**Governor’s Workforce Development Board - Minutes**

Wednesday, March 4, 2020 - 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Minnesota Valley Country Club, Bloomington

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| **GWDB Members Present**Sr. Vice Chancellor Ron Anderson, Minnesota StateShirley BarnesLaura Beeth, Chair Robert BlakeDr. Vance BoelterDr. Jeffery Boyd Dave DebevecSteve DitschlerJason DuininckMary FergusonJeanna FortneyLes FujitakeLee George, Augsburg UniversityRep. Barb HaleyKelly HansenSamuel HeimlichNerita HughesAbdiwadi HusenSteven KalinaMayor Elizabeth KautzJennifer LangJessica LoomanKatie LundmarkBill McCarthyHeather McGannon, DLIPriya MoriokaLoren NelsonBill NelsonEric NesheimScott ParkerCatherine PenkertEkta PrakashAli RodwayLaura SaylesRoy SmithWinnie Sullivan, OHEJerri SweeneyJennifer TheisenDee Torgerson  | **Speakers**DEED Deputy Commissioner Kevin McKinnonAlessia Leibert, DEED Research Project Manager, Labor Market Information Office**Guests**Theresa Luther Dolan, DOC**DEED Staff**Deputy Commissioner Hamse WarfaCareerForce Director Lorrie JanatopoulosCareer Opportunity Office Director Maureen Ramirez **GWDB Staff**Ben Baglio, DirectorKay Kammen, Sr. Policy Analyst |

**Call to Order and Welcome**

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 by Governor’s Workforce Development Board Chair Laura Beeth. She welcomed everyone, including 18 new GWDB members who participated in an orientation session prior to the Full Board meeting.

**GWDB Business**

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

Josh Berg made a motion to approve the Chair’s Report***.*** Scott Parker seconded the motion and the report was unanimously approved.

***Action Item****: Approval of Minutes from December 11, 2019 Meeting*

Steve Ditschler made a motion to approve the minutes of the Joint Meeting of the GWDB and the Minnesota Association of Workforce Boards (MAWB) on December 11, 2019. Loren Nelson seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

**DEED Economic Development Presentation and Discussion**

Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Deputy Commissioner for Economic Development Kevin McKinnon spoke on the interrelationship between workforce and economic development within the agency. He described DEED’s model of engaging employers through Business Strategy Consultants aligned with the six workforce development regions in the state. Going forward, consultants will reside under the Business and Community Development Office at DEED. He also reported on the Launch Minnesota initiative, which offers innovation grants and training to entrepreneurs in the technology sector. The state’s Angel Tax Credit program is under the Launch Minnesota umbrella, providing a 25 percent credit to investors or investment funds that put money into startup companies focused on high technology, new proprietary technology, or a new proprietary product, process or service in specified fields. The Job Creation Fund and the Minnesota Trade Office are also critical parts of the economic development efforts in Minnesota for large and small employers.

Following Deputy Commissioner McKinnon’s presentation, Board members engaged in a small group discussion on the connectedness between economic development and workforce development.

**Hiring Difficulties in Manufacturing**

Alessia Leibert, Research Project Managerin DEED’s Labor Market Information Office, reported on the findings of the Minnesota 2019 Hiring Difficulties Survey. A key result of the survey is manufacturing employers attributed one out of three hard-to-fill vacancies (34 percent) to skills gaps. She also provided data on hiring difficulties in other sectors. Her presentation prompted a robust discussion on why skills gaps are more pronounced in manufacturing and other trades.

**GWDB Committees and Task Forces**

Ben Baglio gave an overview of the GWDB’s standing committee structure and proposed task forces focused on Industry-Recognized Credentialing, International Credentials and Work Experience, and Connecting Workforce Development and Mental Health Services. Members were asked to complete an interests and preferences sheet and turn in to staff at the end of the meeting. The information gathered

will be used to place members onto GWDB committees and task forces, establish topics for future task forces, and solidify discussion topics before submission of the 2021 Legislative Report.

**One Minnesota 2020-2023 WIOA State Plan**

Ben Baglio reviewed the role of the GWDB Operations Committee and Full Board in the review, approval, and submission process of the One Minnesota 2020-2023 WIOA State Plan.

***Draft State Plan Vision:***

*Our vision for Minnesota is a healthy economy where every Minnesotan has meaningful employment and a family-sustaining wage, and where all employers are able to fill jobs in demand.*

A **Mission Statement** was added to current iteration of the State Plan:

*To create a Career Pathway System that aligns local, state, and federal resources, policies and services to meet the workforce needs of business and industry and improves access to employment, education, and training services for Minnesota’s current and future workforce.*

**Goal 1** remains unchanged:

1. *Reduce educational, skills training and employment disparities based on race, disability, gender, and disconnected youth to provide greater opportunity for all Minnesotans.*

**Goal 2** now includes the word “age”:

*2. Build employer-led industry sector partnerships that expand the talent pipeline to be inclusive of race, disability, gender, disconnected youth, and age to meet industry demand for a skilled workforce.*

***Action Item:*** *GWDB Operations Committee Recommendation on the approval and submission of Minnesota’s WIOA State Plan.*

After establishing that a quorum was present, Operations Committee Chair Elizabeth Kautz asked for a motion to approve the One Minnesota 2020-2023 WIOA State Plan. Shirley Barnes made a motion to approve the plan and Sam Heimlich seconded the motion. The recommendation received unanimous support from the Full Board and the State Plan was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

*The next meeting of the Full Board will be held virtually using Microsoft Teams on* ***Wednesday, September 9, 2020 from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.***