

Meeting Minutes
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Lake Area Technical College
1201 Arrow Ave. NE Watertown, SD
Wednesday, September 27, 2023 | 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT

Chairman Lee Anderson called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m. CDT. Molly Neyhart called the roll. A quorum was present.

Members Present: Chris Houwman, Marcia Hultman, Kim Ludwig, Jon Mahan, Amy Miller (representing Laura Scheibe), Amy Tlam, Vice Chairwoman Keri Wientjes, Chairman Lee Anderson.

Members Absent: Dave Bonde, Liza Clark, Carla Gatzke, Adam Molseed, Jim Peterson, Mark Rogers.

Others Present: Jenna Bush, Dawn Dovre, Joshua Gade, Melodee Lane, Molly Neyhart, Kim Olson, Kendra Ringstmeyer, Amanda Stanton, Emily Ward.

AGENDA ITEM C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 3, 2023

Kim Ludwig made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 3, 2023. Chris Houwman seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED 8-0.**

AGENDA ITEM D. U.S. DOL REVIEWS

DLR Workforce Development Director Kendra Ringstmeyer discussed the U.S. DOL Reviews on Re-employment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA), Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Titles I and II, and Jobs for Veterans' State Grants (JVSG). Director Ringstmeyer shared the proposed amendments to the Workforce Development Council By-Laws. Vice Chairwoman Keri Wientjes made a motion to approve the new By-Laws Proposal. Chris Houwman seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED 8-0.**

AGENDA ITEM E. WIOA FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

DLR Administrative Services Director Emily Ward presented on Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 and Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Workforce Funding. There has been a 4.6% increase in funding from PY19 to PY24, but a 20% increase in inflation. The two largest funding streams DLR receives are from the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and Wagner-Peyser Employment Services.

AGENDA ITEM F. LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

Labor Market Information Center (LMIC) Administrator Melodee Lane shared the South Dakota Workforce Report 2022. The report includes information about workforce demographics, gross domestic product, labor force, total employment, worker commuting, advertised job openings, nonfarm wage and salaried workers, quarterly census of employment and wages, income and poverty, and employment and demand projections. Administrator Lane presented this year's South Dakota Manufacturing flyer. Information on the flyer includes major contributions to the South Dakota economy, employment growth, current opportunities, manufacturing employment projections, and manufacturing statistics.

AGENDA ITEM G. BOXELDER JOB CORPS

Boxelder Job Corps Resident Manager Joshua Gade gave an overview of how Job Corps assists individuals attending the program. Training programs offered include construction, health care, hospitality, renewable resources and energy, finance and business, and advanced manufacturing. Low-income individuals from 16 to 24 years old who are U.S. citizens, legal U.S. residents, or residents of a U.S. territory, and/or individuals authorized to work in the United States are eligible for Job Corps. The Job Corps can assist individuals in obtaining a High School diploma, GED®, and Driver's License.

AGENDA ITEM H. CTE/PERKINS STATE PLAN

Department of Education (DOE) Assistant Director Amy Miller shared South Dakota's Vision for Career and Technical Education (CTE). CTE equips students with the skills and knowledge they need to be prepared for careers in the workforce. The skills include being flexible/adaptable, a lifelong learner/motivated to grow, job-specific skills, soft skills, and passion for the industry. CTE is in four state technical colleges, 147 school districts, five tribal/BIE schools, and six private schools.

AGENDA ITEM I. FREEDOM WORKS HERE

DLR Cabinet Secretary Marcia Hultman shared information about Governor Noem's "Freedom Works Here" campaign. There have been ads targeting out-of-state individuals likely to move, including paid TV ads. DLR is starting to see success stories with the campaign.

AGENDA ITEM J. ROUNDTABLE

Executive Director Dawn Dove asked Council Members the following questions: What creative or unique recruitment/retention solutions have you found? What's working? Chris Houwman stated employers must be flexible, no one size fits all, and leadership is also very important, promoting people who have the potential to be good leaders helps with retention. Houwman also stated attending job fairs, using Indeed, and staying plugged into the workforce whether hiring or not is important. Amy Tlam stated being adaptable to the changing workforce is important and employers might have better retention rates by putting life skill aspects into apprenticeships. Jon Mahan has invested in soft skills and resiliency training. Executive Director Dove suggested stay interviews, asking what the employer can do better.

AGENDA ITEM K. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

AGENDA ITEM L. DIRECTOR UPDATES

Executive Director Dawn Dove shared member appointments and reappointments. Executive Director Dove and DLR Workforce Development Director Kendra Ringstmeyer are creating an orientation packet to make available to all members, along with a Microsoft Teams training. Upcoming events to celebrate include National Workforce Development Month in September, South Dakota Manufacturing Week and Disability Employment Month in October, National Apprenticeship Week November 13-19, and Career Exploration and Awareness Month in December. The next Council meeting will take place virtually in December.

AGENDA ITEM M. ADJOURN

Jon Mahan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION PASSED.**

Chairman Lee Anderson called the meeting adjourned at 1:54 p.m. CDT.