

WOW WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 10, 2021
Location: Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams
Members Present: Jerry Baake, Bonnie Baerwald, John Bloor, Wilma Bonaparte, Nate Butt, Lisa Geason-Bauer, John Heyer, Tom Hostad, Robert Jessel, Rebecca Klebsch, Grace Kostroski, John Krause, Deanna Krell, Sheree Larson, Laneice McGee, Tim Ploetz, Dawn Schicker, Angela Stemo
Others Present: Laura Catherman, Beth Norris, Cindy Simons, Renee O'Day, Josh Morby

Ms. Schicker called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

Consent Agenda

Ms. Schicker announced the following items were included in the consent agenda for consideration by the board.

- March 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Executive Report
- Quarterly Financial Report

Mr. Krause moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Ms. Geason-Bauer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Review and Approval of Draft Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget

Ms. Catherman provided an overview of the allocations and estimated carryover funds for fiscal year 2021-2022. Wisconsin and the WOW Workforce Development Board received an increase in funding after several years of decreases. The funding formula that is used to distribute WIOA funds at the federal and state level was discussed.

Ms. Catherman noted that the Board will be carrying in the previously budgeted 20% of the FY2020-21 allocation as well as underspent funds from current program contracts. Initial estimates for Windows to Work were provided as final contracts have not yet been received. Ms. Catherman presented the proposed budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

Mr. Heyer moved to approve the budget as presented. Ms. Bonaparte seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Review and Approval of Service Provider Renewals for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Ms. Catherman provided an overview of the current service providers and previous procurement processes. The current WIOA and Windows to Work contracts allow for up to two one-year renewals based on achieving successful performance levels. This is the second one-year renewal therefore the contracts will be re-procured in the spring of 2022. The Regional One-Stop Operator contract allows for up to three one-year renewals. This is the first renewal. Forward Careers, Inc. and Waukesha County Department of Administration, the current service providers, are meeting all subaward expectations including performance measures and quarterly reporting.

Mr. Heyer moved to approve renewing the contracts with Forward Careers, Inc. as the service provider for WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker, WIOA Youth, and Windows to Work, and Waukesha County Department of Administration for regional One-Stop Operator services for fiscal year 2021-2022. Ms. Kostroski seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

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Review and Approval of Revised Policies

Ms. Catherman presented three policy revisions:

- Supportive services: To allow for continued use of electronic payment methods;
- Youth incentive policy: To add additional details to written communication and school transcript requirements; and
- Incumbent worker training: To include the option to allow trainees with less than 6 months of employment history the ability to participate in cohort-style trainings.

Mr. Heyer moved to approve the policy revisions. Ms. Baerwald seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Presentation on the Wisconsin Workforce Development Association's Talent Development Council

Josh Morby, Association Manager for the Wisconsin Workforce Development Association's Talent Development Council, provided an update to the board on recent activities and trends. Mr. Morby is working with over 100 industry associations to connect them to local and statewide workforce development initiatives. Recent examples include work with the Wisconsin Hospital Association, Wisconsin Motor Carriers Association, and Wisconsin Telecommunication Association.

Discussion: Business and Community Trends as We Emerge from the Pandemic

The board discussed recent workforce trends and issues related to pandemic economic recovery including:

- Businesses are looking for additional guidance on mental health resources and diversity, equity, and inclusion resources;
- Businesses are experiencing increased pressure on wages for attraction and retention;
- Organizations are re-evaluating their long-term remote work strategies;
- Top talent who may not be job searching are being sought after by competitors;
- Job vacancies remain high at local businesses while applicant pools remain low;
- Many companies are prioritizing workforce needs to assist with talent attraction, including increased work-from-home arrangements depending on the job type.

Brief Updates on Strategic Initiatives

Ms. Catherman provided brief updates on the following items:

- The Workforce Network's forthcoming video;
- The creation of a communications ad hoc workgroup; and
- Results from the job seeker survey on virtual services and accessibility.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:31 am.

Respectfully submitted by:



Laura Catherman