectives.
  - Management should demonstrate a commitment to recruit, develop, and retain competent individuals.
- Confirmed the divisions, expenditure categories, and allocations reflected in the approved indirect cost rate documentation were appropriate per 2 CFR Part 200
- Reviewed payroll changes (22% of the population) for divisions for which indirect costs are charged to ensure the authorizing HCM-92 forms were approved by the appropriate parties. No issues were identified as a result of this testwork.
- Reviewed the Indirect Cost Rate Agreements for the period of 2022 through 2025 to ensure they were approved by the CFO. While 2025 is not part of our audit period, this was efficient testwork and the agreement was available at the time of our testing procedures. No issues were identified as a result of this testwork.
- Reviewed monthly Financial Status Reports for 25% of audit period months to ensure they were properly reviewed and approved. No issues were identified as a result of this testwork.
- Reviewed weekly detailed expenditure reports to ensure they were properly reviewed, as discussed in the following finding

**FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Review of  
Detailed  
Expenditures  
Should Be  
Consistently  
Documented**

The Agency's indirect cost rate agreement is reviewed and approved by the CFO on an annual basis. The budget analyst and financial manager also review monthly financial status reports and reconcile them to the state accounting system, ensuring the indirect costs calculated are accurate and reliable. Our procedures confirmed these reviews are occurring.

Underlying these reviews, payroll and other expenditures are regularly reviewed on a more detailed basis, including the expenditure review discussed below.

Staff members in the Financial Services Division post expenditures in the state accounting system, and the accounting manager reviews the entries for dollar amount accuracy. Staff reported that weekly, the budget analyst reviews the 6-Digit Detail of Expenditure report from the state accounting system for accuracy, including ensuring department codes are applied correctly. The expenditure review and any coding errors found are emailed to the financial manager for correction. However, we found this process did not consistently occur throughout the audit period due to staffing changes in the budget analyst position. Without a detailed review of expenditures, inappropriate payments or mistakes could be made, impacting indirect cost calculations related to federal funding and placing the agency out of compliance with 2 CFR part 200.

Management reported that a new budget analyst was hired in June 2024, and the expenditure review has consistently been performed and documented through email. We reviewed multiple emails from weeks selected haphazardly throughout fiscal year 2025 to confirm the review appears to be occurring.

GAO *Standards for Internal Control* guide management to design appropriate control activities to meet the entity's unique needs, including controls over complete, accurate, and timely recording of valid transactions, and appropriate segregation of duties.

**Recommendation**

We recommend management continue the weekly review of the 6-Digit Detail of Expenditure Report. The results of the review should be formally documented and maintained to support compliance with 2 CFR part 200.

**Views of Responsible Officials**

Management concurs with the finding. Transitions during personnel changes can identify areas of risk. As a result of this audit, Financial Services Division staff will participate in the following workflow. After

reviewing the weekly expenditure and encumbrance report produced by the Budget Analyst, the Financial Manager will respond via email that the report has been reviewed and will request via email any needed corrections from the Comptroller.

O·K·L·A·H·O·M·A  
SAI  
STATE AUDITOR & INSPECTOR



**Cindy Byrd, CPA | State Auditor & Inspector**

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**OKLAHOMA COMMISSION FOR REHABILITATION SERVICES**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**ISSUE:**

Approval of the FY 2028 – FY 2035 Capital Outlay Request

**BACKGROUND:**

At the Commission meeting held May 13, 2026, the Commission for Rehabilitation Services reviewed capital requests and justifications for FY 2028 – FY 2035.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff requests approval of the FY 2028 – FY 2035 Capital Outlay Request.

**BUDGET IMPACT:**

**FY 2028 – FY 2035 Capital Outlay Request**

<b>Division/Program</b>	<b>Number of Projects</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
OSB	3	\$3,995,000
OSD	1	3,000,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$6,995,000</b>

**Department of Rehabilitation Services  
FY 2028 - FY 2035 Capital Outlay Request**

<b>Priority</b>	<b>Project #</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1	805-0068	OSB - New Cafeteria	2,000,000
2	805-0069	OSB - Auditorium Remodel	945,000
3	805-0026	OSB - New Maintenance and Auto/Carpentry Shop	1,050,000
4	805-0104	OSD - Griffing Hall Remodel	3,000,000
<b>TOTAL REQUEST</b>			<b>\$6,995,000</b>

<b>Division/Program</b>	<b>Amount</b>
OSB (3 Projects)	\$3,995,000
OSD (1 Projects)	\$3,000,000
<b>Total Request (4 Projects)</b>	<b>\$6,995,000</b>

## DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES

### FY 2028 - FY 2035 Capital Outlay Request

#### **805-0068 OSB - New Cafeteria**

##### **Agency Priority 1 Amount \$2,000,000**

This request is for the construction of a new school cafeteria. The existing cafeteria is built over original sewer and plumbing lines dating back to 1904. These systems are outdated and failing—floor drains do not function properly, and maintenance has had to make repeated, piecemeal repairs to the piping. Additionally, the water lines and grease traps are aging and require full replacement. The current facility also presents functional and safety challenges. The ceilings are low, lighting is inadequate, and multiple load-bearing columns throughout the dining area create obstacles, making it difficult for visually impaired students to navigate safely and independently. A new cafeteria would address these infrastructure and accessibility concerns while also providing expanded space for staff training sessions and special events. Repurposing the existing dining area would create an opportunity to renovate and convert the space into additional classrooms.

#### **805-0069 OSB - Auditorium Remodel**

##### **Agency Priority 2 Amount \$945,000**

This request proposes a comprehensive renovation of the school auditorium to upgrade flooring, lighting, sound systems, seating capacity, and HVAC infrastructure. The auditorium is currently insufficient to meet demand during graduation ceremonies and other major events. It routinely reaches full capacity, requiring many attendees, including families, friends, and dignitaries, to stand in aisles and doorways due to limited seating. In addition, the existing infrastructure has reached the end of its useful life. The current seating can no longer be securely anchored to the plywood subfloor due to dry rot, necessitating full subfloor replacement prior to the installation of new seating and carpeting. The carpeting, paint, and seating were last replaced approximately thirty-six years ago, and the sound system is approximately twenty years old. Lighting is inadequate for current performance and presentation needs. The HVAC system also requires modernization, including conversion from a 2-pipe to a 4-pipe system, to improve climate control efficiency and comfort during large events. The existing auditorium includes 265 seats within approximately 3,150 square feet, including balcony space. However, the current layout and infrastructure no longer meet functional or capacity needs.

#### **805-0026 OSB - New Maintenance and Auto/Carpentry Shop**

##### **Agency Priority 3 Amount \$1,050,000**

The current facility housing the auto shop and carpentry shop is outdated and undersized, making it inadequate for the school's instructional and operational needs. The limited space allows only one vehicle to be serviced at a time, significantly restricting efficiency and hands-on learning opportunities. As a result, the school's mechanic is often required to perform repairs outdoors, frequently working on the ground in all weather conditions while servicing school buses and other vehicles. In addition to space limitations, the existing building is located in a high-traffic student pedestrian area, creating safety concerns for both students and staff during vehicle movement and maintenance operations. The proposed project includes the construction of a new metal building measuring approximately 50' x 60'. The facility will also feature an attached carport extending the full 60' length of the front of the building, creating a 20' x 60' covered work area. This new facility will provide a safer, more efficient, and appropriately sized environment to support both automotive and carpentry programs while improving workflow, instructional capacity, and overall campus safety.

**805-0104 OSD - Griffing Hall Remodel**

**Agency Priority 4    Amount \$3,000,000**

This project is to remodel the second and third floors of the Griffing Hall Dormitory, as well as the first-floor bathrooms in the cafeteria. This will include creating additional walls on each floor, painting and remodeling the restrooms. It will also involve replacing the water lines, boiler, and variable air volume (VAV - a sophisticated type heating ventilation and air conditioning system that adjusts the amount of air delivered to different zones within a building space based on specific needs). The restrooms on the first floor in the cafeteria will also be remodeled.

**TOTAL REQUEST \$6,995,000**



# Human Resources Report

## PERSONNEL ACTIVITY REPORT AS OF MAY 31, 2026

### FILLED AND VACANT POSITIONS

Personnel Activity = 3 vacant positions filled / 54 positions in Announcement or Selection Process

Division	Title/PIN	Date Vacated	Location	Begin date	End date	Ann. #	Action/Incumbent	Date Filled
EXEC	Business Analyst / 0682	11/02/2025	EXEC	01/21/2026	03/04/2026	26-040	Currently Open	
FSD	Accountant / 0013	10/02/2025	FSD	03/23/2026	Continuous	26-044	Currently Open	
FSD	Accountant / 0096	04/01/2025	FSD	03/23/2026	Continuous	26-073	In Selection Process	
MSD	Administrative Programs Officer / 0630	04/24/2026	MSD	05/11/2026	Continuous	26-070	Currently Open	
MSD	Contracting & Acquisitions Agent / 0502	04/30/2026	MSD	04/03/2026	Continuous	26-058	Currently Open	
VR/SBVI ADMIN	Programs Field Representative / 0376	12/31/2025	VR/SBVI	04/06/2026	04/10/2026	26-059	In Selection Process	
OSB	Programs Manager (Compliance Officer) / 0515	07/31/2026	OSB	05/06/2026	Continuous	26-071	Currently Open	
OSB	Teacher / 0212	07/31/2026	OSB	05/15/2026	Continuous	26-076	Currently Open	
OSB	Housekeeping/Custodial Worker / 0822	03/09/2026	OSB	04/01/2026	Continuous	26-062	Katina Durham	05/04/2026
OSB	LPN / 0420	04/08/2026	OSB	04/01/2026	Continuous	26-064	Currently Open	
OSB	Food Service Specialist / 0231, 0444	06/01/2026	OSB	04/03/2026	Continuous	26-065	Currently Open	
OSB	Independent Living Instructor / 0037	06/14/2022	OSB	04/17/2026	Continuous	26-066	Currently Open	
OSD	Early Development Specialist / 1499	07/31/2026	OSD	05/11/2026	Continuous	26-072	Currently Open	
OSD	Teacher / 0619	07/31/2026	OSD	04/03/2026	Continuous	26-060	Currently Open	
OSD	Administrative Assistant / 0353	03/26/2026	OSD	04/03/2026	Continuous	26-061	Currently Open	
OSD	Teacher / 0243	06/01/2026	OSD	04/03/2026	Continuous	26-063	Currently Open	
OSD	Food Service Specialist / 0655	03/05/2026	OSD	03/05/2026	Continuous	26-054	Justin Dodson	05/04/2026
OSD	Administrative Assistant / 0088	12/01/2025	OSD	02/27/2026	Continuous	26-053	Currently Open	
OSD	Housekeeping/Custodial Worker / 0712	02/23/2026	OSD	02/26/2026	Continuous	26-052	Currently Open	
OSD	Construction/Maintenance Tech / 0701	11/12/2025	OSD	12/05/2025	Continuous	26-035	Currently Open	
OSD	Teacher / 0423	06/01/2024	OSD	09/19/2025	Continuous	26-016	Currently Open	
OSD	Sign Language Interpreter / 0186	07/31/2025	OSD	08/18/2025	Continuous	26-007	Currently Open	
OSD	Speech Language Pathologist / P107653	NEW PIN	OSD	07/17/2025	Continuous	26-003	Currently Open	
OSD	Counselor / 1028	11/13/2024	OSD	01/24/2025	Continuous	25-062	Currently Open	
OSD	School Counselor / 1488	10/06/2022	OSD	07/15/2024	Continuous	25-007	Currently Open	
OSD	Sign Language Specialist, 2308 / 1090	07/20/2023	OSD	08/17/2023	Continuous	24-023	Currently Open	

OSD	Direct Care Specialist (Classroom) / 0934	02/26/2025	OSD	12/02/2024	Continuous	25-055	Currently Open
OSD	Direct Care Specialist (Dorm) / 0115	08/20/2025	OSD	10/24/2023	Continuous	23-032	Currently Open
OSD	Teacher, 2083 / 0890, 0022	08/01/2021 07/31/2026	OSD	10/04/2023	Continuous	23-079	Currently Open
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0516, 0690	03/17/2026 03/31/2026	VR80 – Tulsa	05/12/2026	Continuous	26-074	Currently Open
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0820	04/28/2026	VR56 – Woodward	05/15/2026	Continuous	26-075	Currently Open
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0627	04/30/2026	VR18 – Muskogee	05/15/2026	Continuous	26-077	Currently Open
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0776	05/15/2026	VR86 – Ada	05/26/2026	Continuous	26-079	Currently Open
VR	Rehabilitation Technician / 0437	05/08/2026	VR81 – Chickasha	05/20/2026	Continuous	26-080	Currently Open
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0119	05/19/2026	VR12 – Lawton	05/27/2026	Continuous	26-081	Currently Open
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0138	04/01/2026	VR47 – OKC	04/22/2026	04/28/2026	26-067	In Selection Process
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0671	04/30/2026	VR77 – Miami	04/24/2026	Continuous	26-068	Currently Open
VR	Rehabilitation Technician / 0011	04/21/2026	VR08 – Enid	04/29/2026	Continuous	26-069	Currently Open
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0516	03/17/2026	VR80 – Tulsa	03/24/2026	Continuous	26-056	Currently Open
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0690	04/01/2026	VR80 – Tulsa	02/20/2026	Continuous	26-047	Currently Open
VR	Job Placement Specialist / 0372	07/01/2025	VR47 – OKC	09/19/2025	Continuous	26-015	Currently Open
VR	Programs Field Representative / 0786	08/31/2024	VR – TBD	05/01/2025	Continuous	25-093	Currently Open
VR	Job Placement Specialist / 0925	05/31/2023	VR86 – Ada	05/09/2025	Continuous	25-098	Currently Open
VR	Behavioral Health Clinician / 0165	03/01/2011	VR13 – McAlester	05/15/2025	Continuous	25-101	Currently Open
VR	Assistive Technology Specialist / 0263	02/01/2025	VR36 – OKC	04/22/2025	Continuous	25-089	Currently Open
VR	Assistive Technology Specialist / 0085	05/01/2024	VR36 – OKC	04/18/2025	Continuous	25-085	Currently Open
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0567	09/01/2020	VR67 – Tulsa	11/01/2023	Continuous	21-028.1	Currently Open
SBVI	Programs Manager / 0193	05/31/2026	SBVI91 – Tulsa	05/26/2026	Continuous	26-078	Currently Open
SBVI	Rehabilitation of the Blind Spec / 0812	03/06/2026	SBVI69 – Weatherford	03/25/2026	Continuous	26-055	Currently Open
SBVI	Programs Manager (BEP Operations Coordinator) / 1209	07/01/2026	SBVI33 – OKC	03/25/2026	03/31/2026	26-057	Ryan Robinson 05/04/2026

SBVI	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0938	01/30/2026	SBVI64 – Tulsa	02/20/2026	Continuous	26-046	Currently Open
SBVI	Rehabilitation Technician / 0267	02/13/2026	SBVI64 – Tulsa	02/19/2026	Continuous	26-051	Currently Open
SBVI	Mechanical Systems Technician / 0560	08/11/2017	SBVI33 – OKC	06/03/2025	Continuous	25-114	Currently Open
SBVI	Rehabilitation of the Blind Specialist / 0754	10/01/2018	SBVI – TBD	05/23/2025	Continuous	25-107	Currently Open

**DISCHARGES/RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS = 12**

**As of May 31, 2026**

**SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (Executive/MSD/FSD)**

Retirement = 1

1 = 20 years 9 months

**DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

Resignation = 2

1 = 1 month

1 = 5 years 3 months

Discharge = 1

1 = 2 years 11 months

**SERVICES FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED DIVISION**

Trial Period Discharge = 1

1 = 10 months

Retirement = 1

1 = 13 years, 6 months

**OKLAHOMA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND**

Resignation = 2

1 = 26 days

1 = 13 years, 8 months

Retirement = 2

1 = 19 years 3 months

1 = 11 years 7 months

**OKLAHOMA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF**

Resignation = 1

1 = 4 years 2 months

**DISABILITY DETERMINATION SERVICES**

Resignation = 1

1 = 7 years 9 months

# CURRENT FTE STATUS FY 2026


*FTE as of May 31, 2026*

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>BUDGETED FTE</u>	<u>FILLED</u>	<u>PENDING</u>	<u>EXEMPT FTE</u>	<u>TOTAL FILLED PLUS PENDING MINUS EXEMPT FTE</u>
Support Services (Executive/MSD/FSD)	82.5	77.00	5.00	(1.00)	81.00
Vocational Rehabilitation	230.0	212.00	19.00	0.00	231.00
Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired	113.0	103.00	6.00	0.00	109.00
VR/SBVI-DP	4.00	3.00	1.00	0.00	4.00
Oklahoma School for the Blind	100.0	94.00	6.00	0.00	100.00
Oklahoma School for the Deaf	131.5	115.00	17.00	0.00	132.00
<b>Total (NON-EXEMPT)</b>	<b>660.80</b>	<b>604.00</b>	<b>54.00</b>	<b>(1.00)</b>	<b>657.00</b>
Disability Determination Services (EXEMPT)	327.20	287.00	0.00	(287.00)	287.00
<b>TOTAL NON-EXEMPT &amp; EXEMPT</b>	<b>988.2</b>	<b>891.00</b>	<b>54.00</b>	<b>(288.00)</b>	<b>944.00</b>

**FY 26 Budgetary Limit = 1255**

**\* Authorized agency FTE limit does not include Executive Fellow and SWIP appointments**

ROUTING TO: Melinda Fruendt, Director  
 Kevin Statham, Chief Financial Officer  
 Randy Weaver, Chief of Operations  
 LaChelle Westfahl, Human Resources Program Director  
 Mark Beutler, Director of Communications  
 Kathleen Arrieta, Executive Assistant  
 Brett Jones, Public Information Officer III



# Oklahoma School for the Blind Donation Report

# OSB DONATION REPORT

<b>May 2026 Donations</b>
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**Donations under \$500**

Date	Name	Cash	Fund	Property	Value
5/7/2026	Faye Miller / stationary bikes			bikes	\$ 100.00


<b>Subtotal of Cash (under \$500) donated in May 2026</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		<b>Subtotal prop.</b>		<b>\$ 100.00</b>
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**Donations \$500 and over**

	\$ -			
5/7/2026	OSB Foundation/Stephanie Glynn FCCLA	\$ 500.00		
5/20/2026	Sherry Holder/new stove for ILS kitchen	\$ 2,000.00		

<b>Subtotal of Cash (\$500 and over) donated in May 2026</b>	<b>\$ 2,500.00</b>		<b>Subtotal prop.</b>		<b>\$ -</b>
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<b>TOTAL DONATION AMOUNTS May - 2026</b>	<b>\$2,600.00</b>			
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# Oklahoma School for the Deaf Donation Report

## OSD Donation Report May 2026

### Donations Under \$500.00

Date	Name	Cash	Fund	Explanation	Property Value
4/20/2026	Sulphur Public School	\$ 100.00	70100/20105	Performing Arts	
4/20/2026	Sulphur Public School	\$ 250.00	70100/20025	Dorm Activities	
5/5/2026	Blackbaud Giving	\$ 5.00	Needy Pupil	Needy Pupil	
5/13/2026	DOT Foods			Teachers Retirement Celebration	\$ 360.00
<b>Subtotal Cash Under \$500.00</b>		<b>\$ 355.00</b>		<b>Subtotal Property Under \$500.00</b>	<b>\$ 360.00</b>

### Donations Over \$500.00

Date	Name	Cash	Fund	Explanation	Property Value
<b>Subtotal Cash Over \$500.00</b>		<b>\$ -</b>		<b>Subtotal Property Over \$500.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Subtotal Cash Combined</b>		<b>\$ 355.00</b>		<b>Subtotal Property Combined</b>	<b>\$ 360.00</b>

**Total donations for May 2026**

<b>\$715.00</b>
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# Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped Donation Report

OLBPH May 2026 Donations

Donations under \$500				
DATE	NAME	CASH	PROPERTY	VALUE
05/26/2026	Benny and Angela Meier*	\$50		
Subtotal of Donations Under \$500	\$50			

Total Donation Amount	\$50
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\*Donation in honor of Cindy Crabtree, a patron of our library that has passed away



# Commission Minutes



## **Oklahoma Commission for Rehabilitation Services**

### **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**May 13, 2026**

Disability Determination Services  
9801 N. Kelley Avenue  
Oklahoma City 73131-2433

#### **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m. by Commissioner Flannery with a quorum present: Janet Barresi, Theresa Flannery, Lindsay Hanna, Kelsey Lee, Lance Robertson, Noel Tyler and Kevin Wallace.

#### **STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

Commission Assistant Kathleen Arrieta confirmed the Commission for Rehabilitation Services follows the Open Meetings Act.

#### **PRESENTATION OF LONGEVITY CERTIFICATES**

*Theresa Flannery, Chair*

The Chair presented longevity certificates to Karla Coburn, 30 years with DRS, Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist IV, OKC; and Chris Kennedy, 25 years with DRS, Field Service Coordinator, McAlester.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

*Melinda Fruendt, Executive Director*

Randy Weaver, COO, gave the Executive Director's report in her absence.

#### Report Highlights:

Meetings and events attended in April and May include:

- Governor's Council on Workforce and Economic Development Executive Committee Meeting and Council Meeting
- Workforce Cabinet Meeting
- DRS Support Services Budget Meeting
- Oklahoma Inclusive Post-Secondary Education (IPSE) Meeting

3535 N.W. 58th Street, Suite 500, Oklahoma City, OK 73112  
o: 405-951-3400 | f: 405 951-3529 | Oklahoma.gov | okdrs.gov

Executive Director Melinda Fruendt

Commissioners Janet Barresi, Theresa Flannery, Lindsay Hanna, Kelsey Lee, Noel Tyler, Lance Robertson and Kevin Wallace

- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) State Plan The Oklahoma Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program submitted a Combined State Plan Modification on April 30, 2026, for Program Years 2026–2027, covering July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2028. Following a 30-day public comment period that ended on April 12, 2026, 80 comments were received; however, none addressed the VR portion of the plan. As a result, the VR section was submitted without changes.
- Expected Levels of Performance Negotiations in Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) VR negotiated expected levels of performance for PY 2026–2027 with the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) on April 17, 2026. The negotiated performance levels remained consistent with the expected levels for nearly all indicators.
- Federal - FY 2027 President's Budget Request  
The Administration's FY 2027 budget highlights priorities in education, workforce, and disability programs, with continued emphasis on strengthening connections across federal workforce programs, including Vocational Rehabilitation (VR). There is an increased focus on performance outcomes and return on investment which underscores the importance of data-driven results in VR.
- Federal – Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Reauthorization  
Congressional efforts to modernize the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), through the Stronger Workforce for America Act, continue to evolve. Key areas under discussion include enhanced alignment across workforce programs, including VR; stronger performance accountability measures; and expanded employer engagement strategies.
- Process Improvement (PI)
  - AWARE - The Employment Support Services Vendor Portal project with Alliance is ongoing, with staff and vendor meetings, testing, and providing feedback to Alliance.
  - Program Standards, Statistical Research - The research staff are working on planning and early-stage projects for the Needs Assessment.
- State Office Headquarters Move. The move will begin July 1, 2026 with offices moving in phases and is expected to last three weeks. The Operations department is also working on a plan to move the Shepherd site to the Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, where the two DRS divisions will share the building.
- Subminimum Wage Task Force update: Mark Kinnison gave an update on the 14(c) Task Force, established through House Bill 1833, which continues to develop a strategic plan to phase out subminimum wages for individuals with disabilities in Oklahoma. After two meetings and research into other states' approaches, early findings show a national shift toward eliminating subminimum wages through Employment First policies and Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE). Successful transitions typically involve increased investments in supported employment, job coaching, VR services, and stronger collaboration among partner agencies. The task force will continue reviewing best practices and developing recommendations tailored to Oklahoma.

## **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

*Jennifer Hardin, Legislative Liaison*

- The lawsuit related to the DRS Commission Expansion (Senate Bill 770) was recently heard in the Oklahoma Supreme Court, and the Governor's motion was denied. This allows the Commission to stand at seven members as Senate Bill 770 intended. The case is now awaiting final orders, though additional developments remain possible.
- The Administrative Rules successfully passed the House but have been delayed in the Senate due to canceled committee meetings and a lack of quorum, which caused legislative work to stall for about a week. As a result, the agency's request bill did not advance. The Senate Pro Tempore indicated that agency rules are expected to be addressed when lawmakers reconvene, and there is hope the rules will be considered before adjournment.

## **CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT**

*Kevin Statham, CFO*

- Financial Status Report for FY 2026 – The report that was included in the Commission packet was the February Financial Status Report (FSR), not the correct month, March. The March FSR will be uploaded to the website as an addendum to the May Commission packet. As of March 31, 2026, the agency spent \$111.3 million of the \$191.5M budget, with remaining encumbrances of \$71.4 million which represents 95.4% of the budget.
- FY 2027 Budget Update - The FY 2027 state appropriations distribution includes several notable changes for DRS.
  - The agency received a \$3 million maintenance-of-effort (MOE) increase for Vocational Rehabilitation, representing a 7.07% increase, as well as funding for school resource officers and a \$2,000 teacher pay raise for both schools.
  - Capital funding was reduced by \$1.5 million, resulting in a \$750,000 reduction for each OSD and OSB's capital projects.
  - There was a \$3.14 million reduction related to OPERS Pathfinder retirement reform, which resulted in the DRS budget being incorrectly reduced by \$600,000. Lawmakers intend to address retirement funding concerns.
- FY 2028 - FY 2035 Capital Outlay Request – There are three projects at the Oklahoma School for the Blind (OSB) totaling \$3,995,000, and one at the Oklahoma School for the Deaf (OSD) totaling \$3,000,000. The capital outlay request will be presented for a vote at the June 10, 2026 Commission meeting.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT**

*LaChelle Westfahl, Human Resources Programs Manager*

- As of April 30, 2026, 8 vacant positions were filled, and 43 positions were open. There were 13 separations, which included retirements, resignations, discharges and two deaths. There were 899 filled positions.
- Effective May 8, 2026 all Disability Determination Services staff will transition to a full-time, in-office schedule.

## **PRIORITY GROUP UPDATES AND PORTAL REFERRALS**

*Tracy Brigham, Division Administrator, Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired (SBVI)*

### Priority Group Update:

On May 6, 2026, 13 clients waiting were cleared off the wait list.

As of May 11, 2026

- Priority groups 1 and 2 are open
- Priority group 3 clients waiting: 3

Total clients waiting: 3

### Portal Referral Update for April 2026

- 94 applications received:
  - 68 active assignments
  - 4 pending assignments
  - 22 closed for reasons which include referrals to other agencies, no shows, already has a case or application, or refused services.

## **SERVICES FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED (SBVI) AND VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION (VR) TRANSITION REPORT**

*Renee N. Sansom Briscoe, Transition Coordinator*

Report Highlights:

- There are currently 41 Transition Specialists providing Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) in over 250 schools statewide, including Central Tech and Kiamichi Tech. Kiamichi Tech has nine campuses, and a Pre-ETS staff of eight.
- Pre-ETS has contracts with Not Your Average Joe and the Down Syndrome Association of Central Oklahoma (DASCO).
- Pre-ETS has students placed at Safe Haven, a vet clinic in Midwest City, through the Work-Based Learning (WBL) model. Pre-ETS is in discussions with other businesses to place students through the WBL model.
- Summer Programs include BEST STEP, Sooner Works Academy, Visually Impaired Blindness Empowerment (VIBE) and Dale Rogers Training Center (DRTC) Summer Academy.

## **DISABILITY DETERMINATION SERVICES (DDS) REPORT**

*Keith Tiller, Division Administrator*

Report Highlights:

- The Social Security Administration (SSA) sets benchmark targets for DDS in production, processing time, and accuracy for all cases. Oklahoma DDS is on track to meet all targets.
- An ongoing hiring freeze implemented by SSA in 2023 did not allow replacement of 25 examiner staff that left DDS since FY 2024. This will most likely result in an increase in backlogs and processing times.

- The SSA plans to process all Continuing Disability Reviews (CDR) at a federal level beginning in FY 2027. A CDR is a periodic medical evaluation to determine if recipients still qualify for disability benefits. DDS will still do the bulk of the work, but due to the hiring freeze, there can be no new hires. The DDS Administrators have voiced concerns with this plan, but the SSA is moving forward.

### **ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS TO THE OKLAHOMA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF (OSD)**

*Dr. Heather Laine, Superintendent*

The report included in the meeting packet was missing a donation and has a total of \$15,910.69. The correct donation total for April 2026 is \$15,925.68.

*Commissioner Robertson made a motion to accept the April 2026 OSD donations. Commissioner Hanna seconded. All Commissioners voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.*

### **ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS TO THE OKLAHOMA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND (OSB)**

*Brent Pearce, Superintendent*

The donations for April 2026 totaled \$4,430.00

*Commissioner Lee made a motion to accept the April 2026 OSB donations. Commissioner Wallace seconded. All Commissioners voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.*

### **ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS TO THE OKLAHOMA LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED (OLBPH)**

*Kevin Treese, Program Manager III, SBVI*

The donations for April 2026 totaled \$2,589.27

*Commissioner Barresi made a motion to accept the April 2026 OLBPH donations. Commissioner Hanna seconded. All Commissioners voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.*

### **REVIEW OF THE APRIL 8, 2026 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

*Theresa Flannery, Chair*

*Commissioner Robertson moved to approve the April 8, 2026 minutes as submitted. Commissioner Hanna seconded. Commissioners Barresi and Hanna abstained. Commissioners Flannery, Lee, Robertson, Tyler and Wallace voted in the affirmative and the motion carried.*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

*Theresa Flannery, Chair*

There was no new business.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE PERFORMANCE REVIEW OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Theresa Flannery, Chair*

- **Vote to convene into executive session.**

Commissioner Flannery made a motion to convene into an Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing and discussing the performance review of the Executive Director as authorized by the Open Meeting Act, 25 O.S. 307(B)(7). Commissioner Hanna seconded. All Commissioners voted in the affirmative and the motion carried.

- **Vote to reconvene into regular session.**

Commissioner Flannery moved to reconvene into regular session. Commissioner Tyler seconded. All Commissioners voted in the affirmative and the motion carried

- **Discussion and possible action on matters discussed in executive session.**

There was no action taken.

## **ADJOURN**

*Theresa Flannery, Chair*

*Commissioner Barresi made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hanna seconded. All Commissioners voted in the affirmative, and the meeting was adjourned.*