

## **Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, February 8, 2023  
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

**Madison Area Technical College  
Truax Campus – Room D1630B  
1701 Wright Street  
Madison, WI 53704**

**Members:** Francis Langer, Chair; Pam Christenson, Secretary; Mel Bruins, Michelle Eilbes, Chuck Klein, Jennifer Klein, Ann McNeary, Melissa Montey, Lisa Pollard, Dave Robinson, Elizabeth Roddy, Dave Shaw, Calvin White Eagle, Bryan Woodhouse

**Staff:** Seth Lentz, Lameece Tyne, Chris Ziegel

**Guests:** Laura Dresser, Julie Enloe, Jessica Fox, Jason Frey, Pamela Waters

### **Agenda Item 1 – Introductions & Announcements**

Christenson welcomed everyone, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m., and noted there was no one registered for public comment. Everyone introduced themselves.

### **Agenda Item 2 – Review and Approval of the December 7, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes**

Due to the absence of a quorum, approval of the minutes was deferred to a future Board meeting.

### **Agenda Item 3 – Report of the Executive Committee**

Lentz introduced Laura Dresser.

Dresser provided Board Members with a presentation on the state of Wisconsin's economy and future projections.

Lentz thanked Dresser for the time and information provided.

Lentz provided a summary of the agenda items covered during the January 19<sup>th</sup> and February 3<sup>rd</sup> Executive Committee meetings including review of the financials, as well as the approval of the 2020 Form 990. Discussions occurred around financial landscape, grants ending at different times, grant extensions, new grants received, infrastructure planning, board committees and upcoming procurements, conferences, trainings, and professional development.

Lentz opened the conversation up for any questions from the committee. No questions were raised.

#### **Agenda Item 4 – Report of the Planning & Development Committee**

Shaw reviewed agenda items discussed at the Jan 31<sup>st</sup> Planning and Development Committee meeting. Items reviewed include the Grant Summary handout, an overview of state and local monitoring engagements, discussion surrounding procurements, program updates on the Worker Advancement Initiative grant, and highlights from community partner collaborations. WAI participant proposal numbers to be served for program year 2022 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023) have been achieved with a reserve of resources still to be administered. The WAI grant ends in September and staff continue to recruit to expend the remaining resources. DWD has suggested there may be a possibility for grant extension. Co-enrollment into WIOA services are offered when eligible.

Christenson inquired on any early insights into the recent news of the Weir Mineral dislocation; about 115 individuals will be affected.

Lentz responded that board staff have reached out to the organization. Dislocations will begin in 2024. The official notice provides all occupations affected, which all qualify as high demand and high skill level. Many of the affected are seasoned, experienced individuals that will have lots of opportunity. Board staff are working closely with the region’s economic development partners.

McNeary highlighted that the employer is looking out for their employees and are open to discussion.

#### **Agenda Item 5 – Report of the Youth Committee**

Roddy reviewed agenda items discussed at the Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> Youth Committee meeting. The meeting started with a presentation from Hugh Wing on projects led by the City of Madison. The first project is the National League of Cities Youth Excel which focuses on advancing youth empowerment, improving access to postsecondary education and career pathways. Target populations include WAI, Independent Living grant-eligible youth, and youth apprentices. The second project is Cities for Financial Employment which focuses on helping to support youth establish bank accounts, direct deposits, and reduce vulnerability from financial predators. The City has received a 2<sup>nd</sup> round of funding to focus on youth care. Youth can start participating and receive the benefits as early as age 14.

Roddy noted additional agenda items reviewed include the Grant Summary handout, an overview of state and local monitoring engagements, discussion surrounding procurements, state and local monitoring review, discussions surrounding procurement and inclusion of diversity and cultural sensitivity, collaborations with business and community, quality assurance, timeline needs and professional development, inclusion of customer voice in continuous improvement, and a logic model for theory of change.

#### **Agenda Item 6 – Discussion on Good Jobs**

Lentz spoke on collaborations with the Department of Labor and Department of Commerce, clarifying principles and definitions associated with Good Jobs. The publication provides guidance on federal

investments; how and where they are being made. The Department of Education as well as the Department of Health and Human Services will also provide their understanding and feedback at a later date. DOL is working closely with each state to capitalize on federal resources offered.

Christenson asked if Wisconsin will have their own initiative in regards to pay rate.

Lentz clarified if the state sets goals or aspirations, it will be unclear how they plan to interpret it. The Good Jobs Academy will bring essential partners together to receive technical assistance to define and operationalize the project. Whether the state of WI will choose to pursue the opportunity is still up for debate.

McNeary inquired upon any set milestones or timelines.

Lentz responded that DOL is trying to set a platform before the investments are made. Some departments are better at the transition than others. The Department of Transportation is ahead of the planned timeline. Broadband accessibility and expansion have been ongoing for years. Energy as well. Many factors are dependent upon when resources are available. States that are early to the bid are going to be more competitive.

McNeary provided comments on shovel-ready projects.

Lentz added the standard living wage for road construction will not be the same as for installers of broadband or other industrial industries.

Christenson requested information on grant applicants.

Lentz articulated that the Good Jobs Academy is open to everyone who wishes to pursue the initiative. Infrastructure funds may be at the Governor's discretion. Workforce Development Boards may play a role paying for training, even if the training may be non-credentialed. The Federal workforce system will provide other wraparound services. The workforce system does a good job meeting established goals and getting to nontraditional and diverse populations.

### **Agenda Item 7 – Meeting Adjournment**

With no additional business for the Board, Christenson made a motion to adjourn at 11:08 a.m.

Adjourned: 11:08 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Pam Christenson  
Board Secretary



Partnerships and pathways for economic growth

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Workforce Development Board of South Central Wisconsin, Inc.

Attachment for Board Records:

- Minutes from December 7, 2022
- November 2022 Financials



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