**GWDB Disability Equity Committee to Address Disparities for Individuals with Disabilities in Education and Employment**

**Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, March 7, 2019 – 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

Conference Call

# Members Present

* Josh Berg
* Vance Boelter

# Steve Ditschler, Chair

# John Fisher

# Karen Lilledahl

# Larry Vrooman

**Staff Present**

* Kay Kammen, GWDB

# Call to Order and Introductions

Steve Ditschler called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Introductions of members on the conference call followed.

**Recap of breakout discussion at GWDB meeting on March 6, 2019**

Steve Ditschler spoke about the breakout discussion at the GWDB quarterly meeting regarding the Disability Equity Committee’s work. It was decided that the Committee Charter is adequate for now. Committee members were encouraged to be strategic in future work, to stay aligned with DEED Vocational Rehabilitation Services, State Services for the Blind and Disability Determination Services efforts. It was agreed that it is important to have business people at the table. Larry Vrooman, VRS Director, stated that he plans to continue his involvement with the committee. And, the importance of DEED’s Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) in ensuring compliance was noted.

**Cross-state Workforce Innovation Cohort Update**

Kay Kammen gave an update on the U.S. Department of Labor Workforce Innovation Cohort on behalf of Jodi Yanda. The group is developing a training plan on each core partner program. The training plan is expected to be completed by the end of May. A pre-training survey to identify CareerForce employees’ training needs has also been proposed.

**Adjournment –** It was agreedto reconvene the committee following the current legislative session. The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00 Noon. The next meeting will be from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon on Thursday, June 6 at DEED Headquarters.