

MINUTES of the
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

August 13, 2021
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
TEAMS Conference Call

Members present: Dave Farnsworth, Cindy Griffin, Don Shilling, Arnie Strebe

Ex Officio members present: Bryan Klipfel, Katie Ralston

Commerce staff and Job Service staff present: Phil Davis, Sherri Frieze

Dave Farnsworth called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved by Don Shilling, seconded by Cindy Griffin to approve the executive committee minutes of May 6, 2021. Motion carried.

WIOA UPDATE

Katie Ralston

The Last Mile program, a technology training program, was launched last month at the ND State Penitentiary to improve inmate's job opportunities after their release. The training program will use the WIOA funds of \$250 thousand, that are administered through Job Service ND, with partnership of Commerce Department and the Department of Corrections. Instructors of the program are former inmates. Phil Davis, Katie Ralston, and Penny Hetletved attended the classroom ribbon cutting last week. The program's contract runs through October 2022. ND is the 7th state to adopt the program.

WDC BYLAW UPDATE

Katie Ralston

The audit, conducted earlier this year by the Department of Labor (DOL), resulting in one finding regarding the update of bylaw language.

- The updates to the bylaws were returned from the Governor's office; legal counsel with the need to remove the item.
 - The executive committee had asked for the "addition of a previous board member could serve and fill a vacancy if appointed by the governor."
- The other request by DOL was to add language that allows members to connect via video/audio conferencing.
- The updated bylaws will need to be signed by the Governor's office by August 26th.

IN DEMAND JOBS LIST UPDATE

- The list has just over 100 jobs strong.
- Collapsed a few jobs, under broad umbrellas.
 - It was asked to add a manufacturing category.
 - A URL link will be included that lists Apprenticeships, increasing visibility to see other in demand jobs. Katie and Joseph to rework the list for manufacturing.
 - Data points will be researched again, but if the job is too far off from the metrics needed, it shouldn't be added, if the job doesn't fall within the range needed.
- If the list warrants an update, it will be resent out to the members, before the WDC meeting.

WDC MEMBERSHIP

- Individuals that will be reappointed, Taya, Jason, Tiffany, and Lyn.
- Keith Lund has a suggestion for Grand Forks EDC, as he may not stay on as a member.
- Janelle Klinke will be leaving the council as she works for a MN company currently.
- Two vacancies of private sector representation are needed to meet the 51% requirement.
- One vacancy of local elected official representation is needed.
- Tony Grindberg would then move into the private sector representation.
- Growth in the NW region of the state has prompted a need for a possible representative for the local elected official vacancy.
- Hospitality industry representation needed.
- UAS industry representation needed.
 - Northrop Grumman
 - Skyskopes
- Home Builder Association representation suggested.
- Governor's office is inquiring about representation from True North Equipment in Grand Forks.
- Banking industry representation suggested.
- True North Steel company recommendation for private sector.

WDC Q3 MEETING AGENDA

Katie Ralston

The Q3 meeting will be held at the Great River Energy building on August 19th. Agenda items and suggestions included:

- Bylaw updates
- WIOA updates
- JOBS ND updates
- In Demand Jobs List update
- Subcommittee updates
- IGNITE presentation
- ND Career Builders presentation
- ARPA proposals
- WDC member updates

NEXT STEPS

Katie Ralston

Members had suggested to meet across ND in various communities of big and small. Katie mentioned the Q4 meeting would be held in November with the hope to meet in Oakes, ND.

Topics for future meetings would be:

- Census numbers – population growth, but more jobs than people discussion.
- Cyber Education – Supt. Baesler to present
- Childcare – Chris Jones to present a future meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: It was moved by Arnie Strebe and seconded by Bryan Klipfel to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.