



BERKS COUNTY CHAPTER #179
 P. O. Box 55
 Temple, PA 19560
www.berkspa.shrm.org
berkschapter179@gmail.com



February 10, 2026
Chapter General Meeting Minutes
Held Virtually via Teams

- I. **7:30 am – Open and Welcome (Cherie) – *called to order at 7:32am***
- II. **7:40 am – Today's Sponsor (Tamara)**
 - None
- III. **7:45 am – Guest Introductions (Cherie)**
 - Kris Clinese, Gage Personnel – guest of Annmarie Morganti
 - Danielle Kowalczyk, UGI – guest of Catherine Krohn
 - Wendi Grebinger, UFI – guest of Catherine Krohn
- IV. **7:50 am – General Announcements/Upcoming Events/Committee Updates (Cherie)**
 - A note from PA SHRM: As we look ahead to 2026, I want to share several important PA SHRM dates and encourage you to mark your calendars now. These include the Legal and Legislative Conference on April 30 in Camp Hill the Volunteer Leadership Conference on July 24 in Gettysburg which is open to anyone interested in chapter or State Council leadership and our Annual Conference on September 10 and 11 which will be held in a new location in Lancaster. We are also sharing dates for the National SHRM Annual Conference and Expo in Orlando this June. These events are a great way to learn connect and explore leadership opportunities within SHRM and we hope you will plan to join us in 2026.
 - Our next Chapter meeting will be held at the Schmidt Training and Technology Center Reading Area Community College from 7:30 – 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 10th. They will be presenting: Strategic Workforce Development: Technology, Training and Talent.
 - The next session of the Fall/Winter Lunch & Learn series will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday, March 24th from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm. Tyler Jacano & Rick Schlegel from EHD will be presenting “Reasonable Suspicion Training for Drugs and Alcohol in the Workplace.”
 - Housekeeping items:
 - o Please keep yourself muted during the meeting so that everyone can clearly hear the speaker.
 - o Feel free to put questions in the chat, and Chad can either answer them as he goes along or at the end of the presentation.
 - o For attendance purposes, if your user ID displays your phone number or a nickname, please send a chat with your first and last name. This is the only way we will be able to verify that you attended.
- V. *****Committee Chairs, please unmute yourself if you have a report for today*****

Committee Chair Reports:





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- **Membership - New members (Nic Thomas):** A SHRM mug will presented at a future meeting if not present. *registered to attend
 - Bridgette Arnold – New Castle Lawn & Landscape
 - Matt Conrad – Glen-Gery
 - Jen Harpel – Bally Ribbon Mill
 - Brian Maletto – CHL Systems
 - Zahirah Rana – East Penn Manufacturing
- **Marketing/Engagement (Nic Thomas) –** *anyone interested in speaking about a member engagement event, see Nic. Looking for possible sponsors. Would like to do something soon.*
- **Historian (Benjamin Lewis) – no report**
- **BCTV (Benjamin Lewis) – no report**
- **Certification / Study Group (Bob Ames) – no report**
- **Community Relations (Tamara DeLoretta) – no report**
- **Legislative (Susanna Fultz/ Kevin Moore) –**
 - *Dept. of Labor issued an opinion re: FMLA covering travel to medical appointments. This is now covered under FMLA, however it can't be used to cover non-medical appointments in the same day.*
 - *EEOC voted to revoke harassment guidance that it issued in 2004 re: gender identity, name changes, etc., however – PA law still offers protection for those individuals.*
 - *Philly employees – 1/1/27 – Philly Fair Practices – menopause and perimenopause are now covered. Fair Record Screening Standard Law now has changed in Philly.*
 - *PA also covers may or may not be considered in a background check.*
- **SHRM A-Team (Alex Goodman) – no report**
- **Compliance (Susan Kelly) – no report**
- **Chapter of the Year (Susan Kelly) – no report**
- **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (Denise Lee) – no report**
- **SHRM Foundation (chairperson needed) – no report**
- **PAL Feed-a-Friend / RHS Career Fair Initiative (Debbie Ramsey) – no report**
- **Student Chapter– no report**

VI. 8:00 am – Introduce Speaker (Cherie) – Eric Rodriguez – Caron

“The Effects of Addiction in the Workplace.” presented by Eric Rodriguez of Caron Treatment Centers. Eric Rodriguez is the Corporate Director at Caron Treatment Centers, where he oversees initiatives in education, training, program development, and strategic relationship management, with a focus on corporate and organizational settings.

With nearly a decade at Caron, Eric brings a unique combination of clinical expertise and corporate insight. His professional background spans substance use treatment, mental health, and behavioral





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healthcare. Prior to his work at Caron, Eric served as a heart and vascular social worker.

He holds advanced degrees in clinical psychology and clinical social work, is a trauma therapist, a licensed social worker and is credentialed as a Certified Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CAADC). Eric's work is driven by a deep passion for education and a commitment to supporting individuals and organizations in achieving meaningful wellness outcomes.

- VII. **9:00 am – Thank Speaker (Cherie)** – *Eric will send out a PowerPoint that will be posted on our website.*
- VIII.
- IX. **9:00 am – Final Remarks (Cherie)**
 - Please remember to complete the evaluation forms for today's meeting, which will be emailed to you by Wendy. The evaluation forms provide valuable feedback about today's presentation and suggestions on future topics and speakers.
 - Wendy will also email the re-certification information for today's session. Today's power point presentation will be available on the Chapter's website.
 - Continue to check out our website for new position postings, meeting announcements, and so much more.
 - One last reminder that next month's General meeting will be held onsite at the Schmidt Training and Technology Center at RACC.
- X. **9:00 am – Motion to adjourn (Cherie)** - *made by Michael, 2nd by Alyssa. Adjourned at 8:49am*

