

Governor’s Workforce Development Board - Minutes

Wednesday, March 9, 2022 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

Videoconference via Zoom

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| **GWDB Members/Designees** | **Guests**  | **Speakers**  |
| Carol AndersonShirley BarnesKristen Batson, MMBLaura Beeth, ChairJosh BergDr. Vance BoelterDr. Jeffery BoydDeb BrobergBarry DaviesDavid DivelyJeanna FortneySteve Groves, DEED Rep. Barb HaleyBrad Hasskamp, MDE Sam Heimlich Sen. John HoffmanDr. Nerita HughesBenja KrausLarry Lundblad, Minn State Suyapa MirandaBill NelsonLoren NelsonRep. Mohamud NoorDr. Dennis Olson, OHE Tuleah PalmerScott ParkerJovon Perry, DHS Kate Perushek, DLIDr. Paul PribbenowJeffrey RaineyJohn RamirezAli RodwayTory SchalkleRoy SmithJennifer TheisenRosa TockMichelle Ufford | Eric AamothSasha BergmanJulie DincauPamela McCauleyPaula PalmerEkta PrakashNola Speiser

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 | **GWDB Staff**Ben Baglio, DirectorKay Kammen, Sr. Policy Analyst**DEED Staff**Kevin McKinnon, Deputy CommissionerMarc Majors, Employment & Training Programs Div. Director

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| Huguette Trebil |
| Catalina Valencia  |
| Cameron Macht |
| Lorrie Janatopoulos |
| Liz Jennings |
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**Call to Order and Welcome**

Laura Beeth, Chair of the Governor’s Workforce Development Board, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m., welcoming members, speakers, guests, and staff who joined the meeting via teleconference.

**GWDB Business Meeting**

***Action Item:*** *Approval of Chair Report*

Sam Heimlich made a motion to approve the quarterly Chair Report.Scott Parkerseconded the motion, and the report was unanimously approved.

***Action Item:*** *Approval of Minutes from the Annual Joint Meeting of the GWDB and Minnesota Association of Workforce Boards (MAWB) on Dec. 15, 2021*

Roy Smith made a motion to approve the Minutes from the Dec. 15, 2021 Annual Meeting of the GWDB and MAWB. The motion was seconded by Scott Parker and the Minutes were approved.

**DEED Updates and Discussion**

Commissioner Steve Grove provided a snapshot of Minnesota’s labor force, discussing the demand for tech workers across all industries. He spoke of the state’s talent pipeline challenges, and solutions such as youth and re-skilling training.

The Commissioner addressed the need to modernize workforce tools to better serve job seekers and employers. His presentation also highlighted the importance of Paid Family Leave for employees, as well as an expanded marketing campaign to attract talent and business opportunities across the state. He provided details on a proposed Office of New Americans, which would serve immigrants and refugees, a vital segment of Minnesota’s population.

**Economic Development Awards as Drivers of Workforce Needs**

Kevin McKinnon, DEED Deputy Commissioner of Economic Development, discussed DEED’s efforts to strengthen the relationship between workforce development and economic development systems. He provided an analysis of recently awarded projects and economic impact by region, and a listing of new jobs by industry and occupation.

An overview of the Business Development process followed, which involves an inter-relationship between Workforce Strategy Consultants, the Business Client, CareerForce, and a Regional Employer Outreach Team.

**Minnesota’s Labor Market & Workforce Trends**

Regional Analysis and Outreach Manager Cameron Macht guided the audience through Minnesota’s Labor Force Trends, including unemployment statistics, labor force participation data, and future projections. Members were encouraged to reach out to the

[**Labor Market Information Office**](http://mn.gov/deed/data/) with questions pertaining to regional economic/workforce data and demographics.

 **WIOA State Plan Modifications**

 GWDB Director Ben Baglio walked through the overarching goals of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), passed by Congress in 2014. He gave a refresher on the WIOA State Combined Plan and reviewed proposed modifications, which are required to be submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor by March 15, 2022.

GWDB’s Operations Committee voted unanimously at its March 3, 2022 meeting to approve the current plan modification. Chair Loren Nelson made a motion to authorize GWDB staff to submit the modification to USDOL. Shirley Barnes seconded the motion and it passed.

A Question & Answer period followed the presentations. PowerPoint slides from today’s meeting are available on the [GWDB web site](https://mn.gov/deed/gwdb/about/gwdb/) under the Materials tab.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Scott Parker and Sam Heimlich seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 Noon.

*The next meeting of the Governor’s Workforce Development Board is scheduled* ***from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 24, 2022 via Zoom.***