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

**Meeting Minutes – October 2018**

Thursday, October 4, 2018 – 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

Webinar

# Members Present

* Vance Boelter
* Karen Lilledahl
* Jodi Yanda

**Staff Present**

* Kay Kammen, GWDB

# Call to Order and Introductions

Committee Chair Steve Ditschler was not available as he was in Washington, D.C. for congressional hearings.

Following introductions, DEED Disability Services Integration Manager Jodi Yanda mentioned that pilots are underway, including training being conducted on October 25 in Dakota-Scott Counties.

The challenges of serving persons with disabilities across Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Titles and outreach to those on the VRS Wait List were topics of discussion under Recommendation 1.

Members supported Recommendation 2, which calls on DEED to provide training and professional development opportunities for state and WIOA partner staff at WorkForce Centers. A training pre-test and post-test were suggested, as well as an evaluation of the training by participants.

Recommendation 3 is based on the range of needs among customers with disabilities. A survey directed to WorkForce Center staff was proposed to identify barriers to serving customers, determine how to equip staff with what they need and impact WorkForce Center policies and procedures. It would also be helpful to track customers’ experiences, specifically the disability community, possibly by program staff.

Conversation on Recommendation 4 centered on state funded youth programs.

Jodi gave an update on the Workforce Innovation Cohort. The deadline for the proposal to USDOL has been extended to October 15. The work of the cohort is related to CareerForce task forces that have been formed on enhanced customer experience and customer satisfaction.

**Adjournment –** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:00 Noon. The next meeting will be via conference call from 11:00 – 12:00 Noon on Thursday, November 1.