

**Joint Committee Meeting Summary**

February 27, 2018

9:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Minnesota Department of Education (MDE)

St. Paul, MN

**Vision of the State Plan:** *To have a healthy economy where all Minnesotans have – or on a path to – meaningful employment and a family sustaining wage, and where all employers are able to fill jobs in demand.*

**Meeting attendees:**

Laura Beeth, Chair

Shirley Barnes

Susan Boehm

Vance Boelter

Charlene Briner

Mariaha Dean

Julie Dincau

Steve Ditschler

Larry Eisenstadt

DEED Deputy Commissioner Jeremy Hanson Willis

Sam Heimlich

Anne Kilzer

Elizabeth Morman, guest

Kati Neher

Loren Nelson

Mary Russell

Traci Tapani

Todd Wagner

Sue Wallace

Jenny Winkelaar

**Via Conference Call:**

Mimi Daniels

Kriystauhl Fitchett

Lorrie Janatopoulos

Becca Johnson

Mayor Elizabeth Kautz

Heather McGannon

Tuleah Palmer

Scott Parker

Kim Peck

Jovon Perry

Ed Seel

Ruth Stadheim

**Staff present:**

Connie Ireland, Executive Director

Kay Kammen

Kay Pollard

Lisa Snyder

**Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. Following introductions, GWDB Chair Laura Beeth gave an overview of the planned agenda, stating that the update on the WIOA Combined Plan Dashboard will be postponed until the next Joint Committee Meeting or the June Board Meeting whichever comes first. She also spoke on highlights of the National Governors Association Winter Meeting, which she and Connie Ireland recently attended in Washington, D.C.

**Meeting Purpose**

**Discussion and recommendation for approval of the revised Combined State Plan at the Governor’s Workforce Development Board meeting on Wednesday, March 7, 2018.**

**The GWDB has the responsibility to oversee the revision process, which is inclusive of a 30-day public comment period to gather public feedback. The State Plan may be modified at any time, but it is required every two years. The public comment period will closed on Saturday, March 10, 2018. The plan is due to the U.S. Department of Labor by close of business on March 15, 2018.**

**GWDB Executive Director Connie Ireland provided background information on the Combined State Plan, submitted to and approved by the U.S. Department of Labor in 2016. She discussed the six webinars that have been convened to gather public comment and input on proposed modifications to the State Plan. In addition, State Plan Partners (program administrators) have been meeting on a regular basis to address changes to the state’s strategic workforce plan.**

**The initial implementation of WIOA has involved identifying priority sectors on a state, regional and local level, with Health Care being universal across the state. Manufacturing is also prevalent.**

**In the next two years, it is expected that increased focus will be placed on credentials, work-based learning and apprenticeships.**

**The Vision and Goals of the State Plan were reviewed, as well as the Six Strategies, which are in alignment with the Six Elements of Career Pathways Systems identified by the U.S. Department of Labor. The attendees were asked, looking through a committee lens, if the goals are the right goals for Minnesota’s workforce:**

1. **To reduce educational and employment disparities based on race or disability to provide greater opportunity for all Minnesotans.**
2. **To build employer-led industry sector partnerships focused on better understanding of the skills that employers need and connecting skilled workers to those opportunities.**

**Notes were captured on the discussion which followed.**

**Public comments received thus far were also shared with the group.**

**Connie Ireland led the discussions specific to the two goals and the six key elements in the existing plan with no anticipated changes to the modified plan. Committee members engaged in a very lengthy discussion. A GWDB member and committee member inquired and asked for more discussion and consideration around adding gender to be included in goal #1. Members of the respective committees expressed their perspectives for consideration for gender inclusion into the goals. Deputy Commissioner Hanson Willis articulated the Governor’s support of the existing plan and that while gender is not identified in the first goal that gender is embedded throughout the plan and the inclusion under WIOA and the Titles of the law. The discussion was followed regarding the disparities in employment by female and males in specific industry sectors. A request for additional data was presented which will be gathered and presented at the March 7, 2018 GWDB meeting. Following the discussion Executive Director Ireland requested the committees move to action in preparation for the March 7th**

**A motion was made by Vance Boelter to continue with the State Plan goals as originally submitted; Shirley Barnes seconded the motion.**

**Following further discussion, a roll call vote of GWDB voting members in attendance was requested by Jenny Winkelaar: Yea-12 No – 2, Motion carried.**

**Mary Russell introduced another motion to gather and evaluate State Data surrounding gender and, if warranted, revise Goal 1 of the State Plan no later than the GWDB Quarterly Meeting in June, or the matter can go before the Operations Committee prior to the June meeting. Mariaha Dean seconded the motion with an amendment to ensure that a data analyst is present at the GWDB Quarterly Meeting on Wednesday, March 7.**

**The GWDB voting members in attendance unanimously supported the additional motion.**

Statewide data, including the following, will be requested from agency sources and made available (if received) to the Board prior to the March 7 meeting:

1. Non-union training programs and minimum wage (prevailing wage data)
2. MFIP-program participation by race, disability, and gender
3. Participation rates (gender and race-if possible) for the five key sectors: Healthcare and social assistance, manufacturing, construction, professional and business services and natural resources
4. Workforce Center participation by gender, WFC program participation (WIOA)
5. Under-employment and unemployment data (6 categories—hours worked/income)

**DEED – Equity Policies to Support the Goals in Our Combined State Plan (Center for Law and Social Policy Recommendations**

**Jeremy Hanson Willis explained that DEED is working to finalize six policy recommendations to Commissioner Hardy and the Governor that came out of the Advancing Equity report produced by Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP). Language is being drafted by staff on Career Pathway Protocols as well as Measurable Skills Gains -- a new term under WIOA – which need to be tracked and implemented.**

**Final Comments and Adjournment**

**Chair Beeth announced that Traci Tapani has been selected to serve as the GWDB’s Vice Chair and extended her congratulations. Traci has been a member of the Board for two years and serves on the Career Pathways Partnership Committee as Vice Chair. Laura expressed her appreciation for the committees taking the time to contribute to this discussion. Traci will be chairing the March meeting due to Laura’s inability to attend.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.**