



Board Meeting Packet

March 22-23, 2023
Hilton Madison Monona Terrace
9 E Wilson St, Madison, WI 53703



Board Meeting

Hilton Madison Monona Terrace · Madison, Wisconsin · March 22nd-23rd, 2023

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Happy Spring,

Hope everyone had a great winter and if you're like me, you're looking forward to warmer weather.

We will have a busy couple of days for our March board meeting. Hopefully everyone has looked at the agenda for the meetings and activities since we have a short time to fit everything in compared to our usual meetings. Following the meeting we will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary with members of the public. Dinner will be after the celebration, and we will be joined by People First Wisconsin. The following day there will be breakfast at the hotel in the same room we had our meeting in before we head to Disability Advocacy Day.







It's nice to be back in person for the meeting and Disability Advocacy Day.

Hope to see you there

Greg Meyer

BOARD AGENDA MARCH 22-23RD, 2023

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22ND, 2023

Time	Symbol	Topic	Facilitator/Presenter
12:00-12:45 PM		Networking Lunch	All
12:45 –1:45 PM		Governmental Affairs	Staff: Tami Jackson
1:45-2:00 PM		Break	All
2:00-3:00 PM		Project Update – Families Supporting Families	Families Supporting Families Grantees
3:00-3:05 PM		Business Meeting Action Items Motion to accept January 2023 Board Minutes	All
3:05-3:15 PM		Public Comments	Members of the Public



= Meal



=Meeting



=Presentation



=Vote



=Walking Activity



=Break

3:15-3:45 PM

Business Meeting

All



- Chair Report
- Executive Director Report
- Executive Committee
- BPDD Financials
- Diversity Committee
- Nominating & Membership Committee
- Partner Agency updates

- Greg Meyer
- Beth Swedeen
- Greg Meyer
- Beth Swedeen
- Andy Thain
- Ashley Mathy
- DRW, DPI, DHS, DWD, Waisman

4:00-6:00 PM

50th Anniversary Reception



All/Members of Public

6:15 – 7:30 PM

Dinner – With People First Wisconsin

All

THURSDAY, MARCH 23RD, 2023

Time	Symbol	Topic	Facilitator/Presenter
7:30-9:00 AM		Breakfast and prep for Disability Advocacy Day	All
9:30 AM-3:00 PM		Disability Advocacy Day	All



= Meal



=Meeting



=Presentation



=Vote



=Walking Activity



=Break

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Chair: Greg Meyer **Vice Chair:** George Zaske

Present:

Hector Portillo, Marcia Perkins, Houa Yang, Tricia Thompson, Chris Wood, Julie Strenn, Stephenie Mlodzik, Lisa Stephan, Hector Portillo, Andy Thain, Kelly Weyer, Cindy Piotrowski, Ashley Mathy, Carrie Arneson, Nathan Ruffolo, Cheryl Funmaker, Pam DeLap, Gail Bovy, Kevin Coughlin, Felicia Clayborne, Patrick Friedrich, Iris Jacobson

Guests:

Absent:

Desi Kluth, Anna Eggebrecht, Daniel Parker, Jocelyn Osborne, Shy McElroy

Staff Present:

Fil Clissa, Molly Cooney, Tami Jackson, Kaitlin McNamara, Jennifer Neugart, Beth Swedeen, Sally Flaschberger

Chair Greg Meyer called the meeting to order at 11:18 AM.

1. Action Items:

Motion to approve the November 2022 Board Meeting Minutes made by George Zaske, seconded by Stephenie Mlodzik. Motion passed.

2. Public Comments:

None

3. Chair Report:

Chair Meyer reported on:

- Upcoming events for the year including Disability Advocacy Day and future board meetings.

4. Diversity Committee Report:

Chair Andy updated the Board:

- Discussed the Lunch N Learn series that will be starting soon and will be a monthly DEI session.

5. Executive Director Report:

ED Beth Swedeen reported:

- On the return of Disability Advocacy day. Our board meeting will be Wednesday March 22nd around 11-3:30pm prior to our 50th anniversary celebration. More information will be available after the exec comm meets in early February.
- On plans to attend the Disability Policy Seminar and the annual NACDD conference. We probably won't be sending people in person to DPS since there are issues with the hotel in DC and the lack of in-person meeting with congressional reps.
- On Youth Leadership Forum hiring for director, delegates, and councilors.
- We are still planning on quarterly trainings that are virtual. Our next training will be in February/March around the state budget. Another training that is

being planned will be focused on having long term care plans helping to pay for the SDC in the fall.

- Our March and May board meetings will be in Madison and our July

6. Executive Committee Report:

- No other updates.

7. Nominating Committee Report:

- There will be two family member openings on the board this summer. There are several applications at the governor's office but please still help looking for new board members.
- Nominating Committee is also putting together a slate of members for elections this summer. A list of leadership duties can be found here.

8. Financial Report:

Beth Swedeen updated the board on current financials (see board packet for summary).

9. Agency Updates:

[DRW Update](#)

[DPI Update](#)

Waisman Update – No update

DWD Update – No update

[DHS Update](#)

Motion to adjourn made by George Zaske at 1:07 pm; seconded by Marcia Perkins. Unanimously passed.

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- BPDD Board Meeting
- BPDD Executive Committee Meeting
- National Election Day

- Self-Determination Conference / Disability Advocacy Day
- Partners in Policymaking
- State Holiday

Updated: 1/19/23 jg

Exec meeting dates should be scheduled 6 weeks before board mtg dates

Board Meeting Dates & Locations:

January 18 & 19, 2023	Virtual Meeting
March 22 & 23, 2023	Hybrid Meeting
May 17 & 18, 2023	Hybrid Meeting
July 19 & 20, 2023	Hybrid Meeting
September 20 & 21, 2023	In-Person retreat
November 15 & 16, 2023	Hybrid Meeting

Executive Committee Meeting Dates

February 6 th , 2023	3:00-4:00 PM
April 10 th , 2023	3:00-4:00 PM
June 12 th , 2023	3:00-4:00 PM
August 14 th , 2023	3:00-4:00 PM
October 9 th , 2023	3:00-4:00 PM
December 11 th , 2023	3:00-4:00 PM

Other BPDD Dates:

March 23, 2023	Disability Advocacy Day
October 16-18, 2023	Self-Determination Conference

Committee Assignments 2022 - 2023

Diversity committee:

- 1. Andy Thain – Chair**
- 2. Hector Portillo – Vice Chair**
3. George Zaske
4. Kedibonye Carpenter
5. Barbara Beckert
6. Daniel Parker
7. Desirae Kluth
8. Houa Yang
9. Cheryl Funmaker
10. Amy Whitehead
11. Pam DeLap
12. Jocelyn Osborne
13. Felicia Clayborne
14. Anna Eggebrecht
15. Iris Jacobson
16. Carrie Arneson
17. Cindy Piotrowski
18. Lisa Stephan

Nominating and Membership Committee:

- 1. Ashley Mathy - Chair**
2. Patrick Friedrich
3. Tricia Thompson
4. Nathan Ruffolo
5. Stephanie Mlodzik
6. Kevin Coughlin
7. Pamela DeLap
8. Chris Wood
9. Kelly Weyer
10. Sydney Badeau
11. Gail Bovy
12. Julie Strenn
13. Marcia Perkins

Executive Committee:

- 1. Greg Meyer - Chair**
- 2. George Zaske – Vice Chair**
3. Andy Thain
4. Nathan Ruffolo
5. Ashley Mathy

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Zoom

Present: **Chair:** Greg Meyer; **Vice Chair:** George Zaske, Andy Thain,
Staff Liaison: Beth Swedeen

Absent: Ashley Mathy, Nathan Ruffolo

Staff Present: Beth Swedeen, Jeremy Gundlach

Meeting called to order at 3:06 pm.

1. Set March Board Meeting Agenda (In-Person Only):

March 22nd

12:00 – 12:45 PM	Networking lunch
12:45-1:45 PM	Governmental Affairs
1:45-2:00 PM	Break
2:00 – 3:00 PM	Project Updates – Partners in Policymaking, Families Supporting Families
3:00 – 3:45 PM	Business Meeting
4:00 – 6:00 PM	50 th Anniversary Reception
6:15 – 7:30 PM	Dinner

March 23rd

8:00-9:00 AM	Breakfast
9:30 AM -3:30 PM	Disability Advocacy Day

- Exec wants to invite all of the People First Group to our Dinner after the 50th Anniversary reception.
- Add question to RSVP around board members being table hosts for DAD.
-

2. Discuss July Board Meeting and Community conversation:

- We are looking into options for the Community conversation. Natasha is reaching out to Independence First in MKE. We will try to get a hotel that is close to the community conversation.
- Possible Questions for Com Convo: Things people learned during the pandemic (what needs were most important), Concerns going forward with COVID, what should BPDD be taking into account, questions focused on the state-plan.

3. Confirm Times and Location for Sept Retreat:

- We will be at the Lake Lawn resort for the September board retreat.

- We will be meeting from Noon to 6pm (around then and whenever dinner ends) on Wednesday. Staff will try to plan an activity for after the meetings.
- Thursday the Retreat will go from 8:30am to 3:30pm.

4. Review and make changes to draft conference selection protocol.

- Exec committee likes the draft protocol and has only one edit to language that will be finished to add in for the RSVP that will go out this week.

Motion to adjourn at 3:47 PM.

Nomination Committee Report Out

There will be 2 family member positions opening in July. There are several applications at the Governor's office that we will review and provide recommendations for who could take those open seats. If you know anyone especially from a diverse background who has small children, please let me know so we can reach out to them.

The committee will also be working on a list of recommendations for Chair, Vice Chair, and the Executive Committee.

The Chair runs the meetings and is on the Executive Committee. The Vice Chair fills in when the Chair isn't available and is on the Executive Committee. There are 3 other board members appointed to the Executive Committee too.

Duties of the Executive Committee are:

- Evaluate the Executive Director each year.
- Review how well the board is doing and make recommendations for improvement.
- Review and recommend approval of the budget each year.
- Review and recommend changes in the bylaws each year.
- Set the meeting agendas.
- Determine participation in national meetings and trainings.
- You must attend monthly committee meetings in addition to the board meetings.

If anyone is interested in any of these roles, please let Jenny know by the March board meeting.



DIVERSITY COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 18, 2023

3:30-4:30 pm

Committee Present:	Chair: Andy Thain; Hector Portillo, Houa Yang, Felicia Clayborne, Barbara Beckert, George Zaske, Marcia Perkins, Carrie Arneson, Cheryl Funmaker, Pam DeLap, Marcia Perkins
Committee Absent:	Kedi Carpenter, Iris Jacobson, Kelly Weyer, Gail Bovy, Desi Kluth
Other Board Members Present:	Ashley Mathy
Staff Present:	Beth Swedeen, Molly Cooney
Guests:	

Meeting called to order at 3:32 PM

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Topic 1: Recap of Last Meeting

- Reviewed Lunch and Learn details. Molly will ask Jeremy to put the details into the board digest so that anyone interested can join

3. Topic 2: DEI Framework for all BPDD Projects

- DPI's Equity Decision and Policy Tool
 - Daniel gave an overview of the tool.
 - DPI teams go through the tool and ask themselves questions: Who is benefitting from this work? What will be unintended consequences? What are potential negative affects or misinterpretations of guidance?
 - It's important for people who make decisions to use the tool, to pause for conversations about who benefits and possible impacts
 - The tool has been shared broadly with schools and other organizations
- SMART to SMARTIE goal which adds "I" for Inclusive and "E" Equitable.
 - This tool also encourages people to ask questions about unintended consequences, talking to stakeholders about possible impact, and considering whether achieving a goal or project will help build power and/or shrink disparities (and if it likely won't, adding in language that includes marginalized communities).
 - Big focus on power and including people in a way that they can influence the work
- How do we implement this? How do we get this to a more tangible place?

- Maybe review current applications for grants
 - How can we strengthen our applications (for grants) to take this from just doing outreach to giving people of diverse backgrounds power?
- Maybe there are questions we could give to staff for them to use with grantees after they receive a grant to help them think through strategies to be more inclusive and to share power. For example, for a group that is building a playground, staff could talk with them about what neighborhoods they are focusing on and how choosing a neighborhood for the playground may benefit some and not benefit others.
- From the perspective of someone who is going to apply for a grant, we want them thinking about some of these things as early in the application process as possible.
- Perhaps the Div. Committee could look at the application for Sparks, for example, to review with this lens.
- How involved does the committee/board need to be but not cumbersome to meet our goals/do our projects?
- Another idea: the staff have monthly project meetings. The Div. Committee could pick 2-3 projects (to start) for the staff to review in their project meetings. They would identify some ideas that we'd then share w/ the committee. This would give the committee a starting point.
 - The committee moved forward with this idea and selected Sparks and the Self Determination Conference to start with. These projects were selected because Sparks is an iconic Board project that has broad reach across the state. The Self-Determination Conference is also a well known Board project and is big in terms of money/budget.
 - The committee was thinking about ways to gauge the inclusiveness and equitableness of the SD Conference. Ideas included: total attendance (by demographic), who's on the planning committee, who is presenting, who is keynoting, transportation (buses) offered, SD Conference 101 session for people new to the conference, interpreting and translations offered, etc.
 - Someone asked: is the interpretation we offer effective and accurate? Hector is willing to review interpretations (videos) to make sure they are well done. Sometimes it could be improved.

- Could be there a question on our conference evaluation about how effective the interpretation is? Hector pointed out, though, that when you hear an interpretation you don't know what the original words were so you can't assess how good it is.
- Ways to improve our language access: do we offer interpretation during live in-person & virtual events? Could we translate our grant applications into Spanish? Are there other language we should translate our materials into?
- Another idea: Could we offer a training in Spanish about talking to your legislator? There is power that comes from talking to your legislator. Someone shared that at Disability Advocacy Day, there are interpreters who provide interpretation during the session at Monona Terrace and during the visits with legislators.

4. Topic 3: High context / Low context cultures

- Did not get to. Send video links in digest so that committee members can view on their own. We can debrief as a group at our next meeting.

5. Next steps

- Start with Sparks and Self Determination Conference
 - **Sparks:** staff will look over the application and rubric, discuss ways to change and strengthen, identify questions to go through with grantees (once notified that they were awarded a grant), etc.
 - **SD Conference:** Staff will think through ways to make more inclusive, welcoming, and reduce inequities.
 - Notes from these discussions will be shared with committee members to respond and build on.
- Follow up with Hector on reviewing interpretation from recorded conference sessions to gauge how good it is and areas to improve.
- Ask Jeremy to put links to videos on low context/high context culture in the meeting digest
- Ask Jeremy to put Lunch and Learn details in meeting digest
- The committee will not meet in March. Our next meeting will be in May at our usual time as part of the board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM

BPDD Budget Update



Category	Federal Fiscal Year 2021			Federal Fiscal Year 2022		
	Budget	Spent	Remaining	Budget	Spent	Remaining
Personnel	683,787.76	706,547.05	(22,759.29)	489,646.00	216,093.80	273,552.20
Grants, Contracts, Partnerships*	478,393.51	467,056.41	11,337.10	672,242.00	332,986.00	339,256.00
Programming Subtotal	1,162,181.27	1,173,603.46	(11,422.19)	1,161,888.00	549,079.80	612,808.20
Must be >=70%	87.0%	87.2%		89.0%	89.3%	



Category	Budget	Spent	Remaining	Budget	Spent	Remaining
Personnel	120,127.32	120,127.32	0	78,982.00	33,408.49	45,573.51
Grants, Contracts, Partnerships*	52,901.41	52,901.41	0	64,622.00	32,696.48	31,925.52
Board Operations Subtotal	173,028.73	173,028.73	0	143,604.00	66,104.97	77,499.03
Must be <=30%	13.0%	12.8%		11.0%	10.7%	



1,335,210.00	1,346,632.19	(11,422.19)	1,305,492.00	615,184.77	690,307.23
		-0.9%			52.9%

Summary		Summary	
Project Period:	10/01/2020 - 09/30/2022	Project Period:	10/01/2021 - 09/30/2023
Project Status:	Liquidation	Project Status:	Open
Total Award:	1,335,210.00	Total Award:	1,305,492.00
Spent	1,346,632.19	Spent	615,184.77
Remaining	(11,422.19)	Remaining	690,307.23



The Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities (BPDD) mission is to help people with developmental disabilities become independent, productive, and included in all facets of community life.



GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

March 2023
You can be a budget influencer



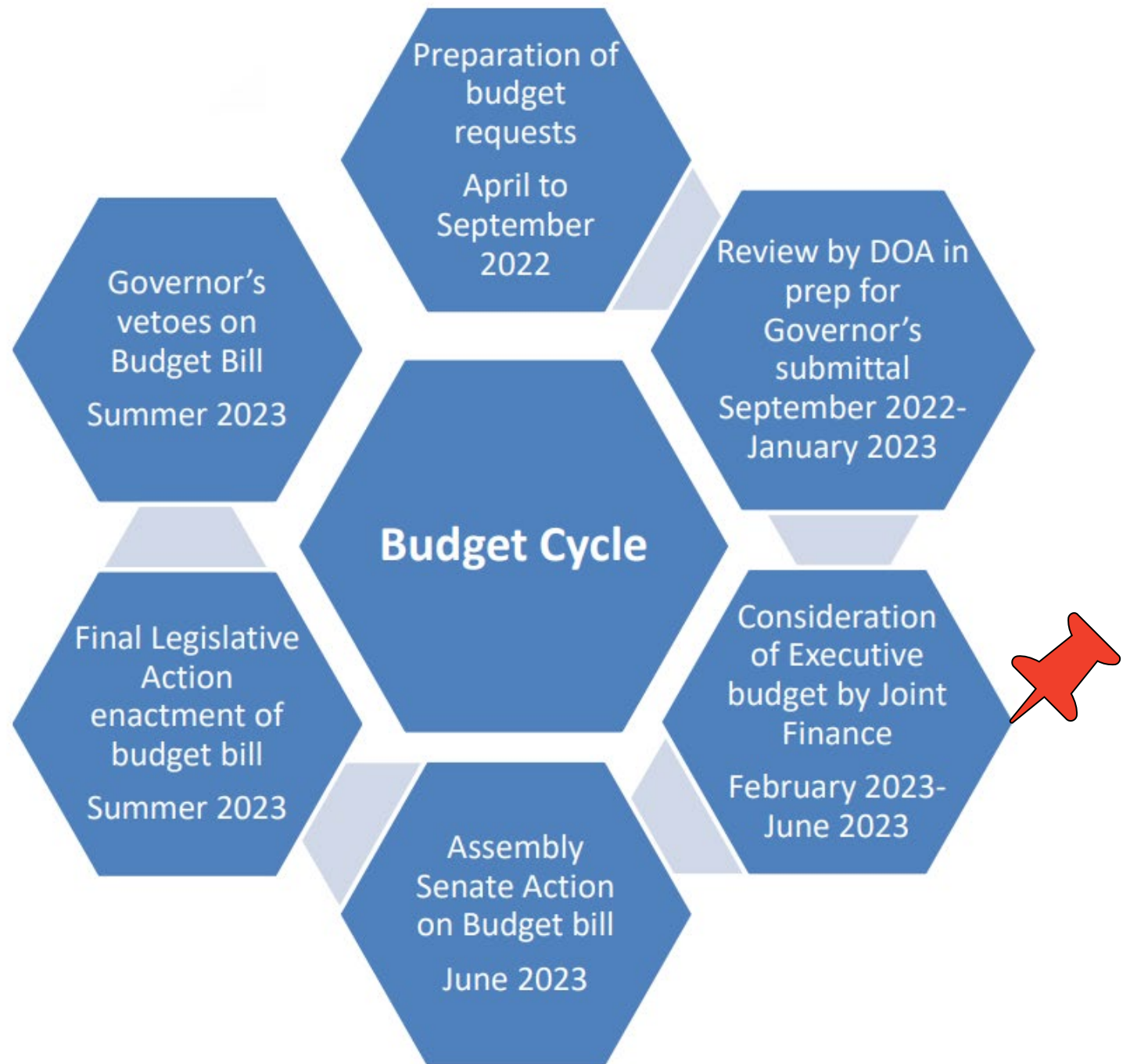
STATE BUDGET

Wisconsin's biggest and most influential piece of legislation.

You are part of the state budget process!

- The state budget is developed over many months.
- Disability priorities can be added, changed, or removed.
- There are many opportunities for constituent advocates to influence what gets funded.
- You and your local networks can be budget influencers!

Where we are in the state budget process



Joint Finance Committee (JFC) members

Senate JFC members

- Co-Chair Sen. Marklein (R, Spring Green)
- Vice-Chair Sen. Stroebel (R, Saukville)
- Sen. Felkowski (R, Irma)
- Sen. Ballweg (R, Markesan)
- Sen. Testin (R, Stevens Point)
- Sen. Wimberger (R, Green Bay)
- Sen. L. Johnson (D, Milwaukee)
- Sen. Roys (D, Madison)



Assembly JFC members

- Co-Chair Rep. Born (R, Beaver Dam)
- Vice-Chair Rep. Katsma (R, Oostburg)
- Rep. Zimmerman (R, River Falls)
- Rep. Rodriguez (R, Oak Creek)
- Rep. Kurtz (R, Wonowoc)
- Rep. Dallman (R, Green Lake)
- Rep. Goyke (D, Milwaukee)
- Rep. McGuire (D, Kenosha)

Your legislator is also a budget influencer

- **All legislators** have an opportunity to influence the state budget.
 - Your legislator can suggest budget motions (additions and changes to the budget) to their “budget buddy” on Joint Finance.
 - They can advocate for budget ideas in caucus meetings.
- **All legislators** will have to vote on the final version of the state budget before it can pass.

What has happened so far

- The **Governor** introduced the first draft of the budget (February).
- The legislature decided to write their own version of the budget.
 - The current budget that passed two years ago (the “base” budget) is the starting point from which JFC will edit.
- Legislative Fiscal Bureau (LFB) will publish their analysis of the Governor’s budget proposal.
 - LFB explains each item the Governor included in his budget.

Next steps in the budget process

1. Legislative Fiscal Bureau will publish their analysis of the Governor's budget proposal (March)
2. The Joint Finance Committee (JFC) will hold public hearings around the state (April)





JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE HEARINGS



➤ WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 2023

- WAUKESHA COUNTY EXPO CENTER, MAIN ARENA
WAUKESHA, WI

➤ TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2023

- UW-EAU CLAIRE, DAVIES STUDENT CENTER
OJIBWE GRAND BALLROOM - EAU CLAIRE, WI

➤ WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2023

- GLACIAL CANYON CONF. CTR. - WILDERNESS RESORT
SANDSTONE MEETING RM. - WISCONSIN DELLS, WI

➤ WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023

- LAKELAND UNION HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE
MINOCQUA, WI

➤ PUBLIC WEB ADDRESS

- [HTTPS://LEGIS.WISCONSIN.GOV/TOPICS/BUDGETCOMMENTS](https://legis.wisconsin.gov/topics/budgetcomments)



Attend a JFC hearing

- Holding hearings around the state is a way to see what issues are important to people.
- When the same issues or problems keep coming up—especially at multiple hearings—the committee may see them as important to address in the state budget.
- Media attends and covers these events and reports on what people say is important.
- We want to make sure disability issues—family caregiving, special education, non-driver transportation—are seen as important!

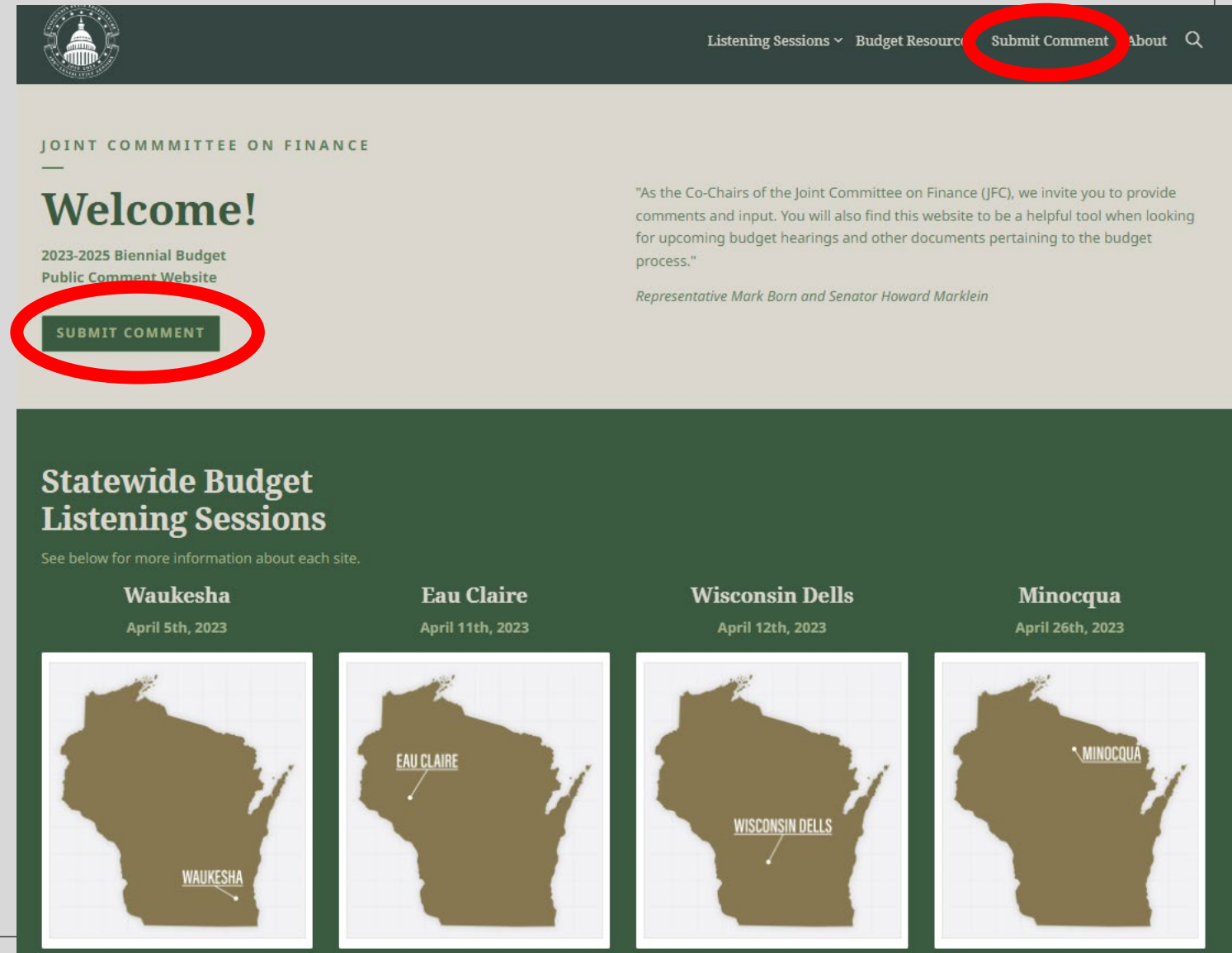
Tips when attending a JFC hearing

- **Arrive early** (7-8 AM)!
 - You will need to fill out a registration slip when you get there.
 - Who speaks first and who speaks next (speaker order) is based on when you fill out and hand in your registration slip.
- JFC will take **in-person testimony** at each hearing starting at **10 AM and ending at 5 PM**.
 - Each speaker gets about 3 minutes to speak the committee.
 - Be brief and powerful! Say your name, where you're from, your connection to disability, and share how your experience connects to a larger disability issue.
- **Write what you want to say down and bring it with you.**
 - You can send what you write to the Joint Finance Committee and your state Senator and Representative as a follow up communication after the hearing.
- **Prepare to wait!**

Can't attend a hearing?

- Send your public comments to JFC @ budget.comments@legis.wisconsin.gov
- Or use the Submit Comment form @ <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/topics/budgetcomments>
- Be sure to **send a copy of your comments to your state Senator and state Representative** too!

<https://legis.wisconsin.gov/topics/budgetcomments>



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Wisconsin Joint Committee on Finance Public Comment Website. The header includes the Wisconsin state seal and navigation links: "Listening Sessions", "Budget Resources", "Submit Comment" (circled in red), and "About". The main content area features a "Welcome!" message from the Co-Chairs, Representative Mark Born and Senator Howard Marklein, inviting public input. A "SUBMIT COMMENT" button is prominently displayed and circled in red. Below this, a section titled "Statewide Budget Listening Sessions" lists four locations with dates and maps: Waukesha (April 5th, 2023), Eau Claire (April 11th, 2023), Wisconsin Dells (April 12th, 2023), and Minocqua (April 26th, 2023). Each location is represented by a map of Wisconsin with a pin indicating the site.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Welcome!

2023-2025 Biennial Budget
Public Comment Website

SUBMIT COMMENT

"As the Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Finance (JFC), we invite you to provide comments and input. You will also find this website to be a helpful tool when looking for upcoming budget hearings and other documents pertaining to the budget process."

Representative Mark Born and Senator Howard Marklein

Statewide Budget Listening Sessions

See below for more information about each site.

Location	Date
Waukesha	April 5th, 2023
Eau Claire	April 11th, 2023
Wisconsin Dells	April 12th, 2023
Minocqua	April 26th, 2023

Can't attend a hearing?

Things to include in your message:

- **Name, where you live, disability connection.**
- **Why you are unable to attend the hearing**, for example:
 - I'm a non-driver and could not find affordable transportation or get a ride
 - I'm an unpaid caregiver and have no one to fill in for me, or have to stay close or be home at a certain time to provide cares
 - I rely on paid caregivers and don't know when or if someone will show up to get me ready.
 - I work first shift and do not have/could not take paid time off.
 - *(It's important to name reasons people with disabilities and families struggle to attend in-person events)*
- **Connect your lived experience to a disability issue and budget ask you are passionate about.**
- **A request to include your comments in the public record.**

Next steps in the budget process

1. JFC will hold **hearings on individual state agency budgets** (April-May)
 - a) These hearings are opportunities for constituent advocates to connect with JFC on disability topics covered by each agency.
2. JFC will have **Executive sessions to vote on budget motions** that make changes to state agency programs and budgets (May)
 - a) These sessions are where budget motions are made. Constituent advocates can influence budget motions.

Next steps in the budget process

1. The **full legislature** will consider the budget bill as edited by JFC.
 - a) Legislators can make more edits. Constituent advocates can influence these edits.
 - b) Both houses must pass the same version of the bill. (June).
2. Once passed, the bill goes to the Governor. The **Governor may partially or fully veto the budget** bill. (June).
 - a) Constituent advocates can influence budget vetos.



BPDD BUDGET PRIORITIES

the state budget could address (or might not)

Overview of BPDD asks

- BPDD prepared a detailed analysis comparing BPDD's asks to the Governor's budget proposal.
 - **Available here:** https://wi-bpdd.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/BPDD_GovBudgetBPDDRequests_021523.pdf
- Some of BPDD's recommendations were included (as proposed), partially included (funding or idea differed from BPDD recommendation), or was not included.
- The Governor's budget included items related to disability that BPDD did not specifically recommend, but supports.

HELP FAMILY CAREGIVERS

- **WHY IT'S IMPORTANT:**

- Family caregivers provide 80% of the care for children and adults with disabilities and older adults. To meet the care needs of family members
- Family Caregivers are leaving the workforce entirely (40%) or must cut down to part time (another 20%), often sacrificing employee sponsored health care, retirement, and limiting lifetime earnings.

Family Caregiver Asks

BPDD Asks	Governor's Budget	Legislature's Budget
Paid family medical leave for full and part-time workers	INCLUDED	?
Expand who can use family medical leave	INCLUDED	?
Create Family Caregiving Tax Credit	INCLUDED	?
Increase Respite funding	INCLUDED	?

PAID DIRECT CARE SERVICE WORKFORCE

- **WHY IT'S IMPORTANT:**

- Direct Care workers are skilled professionals who are responsible for health, safety, and intimate personal cares of people with disabilities and older adults.
- People with disabilities in Family Care, IRIS, the Children's Long Term Support program rely on paid direct support and personal care workers get out of bed, stay clean, and eat.
- Family Care and IRIS began to make sure people could stay in their own homes, and out of more expensive Medicaid-funded nursing homes.
- A dedicated workforce is needed to make that happen and live up to the promise of community inclusion.

Paid Caregiver Asks

BPDD Asks	Governor's Budget	Legislature's Budget
Include full-time DSPs in the local government health insurance pool.	NOT INCLUDED	?
Set wage floor for DSPs as "living wage" or "market wage" whichever is greater for the area served.	NOT INCLUDED	?
Create a statutory formula to automatically increase DSP base wages based on inflation, living wage, market wage	NOT INCLUDED	?
Make sure DSPs are paid equally for Family Care, IRIS, or CLTS participants	NOT INCLUDED	?

SPECIAL EDUCATION

- **WHY IT'S IMPORTANT:**

- People with disabilities' path to successful productive lives in the community are founded in quality public education that meets the needs of all students, including those with disabilities.
- Students with disabilities are general education students first, and benefit smaller class sizes, adequate funding for social workers, nurses, psychologists, etc.
- Students with disabilities also may need specialized instruction and supports. Adequate funding for special education benefits all kids.

Special Education Asks

BPDD Asks	Governor's Budget	Legislature's Budget
Raises the special education reimbursement rate	INCLUDED	?
Limit the special needs scholarships to currently enrolled students with no new admissions.	INCLUDED	?
Require Special Needs Scholarship Program schools to follow same requirements as public schools under IDEA.	NOT INCLUDED	?
Increase the transition readiness grant	NOT INCLUDED	?

NON-DRIVER TRANSPORTATION

- **WHY IT'S IMPORTANT:**
- [31 percent of Wisconsin citizens are non-drivers.](#)
- Non-drivers include low income working people who do not own or have access to a car, people with disabilities, older adults, adults without drivers' licenses, and people under age 16.
- Being or becoming a non-driver impacts every aspect of a person's life—where they can live, work, whether they get health care.
- Non-drivers struggle every time they need be somewhere in person, often needing days or weeks in advance to arrange rides and caregivers and spending hours waiting.
- Most non-drivers have few transportation options and cannot affordably get where they need to go on time.

Non-Driver Transportation Asks

BPDD Asks	Governor's Budget	Legislature's Budget
Increase virtual/telephone/online options to save non-driver trips to state and county agencies.	No specific language included	?
Implement non-driver performance metrics for public transit	No specific language included	?
Creating affordable regional transportation	PARTIALLY INCLUDED	?
Fund modeling tools that show where non-drivers are and where they need to go.	No specific language included	?

REDUCING LEAD POISONING

- **WHY IT'S IMPORTANT:**

- Lead poisoning is a 100% preventable cause of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.
- An estimated 35% of Wisconsin children are at risk of lead poisoning across the state.
- Lead paint is the #1 source of lead poisoning.
- Lead paint is estimated to be present in 850K units of Wisconsin old stock housing, including rental properties, farmhouses, and single-family homes.

Lead Asks

BPDD Asks	Governor's Budget	Legislature's Budget
Fully cover costs so Public Health Agencies can respond quickly to elevated blood lead levels in children.	PARTIAL INCLUSION	?
Reinvest 10% of Real Estate Transaction fees back into old stock (pre-1980) housing so property owners can test and fix lead paint, asbestos, and other hazards that make homes unsafe.	NOT INCLUDED	?

PREVENTION & RESPONSE TO ABUSE/NEGLECT

- **WHY IT'S IMPORTANT:**

- People with intellectual and developmental disabilities nationwide are 7 times more likely to be the victim of abuse and neglect.
- Unfortunately, the main predictors of abuse and neglect are common features in many people with disabilities daily lives and include: social isolation (lack of friendships and relationships beyond paid staff), social stigma related to a lack of respect for people with disabilities, lack of privacy within the residence, ignorance of individual rights, staff stress and lack of training, significant dependence on others, lack of control/decision-making, and lack of community participation

Abuse/Neglect Prevention Asks

BPDD Asks	Governor's Budget	Legislature's Budget
Increase Adult Protective Services funding	No specific language included	?
Expand the Department of Justice Elder Abuse Hotline to include people with disabilities age 18-59	NOT INCLUDED	?
Increase funding for DHS's Division of Quality Assurance to allow for a 25% investigation rate, including complaints involving 1-2 bed Adult Family Homes.	INCLUDED	?

RIGHTS TO MAKE DECISIONS

BPDD Asks	Governor's Budget	Legislature's Budget
Provide funding (\$250K) to increase the capacity for the Guardianship Support Center	PARTIALLY INCLUDED	?
Require one-time review of the terms of a guardianship five years after it is in effect	NOT INCLUDED	?

PLANNING TO MOVE ON FROM STATE INSTITUTIONS

BPDD Asks	Governor's Budget	Legislature's Budget
Create a plan to reduce the number of state-run institutions from three to one and reinvest funding into home and community-based services.	NOT INCLUDED	?

Action Steps you can take today!

- **Contact your state Senator and Representative**
- **Let legislators know** what the Governor included in his budget that would benefit you or your family.
 - When you call or e-mail, say your name, where you live (make sure they know you are a constituent!), and your connection to disability.
 - Share two to three sentences that connects your experience to an issue (like caregiving) you care about.
- **How to find your legislator.** Type in your address to the [Who are my state legislators?](#) box and click Find Your Legislator to get your legislators' e-mail and phone number.

Who represents me in Wisconsin's legislature?

<https://legis.wisconsin.gov/>



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Wisconsin State Legislature website. At the top, there is a header with the Wisconsin State Capitol dome on the left, the text "WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE" in the center, and a search bar on the right. Below the header is a navigation bar with links: HOME, SENATE, ASSEMBLY, COMMITTEES, SERVICE AGENCIES, and HELP. The main content area features a large, ornate mural of a bearded man in a blue robe holding a book, with the word "LEGISLATION" above him. To the right of the mural is a vertical menu with links: Today in the Legislature, Senate, Assembly, Law and Legislation, Administrative Rules, and More Information. At the bottom, there are three buttons: NOTIFICATION SERVICE (with an envelope icon), COMMITTEE SCHEDULE (with a calendar icon), and ADMIN RULES CALENDAR (with a book icon). A red circle highlights the "WHO ARE MY LEGISLATORS?" section, which includes a text input field labeled "Enter your address", a button labeled "Find Your Legislator", and a small icon of a person with a magnifying glass labeled "Find by Map".

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE

Search everything here Search

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LEGISLATION

Today in the Legislature

Senate

Assembly

Law and Legislation

Administrative Rules

More Information

NOTIFICATION SERVICE ✉

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE 📅

ADMIN RULES CALENDAR 📖

WHO ARE MY LEGISLATORS?

Enter your address

Find Your Legislator

Find by Map

Other policy issues BPDD is working on

- **Budget initiative:** Technology First!
- **Budget initiative:** Guardian Support Center funding
- **Budget initiative:** statewide number to report abuse/neglect
- **Legislative initiative:** Workforce Housing, lead paint remediation in old stock housing, accessibility improvements, new construction accessible units and spaces for people on housing vouchers.
- **Legislative initiative:** ABLE Accounts
- **Exploring strategies to:** improve relocation process for people in congregate settings, pursue cyclical review of guardianships, proactive education policies
- **Reaction to:** armed school resource officers, sharing of student information with law enforcement, voting bills