

**GWDB Operations Committee Meeting Minutes**

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon – Monday, January 6, 2020

St. Croix Room, DEED Headquarters

Governor’s Workforce Development Board web site: <https://mn.gov/deed/gwdb/>

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) [Dashboard](https://mn.gov/deed/about/what-we-do/agency-results/perform-measures/wioa/) Governor’s Workforce Development Board

**Members Present**

* Shirley Barnes, Vice Chair
* Steve Ditschler
* Jeanna Fortney
* Mayor Elizabeth Kautz, Chair
* Loren Nelson
* Roy Smith
* Hamse Warfa

**GWDB Staff Present**

* Ben Baglio
* Kay Kammen

**DEED Staff Present**

* Lorrie Janatopoulos
* Marc Majors
* Mike Lang
* Maureen Ramirez
* Larry Eisenstadt
1. **Call to Order / Introductions**

Chair Elizabeth Kautz called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting began with introductions of members attending by phone and in person.

1. **Review / Approve – Minutes of January 6, 2020 Meeting**

Steve Ditschler made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2019 Operations Committee meeting. Shirley Barnes seconded the motion and it passed unopposed.

1. **Walkthrough of the Current 2020-2023 WIOA State Plan Draft – Review / Comment**

a) Ben Baglio provided an overview of the Draft State Plan, which is expected to be posted for public comment on Jan. 17, <https://mn.gov/deed/gwdb/priorities/wioa/>. Regional hearings are planned during the 30-day public comment period and there will be opportunities for revisions following the comment period. Staff would like input from GWDB Operations Committee members on ideas that could be included under strengths or weaknesses in any of these program areas:

**Career Services (pages 43-45)**

**Training Services (pages 45-47)**

**Business Services (pages 47-48)**

b) Marc Majors, Employment and Training Programs Division Director, described the plan as a joint effort with the GWDB and CareerForce that balances the perspective of the local workforce development boards. He said the plan is a tool that offers guidance to the E & T Programs Division and DEED is committed to moving the plan forward.

c) Lorrie Janatopoulos, CareerForce Director, explained that an Executive Summary of the “One Minnesota” State Plan was written by Lorrie, Ben Baglio, Rita Beatty and Maureen Ramirez and appears at the beginning of the draft document.

Committee members agreed to accept the modified vision of the plan and add a career pathways-focused mission statement. Goal 2 was also revised to add “Age” to draw attention to the unique concerns of the aging workforce.

Chair Elizabeth Kautz inquired about who from the Governor’s staff will be reviewing the plan. She also asked for a regular review of the WIOA dashboard, which gathers data on performance related to the State Plan’s goals and strategies. She also suggested that a review of the dashboard be included in board training. Marc agreed to submit a quarterly performance report to the Operations Committee for its review.

Deputy Commissioner Hamse Warfa said he is launching an inter-agency monitoring meeting with other state agencies that have a workforce component.

A discussion followed on the importance of relaying workforce development “Success Stories” to demonstrate the effectiveness of programs. Chair Kautz expressed interest in receiving current stories. Other comments were made regarding the Future of Work and how climate change is aligned with job changes. Reference was made to Governor Walz’s Executive Order 19-37, which establishes a Climate Change Subcabinet and the Governor’s Advisory Council on Climate Change.

Larry Eisenstadt, on behalf of the E & T Division Youth team, summarized two waivers submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor 1) The Individual Training Accounts waiver will allow in-school youth the same flexible opportunities for training support as out of school youth; and 2) The Homeless Youth waiver expands an existing waiver to allow Workforce Development Areas to have flexibility in serving in-school youth who need additional employment and training programs.

1. **Announcements/Action Steps**

a) The Operations Committee meeting schedule for 2020 is pending due to special meeting dates, which are yet to be determined. The next meeting of the Operations Committee will focus on monitoring progress on the draft and compliance efforts.

1. **Meeting Adjournment –** The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m. by acclamation.

*The next meeting of the Operations Committee will be from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon on Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at DEED Headquarters.*