



**GWDB Quarterly Business Meeting
Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, September 25, 2024 | 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via Teams

GWDB Members or Designees	Guests and Staff
Surya Iyer, Chair DeLinda Washington, Vice Chair Carol Anderson Ben Baglio Josh Berg Michael Berndt Commissioner Nicole Blissenbach Misun Bormann Bernie Burnham Commissioner Erin Campbell Barry Davies Emma DeVera Cate Duin Amanda Hardy Steve Kalina Lance Louis Katie Lundmark Gabe Mooney Mary Niedermeyer Sen. Carla Nelson Jovon Perry Rep. Bernie Perryman Sandra Pulles Ali Rodway Linda Sloan Roy Smith Rob Stark Jeff Tollefson Brian Zirbes	GWDB Staff Katie McClelland, Director Sonji Davis, Workforce Policy Coordinator Kay Kammen, Sr. Policy Analyst

Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting began at 12:35 p.m. with a welcome and introduction of recently-appointed GWDB Chair Surya Iyer and Vice Chair DeLinda Washington. The new officers gave an overview of their professional experience. Chair Iyer discussed the awarding of federal funding to Polar Semiconductor under the CHIPS and Science Act. Vice Chair Washington talked about goal setting and the importance of monitoring

movement toward those goals. She expressed interest in the upcoming GWDB-Minnesota Association of Workforce Boards (MAWB) Joint Annual Winter Meeting.

GWDB Action Item – Approval of the June 12, 2024 Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Steve Kalina made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 12, 2024 GWDB Quarterly Meeting. Rob Stark seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

GWDB Survey Responses

Katie McClelland reported on responses to a survey intended to gather feedback on the restructuring of the GWDB Committees:

- Desire to use meetings to engage in a way that works towards an outcome or deliverable instead of focusing so much on providing updates
- Improved clarity on roles of committees in relation to each other and other stakeholders in the process
- Increased opportunities for touchpoints to share work between different committees

One Minnesota/GWDB Update & Discussion

Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry (DLI) Commissioner Nicole Blissenbach presented on the GWDB as the Space for Interagency Alignment, with the following aims:

- Aim 1: Ensure Enterprise-wide alignment and defined agency ownership of workforce efforts across the Drive for 5 Sectors.
- Aim 2: Define metrics and measurable goals to track progress on stated outcomes and timelines.
- Aim 3: Ensure effective internal and external communication about statewide talent attraction and retention strategies.

An Interagency Workforce Alignment (IWA) Task Force, independent from the GWDB, will be developed, comprised of Commissioners from the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), DLI, Office of Higher Education (OHE) and Department of Human Services (DHS). Other agencies will be invited to participate on an ad hoc basis depending on priorities.

Commissioner Blissenbach continued, with an explanation of Committee Members, Staffing, and Responsibilities.

GWDB Committee Updates & Critical Conversations

Katie McClelland touched on current GWDB Committee Leadership and Staff, followed by Guidance on Public Meetings. This fall, the Drive for 5 Subcommittees and Standing Committees have been tasked with convening members for “Critical Conversations” centered around five key questions:

- What problems or challenges have you seen or experienced that affect employment or economic development in Minnesota?
- What are factors (including circumstances, policies, laws, regulations etc.) that are harming successful outcomes or creating problems?
- What solutions (including regulations, policies, programs, etc.) could help address these problems or challenges?

- What would be the minimum version of your proposed solutions that could still have a meaningful impact? What are the most critical parts of your proposal?
- What partnerships (including with public sector, private sector or nonprofit organizations) could make your idea successful?

Other Updates

Katie walked through several federal grant updates/programs and gave a preview of a Workforce Needs Dashboard that will bring together Regional Labor Market Information Analysts, Local Workforce Boards, Union Partners, Employers, Community-Based Organizations, State Agency representatives for infrastructure and climate workforce planning.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

The next meeting of the Governor's Workforce Development Board (GWDB) will be from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 12 at Edinburgh USA in Brooklyn Park, <https://www.edinburghusa.com/>.