

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

Wendi Secrist
Executive Director



Deni Hoehne
Chair

John Young
Vice Chair

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

317 West Main Street, Boise, Idaho 83735-0510

Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Mountain Time)
Location: State of Idaho Chinden Campus

Council Member Attendees: Deni Hoehne, Anna Almerico, ~~Audrey Fletcher~~, Ben Davidson, ~~Brian Cox~~, Clay Long, Daniel Puga, ~~David Hannah~~, ~~Donna Butler~~, Hope Morrow, Jake Reynolds (proxy for Tom Kealey), ~~James Pegram~~, James Smith, Jane Donnellan, Jeff Greene, Jennifer Palagi, ~~Joe Maloney~~, John Young, Kelly Kolb, Kristyn Carr (proxy for Jani Revier), ~~Linda Clark~~, Linda Montgomery (proxy for Lori Barber), Liza Leonard, Marie Price (proxy for Tom Schultz), Marilyn Whitney, ~~Matt Van Vleet~~, Michelle Stennett, ~~Oscar Evans~~, Russell Barron, Sarah Griffin, ~~Scott Syme~~, Sean Coletti, ~~Sherry Maupin~~, ~~Steven Laing~~

Staff: Wendi Secrist, Amanda Ames, Matthew Thomsen, Caty Solace, Jeffrey Bacon, Stacy James, Courtney Grubbs, Paige Nielebeck

Guests: Alyssa Hudman, Gina Robison, Maureen O'Toole, Summer MacDonald, Amelia Valasek, Terry Butikofer, Christi Gilchrist, Marilyn Sword, Beth Cunningham, Abby Edgar, Matt Farina

*Workforce Development Council is hereafter referred to as WDC.

Call to order at 8:30 a.m.

Roll Call/Introductions

***Review/Approve Agenda**

Unanimous consent request by Ms. Stennett to approve the agenda as presented. There are no objections

***Approve Minutes from March 16, 2022 Meeting**

Unanimous consent request by Ms. Stennett to approve the March 16, 2022 minutes as written. Second by Jeff Greene. There are no objections.

Youth Apprenticeship Update

Ms. O'Toole provided an update on IBE's Youth Apprenticeship program.

Discussion:

Any employer in any industry is eligible to participate. Anyone ages 16-24 are also eligible. The individual just must be 24 to enter the program. They may be older than 24 when they finish the program.

What is the goal?

- The overall goal is 400 apprentices. The secondary goal is to support 800 individuals who may or may not enter an apprenticeship.
- The original goal was to have 300 employers participate but employers may take more than 1 apprentice. Having 50-60 employers that take multiple apprentices makes a big impact.

It is important with youth to give them a clear and concise pathway. They know exactly what they are getting into and there is nothing unforeseen that will change their course. The person onboarding the apprentices also needs to know the work that goes into an apprenticeship.

- Idaho Forest Group has a great train the trainer program to prepare mentors for apprentices.
- Boot camps for the youth can help ease them into their apprenticeship.
- Smaller employers often do not know how to mentor an apprentice because they have never done it before. It is a large learning curve. Does IBE do training to prepare employers to mentor apprentices?
 - There is a program through IDOL for this.
 - It would be helpful to have a mentor bootcamp.

A lot of the people around the state still do not know about the program. Does IBE go around the state to bring info to employers/job fairs?

- IBE has business services people across the state. They have met with over 1,000 employers on apprenticeships.
- Last year, IBE did an apprenticeship bootcamp for anyone to attend to learn about what an apprenticeship is.

Idaho Tech Help is a great resource for the manufacturing industry.

WinCo has two in house training programs for managers. They call it an apprentice program. Ms. Hoehne is going to investigate how to take the program WinCo has and make it more of a Registered Apprenticeship Program. WinCo is also looking at piloting a Meat Cutting apprenticeship program. Ms. Hoehne is also working on helping teach the HR world on apprenticeships. She is presenting to SHRM.

Incumbent workers can also be part of apprenticeships. It does not have to be a new employee. Launch can help with some of the costs of the training.

There has been a big issue with retainment with the individuals who are at the level that might be looking for apprenticeships. Internal programs have worked well.

Oftentimes at the state level, an individual will get trained and then move on to a new employer. How do we ensure they are staying with the employer?

- There is no way to retain them after they are done with their apprenticeship. If they leave during their apprenticeship, then the training stops. The retention with the employer is 80% and the retention within the industry is 92%.
- Idaho Power has a great program with strong retention.

Idaho employers can hire 16-year-olds. They are even allowed to work in the construction trade. There are a few industries they are not able to work in, but they have to do with driving trucks. There is a 17.7% unemployment rate for 16–19-year old's looking for work. There is huge opportunity to create pathways for these ages.

Digital Inclusion Study

Ms. Valasek presented in ICFL's Digital Inclusion Study. Please see attached document.

Discussion:

The level for certain libraries to handle something like this might be low. There is some strain on the libraries with so few staff and then some responsibility is landing on them for childcare. This would just add to the burden. How are the libraries generally handling this?

- There are some resources available to them.
- The Digital Inclusion Plan is happening at the state level and that won't necessarily be a burden on local libraries. This is an opportunity to find out what libraries need. The state might be able to provide funding for things like computers, etc.
- The state is working on getting broadband out to the libraries. Often libraries have better or more reliable broadband. It depends on the infrastructure in place. ICFL facilitates reimbursement for broadband internet expenses. That is primarily federally funded but there is some state funding.
- The tricky part is libraries are locally run. It is up to the local individuals how much funding the libraries receive. ICFL can give them grants but the libraries still have budgets. It is important to advocate for them.
- Areas of Kansas are working to incorporate their schools and libraries into one facility.
- It is great to see that libraries are creating a place where individuals can get help. The libraries are important to the older and younger generations.
- The libraries are an opportunity for us to connect with the youth.
- ICFL will be a great partner for Imagine Idaho.

Break: 10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Budget Items

Budget Update

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
Fiscal Year 2022 Budget
For the Period July 1, 2022 - May 31, 2022

WDTF				
State Expenditure Category	Budget	Actual	Under/(Over)	Actual %
Salary & Benefits	\$ 403,100	\$ 360,240	\$ 72,630	89%
Personnel	\$ 403,100	\$ 360,240	\$ 72,630	89%
Administrative Services & Supplies	\$ 6,000	\$ 3,559	\$ 3,929	59%
Communication Costs	7,500	10,070	(1,630)	134%
Computer Services & Supplies	26,500	18,163	9,395	69%
Contracts, Events & Other Council Activities	528,500	406,141	231,334	77%
Employee Development, Memberships & Subscriptions	7,500	9,587	(2,087)	128%
Employee Travel Costs	14,900	9,234	6,703	62%
Rentals & Operating Leases	8,500	7,671	1,602	90%
Government Overhead & Insurance	3,000	2,732	2,817	91%
Operating Budget	\$ 602,400	\$ 467,158	\$ 252,063	78%
Grand Total	\$ 1,005,500	\$ 827,398	\$ 324,693	82%

Trustee and Benefits	Beginning Balance	Disbursements	Ending Balance
Grant Reimbursement(s) Spending Authority	\$ 11,750,000	\$ 4,179,350	\$ 8,217,629

WDTF Financial Summary	
WDTF Cash Balance 4/1/2022	\$ 13,973,418
Revenue	998,547
Interest	6,645
Payments	794,240
WDTF Cash Balance 4/30/2022	\$ 14,184,370
Obligated Employer Grants	\$ 1,715,160
Obligated Industry Sector Grants	5,940,212
Obligated Innovation Grants	1,059,632
*Obligated Outreach Projects & Allocated Budget	530,365
**Short Term Financial Assistance Program	2,584,189
FY22 WDTF Admin Costs	467,158
Obligated Balance	\$ 12,296,716
Unobligated Balance	\$ 1,887,654
Proposals Under Review	70,000
Unobligated Balance if all funded	\$ 1,817,654

WDTF Revenue			
Month	Transfer In	Interest	Collection Cost
July	\$ 232,883	\$ 3,453	\$ -
August	779,173	3,331	-
September	5,115	3,430	-
October	-	4,040	-
November	865,303	4,170	57,072
December	15,741	3,660	-
January	187,079	3,632	-
February	532,462	3,582	13,178
March	12,533	3,798	-
April	242,610	5,000	-
May	998,547	6,645	65,322
June			
FY22 Totals	\$ 3,871,447	\$ 44,740	\$ 135,571

*Includes all Outreach funding made available for the Committee to allocate for FY22.

**Includes all Launch funding made available for FY22.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
Fiscal Year 2022 Budget
For the Period July 1, 2022 - May 31, 2022

WIOA				
State Expenditure Category	Budget	Actual	Under/(Over)	Actual %
Salary & Benefits	\$ 98,800	\$ 92,425	\$ 6,375	94%
Personnel	\$ 98,800	\$ 92,425	\$ 6,375	94%
Administrative Services & Supplies	\$ 1,000	\$ 170	\$ 830	17%
Communication Costs	-	-	-	0%
Computer Services & Supplies	-	-	-	0%
Contracts, Events & Other Council Activities	31,425	16,042	15,383	51%
Employee Development, Memberships & Subscriptions	17,575	13,391	4,184	76%
Employee Travel Costs	-	1,078	(1,078)	0%
Rentals & Operating Leases	-	-	-	0%
Government Overhead & Insurance	-	-	-	0%
Operating Budget	\$ 50,000	\$ 30,682	\$ 19,318	61%
Grand Total	\$ 148,800	\$ 123,107	\$ 25,693	83%

YARG				
State Expenditure Category	Budget	Actual	Under/(Over)	Actual %
Salary & Benefits	\$ 82,500	\$ 76,932	\$ 5,568	93%
Personnel	\$ 82,500	\$ 76,932	\$ 5,568	93%
Administrative Services & Supplies	\$ 440	\$ 16	\$ 424	4%
Communication Costs	360	330	30	92%
Computer Services & Supplies	300	613	(313)	204%
Contracts, Events & Other Council Activities	26,400	23,400	3,000	89%
Employee Development, Memberships & Subscriptions	1,000	-	1,000	0%
Employee Travel Costs	1,500	-	1,500	0%
Rentals & Operating Leases	-	-	-	0%
Government Overhead & Insurance	-	-	-	0%
Operating Budget	\$ 30,000	\$ 24,358	\$ 5,642	81%
Grand Total	\$ 112,500	\$ 101,291	\$ 11,209	90%

Trustee and Benefits	Beginning Balance	Disbursements	Ending Balance
Grant Reimbursement(s) Spending Authority	\$ 636,500	\$ 439,330	\$ 197,170

*FY23 Operating Budget

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
FY23 Operating Budget Proposal

State Expenditure Category	WDTF		WIOA		YARG		ARPA WT	ARPA Child Care	CNA Study	Total	
	FY23	FY22	FY23	FY22	FY23	FY22	FY23	FY23	FY23	FY23	FY22
Salary & Benefits	\$ 480,800	\$ 403,100	\$ 104,300	\$ 98,800	\$ 89,000	\$ 82,500	\$ 123,600	\$ 166,600	\$ -	\$ 964,300	\$ 584,400
Personnel	\$ 480,800	\$ 403,100	\$ 104,300	\$ 98,800	\$ 89,000	\$ 82,500	\$ 123,600	\$ 166,600	\$ -	\$ 964,300	\$ 584,400
Administrative Services & Supplies	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 675	\$ 440	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 9,675	\$ 7,440
Communication Costs	11,349	7,500	-	-	360	360	970	970	-	\$ 13,649	7,860
Computer Services & Supplies	26,100	26,500	-	-	24,100	300	6,076	6,076	-	\$ 62,352	26,800
Employee Development, Memberships & Subscriptions	7,250	7,500	17,575	17,575	1,000	1,000	-	-	-	\$ 25,825	26,075
Employee Travel Costs	18,000	14,900	-	-	1,500	1,500	-	-	-	\$ 19,500	16,400
Contracts, Events & Other Council Activities	232,551	528,500	31,425	31,425	2,365	26,400	625,000	4,000	125,000	\$ 1,020,341	586,325
Rentals & Operating Leases	61,000	8,500	-	-	-	-	2,954	2,954	-	\$ 66,908	8,500
Government Overhead & Insurance	6,750	3,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$ 6,750	3,000
Operating	\$ 369,000	\$ 602,400	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 636,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 1,225,000	\$ 682,400
Grand Total	\$ 849,800	\$ 1,005,500	\$ 154,300	\$ 148,800	\$ 119,000	\$ 112,500	\$ 759,600	\$ 181,600	\$ 125,000	\$ 2,189,300	\$ 1,266,800

Trustee and Benefits	WDTF		WIOA		YARG		ARPA WT	ARPA Child Care	CNA Study	Total	
	FY23	FY22	FY23	FY22	FY23	FY22	FY23	FY23	FY23	FY23	FY22
Grant Reimbursement(s) Spending Authority	\$ 7,684,500	\$ 11,750,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 636,500	\$ 636,500	\$ 24,240,400	\$ 14,818,400	\$ -	\$ 47,379,800	\$ 12,386,500

Discussion:

How many staff are in each category?

- 6 under the WDTF, 1 under WIOA, 1 under YARG, 2 for ARPA Workforce Training, and 2 for ARPA Child Care. There is also an opportunity for an AmeriCorps Vista Volunteer.

Are the ARPA positions limited service?

- The ARPA workforce training positions are budgeted for 3 and a half years. The funds must be obligated by December 2024.
- The ARPA child care positions are for one year.

Do the individuals have to be Boise located?

- The WDC has not expanded to telecommuting individuals but is open to it.

Unanimous consent request by Ms. Leonard to approve the FY23 WDC Operating Budget request as presented. There were no objections.

***Outreach Funding**

Mr. Young presented the Outreach Funding Request. Please see attached document.

Discussion:

On FY23 it shows \$300,000 already dedicated to Next Steps & the Extern Program. Is the \$350,000 additional?

- That is correct. The \$300,000 comes out of the general WDC budget.

Unanimous consent request by Mr. Davidson to approve the Outreach funding request as presented.

The last three years the council budget has included the funds for Next Steps.

There were no objections.

***Leading Idaho Workforce Training Allocations**

Ms. Secrist reviewed the Leading Idaho Workforce Training Allocations. Please see attached document.

Discussion:

The Grant Committee is a very active committee and critical to the council. They ask a lot of questions of each grant and use the rubrics to measure each grant. It is very transparent and effective.

Motion by Ms. Griffin to approve the Leading Idaho Workforce Training Allocations as presented. Second by Ms. Morrow. Motion carried.

***Local Area Set-Asides & Transfer from Dislocated Worker to Adult**

Ms. Secrist reviewed the Local Area Set-Asides & Transfer. Please see attached document.

Discussion:

Motion by Mr. Puga to approve the following with respect to PY22 allocations and PY21 recapture:

- **Set-aside up to \$927,940, as noted above, for PY22 local area activities.**
- **Recapture all eligible PY21 program funds, to be calculated based upon final PY21 expenditures, in accordance with the policy approved on April 7, 2020.**

Second by Mr. Long.

If money is taken away from an area, is there going to be the ability to put fund back into the budget if they need it?

- Every year at the federal level, a certain amount of funding is allocated for the WIOA programs. It goes through formulas that take into account the State's economy. If Idaho's economy were to tank then more funding would come to assist the programs, unless Congress defunded the program.

It is going to be important to get more innovative as the WDC continues down this pathway because workforce is a finite fund. Funding was appropriated to energy and space because it is a small industry in need of help. Ms. Morrow may want to discuss this further at a future meeting.

Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. Leonard to approve the WDC staff sending the memo to Governor Little requesting the transfer of funds. Second by Mr. Puga.

In the first paragraph it should say how much money will be transferred.

Motion carried.

Policy Committee

Idaho Launch Update

Idaho Launch has continued to see a lot of site visits. To date the site has had 36,202 visitors with an average session of 2 minutes and 25 seconds.

The WDC has obligated \$4,646,600 to Idaho Launch and there are around 1,481 participants. Program registrations are holding strong.

The last time the WDC ran a survey for Launch was in summer of 2020. There were 845 survey responses from industry. Industry was asked to identify skills that they would be hiring for in the next couple of years. The WDC then took those skills and asked workforce training providers to give us a list of courses that could give individuals those skills. This process led to many courses being added to Launch.

This spring, the WDC relaunched the survey. The initial results are just coming back but there were 1,874 responses. This year the survey aligned the industries with the Career Clusters that are being used in Next Steps to set up an easy way to integrate research on Next Steps with funding opportunities on Launch. The survey once again asked employers to identify skills they would be hiring for, but also asked them to say whether or not the courses offered on Launch are valuable in their hiring process.

Here are a few initial insights from the survey data.

- 82% of employer respondents have tried to hire an employee in the last year. A majority say the applicants were qualified but only 8% reported the individuals were very qualified, 25% somewhat qualified, and 13% very unqualified.
- Most employers are looking for workers who bring a good attitude and a basic skillset to the job. Unless specific training is required, employers value good employees over a credential. When training is required, employers value a college degree, certificate, or apprenticeship very highly.

Discussion:

Career planners need to continue to do a better job of advising Launch participants. With the partnership with Equus, Launch participants can be offered access to LinkedIn Learning at no cost and without using their once in a lifetime Launch benefit.

Ms. Morrow is going to introduce an addendum to the Launch policy to allow for ARPA funding to be used for certain Launch participants. The WDC has set aside \$10 million in ARPA funds for Idaho Launch. The US Treasury will provide guidance on the eligibility for these funds. The training has to be part of a COVID impacted industry list that will come for the US Treasury.

The Policy Committee is also exploring how Idaho Launch can expand into the for-credit side of education. This is an ongoing discussion.

***ARPA Addendum for Launch**

Motion by Ms. Morrow to approve the ARPA Addendum for Idaho Launch as presented. Second by Ms. Price.

Is there a definition of credential?

- It has been left open so it can be defined as a degree or credential. This will rely on the courses being vetted.

Motion carried.

***Launch Budget Request**

Motion by Ms. Morrow to set aside \$250,000 for Idaho Launch. Second by Ms. Leonard.

If an individual was laid off, they are eligible for Launch even if their industry is not listed under the eligible industries for ARPA funding.

Motion carried.

Lunch & Breakout Discussions: 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

***Child Care Grant Policy**

Ms. Griffin reviewed the Child Care Expansion Grant Policy. Please see attached document.

Discussion:

Could a bullet point be added that allowed for children up to 18 years old with a disability be added to the policy?

- It would not fund families caring for their own children with disabilities.

As far as partnering with an employer in the public sector – this would have to come from the childcare entity seeking support, not coming from a public call for submissions.

- There would be some work the Council would be doing to connect providers and employers. WDC staff are going to provide a certain level of technical support. The WDC also has great partnerships with other agencies who could help do some of this outreach.

Motion by Ms. Almerico to approve the Child Care Expansion Grant Policy as presented with the amended statement. Second by Ms. Morrow.

Is there any discussion with helping entities to build a business plan?

- In the application process there will be resources available to them to help them build this out.

- This is another area where WDC staff may come back asking for additional support to provide support for smaller providers.

Motion carried.

One-Stop Committee

***Updates to Youth Incentives**

Ms. Secrist reviewed the updates to the Youth Incentives. Please see attached document.

Discussion:

The request to update the incentives came out of the WDC December meeting. Looking at the policies, it was determined that some of the incentives needed to be updated. The Executive Committee did put something in place to approve these incentives temporarily until the Council could meet again.

Motion by Ms. Donnellan to approve the Youth Incentives as presented. Second by Mr. Davidson.

This was the result of IDOL looking into why youth were not being served. This was a solution.

Motion carried.

***AJC Certification Policy**

Ms. Donnellan reviewed the AJC Certification Policy. Please see attached document.

Motion by Ms. Donnellan to approve the AJC Certification Policy as presented. Second by Mr. Young.

The change to the policy is simply to remove references to Live Better Idaho since it no longer exists. The upkeep of the site was too expensive for Idaho Department of Health and Welfare.

Motion carried.

***Designation of Local Workforce Development Areas Policy**

Ms. Donnellan reviewed the Designation of Local Workforce Development Areas Policy. Please see attached document.

Motion by Ms. Donnellan to approve the Designation of Local Workforce Development Areas Policy as presented. Second by Senator Stennett. Motion carried.

The WDC and IDOL have set a goal to go through the different policies and determine which ones are WDC policies and which ones can be IDOL policies. The Youth Incentives policy will most likely live with IDOL. A list will be created to help know which policies the WDC has to review and approve.

Chair's Report

The council has been pushed to be active in their local areas. Ms. Hoehne has been working to reach out to her professionals and educate them on the WDC. She was able to present to SHRM. It is often HR to make or break the ability for an employer to move forward with a program (e.g., apprenticeship). It is important for HR professionals to be knowledgeable about the workforce issues and programs available in Idaho.

Ms. Griffin is part of a heads of HR group around the Boise area; she asked Ms. Secrist to come and talk to the group about the Child Care program and the other things the WDC is working on. They all seemed very interested. It is always nice to ask the WDC staff to come and present to groups if a council member is not comfortable doing it themselves.

Thank you to the Governor for putting together the WDC and trusting the agency to do the work he had envisioned. Thank you to the Legislature for supporting the WDC and passing our budget to continue our work. Thank you to the council members who stepped up to chair committees, for the new programs being put in place, and for agreeing to be on those committees.

Executive Director Report

CNA Study

On November 29, 2021, with support from the Idaho Workforce Development Council, Health & Welfare and Career Technical Education, Senator Lent facilitated a conversation among employers of nursing assistants, educators, and government representatives to identify the critical components of a governance structure. It is evident that the industry (both employers and educators) want to see improvement in the existing practices, but a clear path forward did not emerge. In addition, the provisions in Idaho Code, Title 67 Chapter 94 may require review by the Occupational and Professional Licensure Review Committee to codify the existing structure and/or an updated structure. It was proposed to create a CNA Advisory Committee, co-chaired by Idaho Health & Welfare (IDHW) and Idaho Career Technical Education, to recommend a statutory framework for the governance of nursing assistants in Idaho.

The first meeting of the Committee is going to be next Wednesday.

WDC Office Move & Staffing Update

The WDC has 5 new positions they will be hiring for. The WDC staff is moving to the Capitol Annex to allow for more space for these new individuals. A few staff members will move over this week and the rest will follow over the next few months.

Ms. Secrist shared the new WDC org chart. Please see attached document.

Good Jobs Challenge

Ms. Secrist is hoping awards will be announced in July. If the grant is awarded to Idaho, the WDC will need to hire for 2 additional positions.

The WDC applied for, in partnership with ITD, IDOL and the Governor's Office, to be part of an NGA technical assistance program for apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship for transportation programs. They have opened a lot of the transportation programs for workforce development. USDT is looking to increase registered apprenticeship opportunities. Idaho has an NGA technical assistance representative to help us stand up programs. In Idaho last year, there were 550 heavy equipment operator jobs. Last year Idaho trained 20. This year we are on track to train 60. Part of the challenge is there are no heavy equipment operating training programs in Idaho. Baker brought in their mobile training to a couple places in Idaho. The WDC has been talking to the operator's union, who built a new facility in Spokane, and with the colleges on how to better provide heavy equipment operator training.

There is an opportunity for the WDC to partner with CTE on their regional CTE Connect conference. Ms. Solace will facilitate a panel of council members and other local business members to talk about what employers are telling us through Launch and TPM. It is important to speak to the CTE faculty and share with them what the challenges are and how workforce and education can better collaborate. The first conference is in July in Twin Falls. That is followed by Idaho Falls in August and Lewiston in September.

Ms. Secrist was invited to speak at the Council of Governments West conference. CWI's President will be joining her to talk about the transformation of Idaho's education.

There will be two Idaho Launch events for TPM this summer. One in Pocatello and one in Idaho Falls the first week of August. Regions 5 & 6 are going to be working together on their TPM program and requested assistance getting their program started. The WDC staff is working with local economic development organizations to do TPM kickoff meetings to get employers engaged.

Ms. Solace is beginning work on Age of Agility. The WDC staff and IBE are looking at the 11th or 12th of October. The 12th is preferred but Ms. Secrist will be doing a search to find out if there are competing events. She will also be running the dates by the Governor's Office. The conference will be in the same format as the past few years. IPTV has offered up their studio again. The theme this year is Pathways to Success. This will explore what success is, who are the customers, what the customers want, and how they get what they want. Ms. Solace is looking at doing a segment specific to career advisors and counselors. More details are forthcoming.

Break: 2:10 p.m. – 2:22 p.m.

WDTF Updates

Idaho Trucking Association

Mr. Hodges presented on the Idaho Trucking Association WDTF grant. Please see attached document.

Discussion:

Can you get CDL on the simulator?

- You can use the truck simulator for part of the requirements.

Mr. Hodges has been encouraging some high schools to offer a CDL course as an elective. When the individual would graduate High School, they would receive the paperwork that would allow them to go get their CDL.

When going to High Schools and other diverse populations how are the students performing?

- Trucking is an industry that hires all sorts of diverse individuals. They generally see more women drive the simulator than men. Women generally score higher as well.

What does ITA recommend on not only getting interest but getting individuals into the industry?

- ITA has been focused strictly on high school students. There are members of trucking companies that are part of ITA.
- Most companies have at least 5 trucks a day sitting because they do not have drivers. ITA does job fairs, etc. It is too expensive to bring the simulator to the job fairs. They may only see a few individuals at a job fair where they see a few hundred at a high school.

Has there been any interest from the community colleges?

- They have not had any interest.

It would be nice to have them hand out a Launch flyer to each student who tries the simulator. ITA provide flyers to the students on the next steps to becoming a truck driver.

Next Steps Idaho

Next Steps is built out now and has the functionality that Idahoans need. The focus is now on usage. This year marked a milestone for Next Steps Idaho.

This summer, Next Steps is going to be a top tier sponsor for the Idaho Administrator's Conference. This allows Next Steps to be represented at the conference and have visibility to the group throughout the year.

Next Steps has seen an increase of 25% in website users and a 36% increase in website sessions. Individuals are averaging 5 minutes and 40 seconds on the site. More men have utilized Next Steps than women this year. They accounted for 44.7% of the users. This is positive because the lowest high school completion and go on rates in Idaho are among males. There was an increase of usage in Idaho's rural communities (e.g., Bonners Ferry, Rexburg, Orofino, Preston, etc.). Desktop computers remain the primary tool to access the site but there has been a small increase in mobile users. The Future Finder Quiz and Career Cards remain two of the most popular tools on the site.

Ms. Solace reviewed updates to the Next Steps Idaho site.

Discussion:

Ms. Solace requests that each Council member work on getting an organization page in Next Steps Idaho Connections.

How much money did the council invest in Next Steps Connections last year?

- \$150,000. \$75,000 each year.

There are many employers starting to embed career services into their entity. Is there any outreach regarding next steps to that population/those employers?

- It is embedded in all presentations given to employers.
- The WDC needs to start having strategic reach to Idaho employers.

Chair Closing Remarks

Each Council member shared what they learned at the meeting.

It is great to see the work of the WDC making such an impact in Idaho. There are great opportunities coming for the WDC/Idaho.

Parents are looking for this information and The State Department of Education will be looking to see how they incorporate more of these resources into their programs.

It is important for the council to continue taking the information learned at the meetings and spreading the word to our networks.

NAWB article on maturity model. (ask Wendi for article).

September Meeting in Lewiston

The September Council Meeting is going to be hosted in Lewiston at LCSC. The Council will have an opportunity to tour the new LCSC CTE building that the WDC put funding towards. This meeting will be in conjunction with the CTE Connect Conference. The date of the meeting is September 21. Ms. Nielebeck will be sending out more details soon.

**Motion by Mr. Kolb to adjourn. Second by Mr. Puga. Motion carried.
Adjourned at 3:37 p.m.**