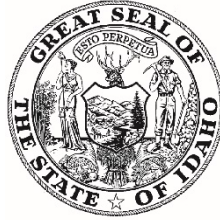


BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

Wendi Secrist
Executive Director



Deni Hoehne
Chair

John Young
Vice Chair

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

514 W. Jefferson St. Boise, ID 83702

Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (Mountain Time)
Location: Clearwaters Conference Room/Zoom

Council Member Attendees: Deni Hoehne, Anna Almerico, Audrey Fletcher, Ben Davidson, Bill Reagan, Brian Cox, Clay Long, Donna Butler, Hope Morrow, James Smith, Jane Donnellan, Jani Revier, Jeff Greene, Jennifer Palagi, Joe Maloney, John Young, Kelly Kolb, Linda Clark, Liza Leonard, Lori Barber, Lori McCann, Marilyn Whitney, Matt Van Vleet, Russell Barron, Sarah Griffin, Sherry Maupin, Tom Kealey, Tom Schultz

Staff: Paige Nielebeck, Wendi Secrist, Amanda Ames, Matthew Thomsen, Rebecca Watson, Stacy James, Sam Emery, Cassie Mansour, Courtney Grubbs

Guests: Matthew Reiber, Terry Butikofer, Christi Gilchrist, Kristyn Carr, Sarah Nash, Jake Reynolds, Heather Leach, April Stanford, Blair Piippo, Bobbi-Jo Meuleman, Bailey Woolf, Caty Solace, Marie Price, Stephanie Hoffman

*Workforce Development Council is hereafter referred to as WDC.

Call to order at 9:01 a.m.

Welcome

Roll Call/Introductions – Quorum Met

****Review/Approve Agenda***

Unanimous consent request by Ms. Revier to approve the December 14, 2022 agenda as presented. Second by Ms. Almerico. There were no objections.

****Approve Minutes from September 21, 2022 Meeting***

Unanimous consent request by Ms. Revier to approve the September 21, 2022 meeting minutes as written. Second by Ms. Griffin. There were no objections.

Budget Report & Launch Spending Update

Ms. Secrist presented the Idaho WDC Budget and a Launch update. Please see attached documents.

One-Stop Committee Items

***WIOA Policies**

Ms. Secrist reviewed the division of WIOA Policies. Please see attached document.

Motion by Dr. Clark to approve the division of WIOA Policies as presented. Second by Ms. Fletcher. Motion carried.

***American Job Center Branding**

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

Motion by Ms. Revier to approve the American Job Center Branding Policy as presented. Second by Mr. Kealey. Motion carried.

Child Care Expansion Grant Update

Ms. Griffin provided an update on the Child Care Expansion Grants. Please see attached document.

Discussion:

How many seats are being added with the \$8 million?

- 809 seats between all the providers.

Have the grant recipients been notified?

- Staff is in the process of notifying them.
- This is the first round of grants. There is still a large list of applicants who are eligible for the grants. The Child Care Committee is going to meet on January 20 to make another round of awards. January 1 is the final deadline for applications.

The Committee has been very thoughtful in reviewing these applications and ensuring that the ones approved have a high likelihood of success.

Do the providers get the funds up front?

- The funds are provided on a reimbursement basis. If the provider is serving under 24 children, then they can request up to 50% of the funds up front. Before the contract is signed by staff, a risk analysis is completed. The staff is following the rules and regulations under ARPA.

Micron Expansion Update from Governor's Office

Ms. Meuleman shared that when the WDC was established, Governor Otter talked about having an entity that is flexible and able to respond to employer needs. This project is bigger and beyond anything the Council has approved before. Governor Little wants to make Idaho a place our children and

grandchildren want to stay, and Micron's expansion will help ensure that Idaho has opportunities for our children. This is a once in a lifetime project.

Ms. Secrist provided an overview of the Micron Project. Please see attached document.

This project provides 2,000 Micron jobs and 15,000 outside contract positions.

Discussion:

Has Micron shared the wages they are planning to pay?

- The Policy Committee, when looking at the waiver request, asked a number of questions from Micron. In the packet the Council can see the anticipated wages.

What is the timeframe?

- Breaking ground this spring and then up and running in 2025. Training is going to start as soon as January. They will have to send people to Taiwan to train on the process.
- Micron is currently recruiting for their Semiconductor Technician Registered Apprenticeship program. The Apprentice will get an associate degree and an RA certificate from USDOL. CWI is working on adjusting their mechatronics program to be more of a semiconductor pathway.

Is it going to be a federally registered apprenticeship?

- Yes. If it is not already approved, it is within weeks of being approved. Related instruction will be provided by CWI. All the on-the-job training will be done on-site.

Could some of the training be done at other institutions to offer some of the opportunity for students in other areas to go work in Boise?

- Yes. The \$9 million requested for education infrastructure will support multiple institutions in expanding STEM-focused training. These will bolster advanced manufacturing statewide, but also feed into jobs at Micron for those that want to relocate.

Are we addressing housing at all?

- The City of Boise is part of these conversations and housing was a large topic of concern that Micron officials discussed with the city.
- We competed with 17 other sites. They chose Idaho because of the opportunity it presented. There are efforts to identify housing for this project.

The State Board was approached by Micron to discuss a project that would expand the knowledge and understanding of the semiconductor industry to students starting in the K-12 system. Their idea was a course around semiconductors to help make it clear to Idaho youth that it is a much larger industry than may be perceived. They are having a follow-up meeting with them to discuss a class that could be offered across the state in high schools. We have to expand the understanding and knowledge base starting earlier in our system.

Do we need to consider a child care partnership with Micron?

- Micron is an applicant for the child care expansion grant. They are starting to break ground on a facility. They did not make funding for this first round but are still in the running for future rounds of funding.

****Micron Employer Grant Exemption Request***

Ms. Secrist reviewed the Grant Exemption Request. Please see attached document.

The Council is not being asked to approve a grant for Micron today. The waiver creates a pathway for Micron to apply for grant funds.

Discussion:

Is this a waiver for Micron or would it extend to other employers?

- This is for Micron only. If another employer makes a request, they will be put through the same rigor as Micron. The Policy Committee will also be discussing what will trigger a waiver request.

Motion by Ms. Revier to approve the employer grant waiver request for Micron as presented. Second by Representative McCann.

When talking about the educator aspect, will Idaho be hiring new educators or training current educators to teach the students?

- It will take both.

In the messaging that goes out to support this, it needs to include that while this is in the Treasure Valley, it will reach across the state. It is important for people to hear that.

If this is approved today, Micron plans to submit their application in either January or February.

The Policy Committee spent a lot of time discussing this waiver. Micron has done their homework on how they can partner with large and small business across the state. If there were another opportunity like this, the entity can request a waiver like Micron, and it would go through the same process. We do have the advantage of having the ARPA funds at this time to make this type of investment.

Motion carried.

****Leading Idaho Investments***

Ms. Secrist reviewed the Leading Idaho Investments. Please see attached document.

Discussion:

This is only the FY23 approved appropriation. The FY24 budget will go to the Legislature in February.

Will this take funds away from simulators that the WDC has already agreed to?

- It decreased the amount we have available, but it does not eliminate the program. We do have one grant project waiting to be approved that includes simulators, but it would have to be funded out of WDTF funds and not ARPA.

Motion by Ms. Revier to approve the Leading Idaho Investments as presented. Second by Mr. Greene. Motion carried.

Break: 11:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

WDTF Evaluation

The Executive Committee frequently discusses whether the WDTF funds are making an impact. It is time to conduct an evaluation again of the WDTF investments and programs.

Ms. Secrist provided an update on WDTF evaluations. Please see attached document.

Discussion:

The WDC has brought on new programs since the last evaluation. The WDC staff is having to consider how to evaluate the effectiveness of these new programs (e.g., Launch).

If the Council was asked to decide today which programs should be invested in, does the WDC have the data needed in order or to choose continuing one program over another? What data does the WDC need to make these decisions?

- The data the WDC has is very robust and helpful.
- Income changes – this is the most critical in many ways.
- A survey of the industries targeted by Industry Sector Grants. Find out if they have felt the impact of the WDC's programs/grants.
 - NIC does a great job of collecting this data on their own. Not all grantees collect this data.
 - It would be nice to find out if NIC has tools they could share with other entities.
- Employer Surveys – was the training successful.
- How much data does the WDC collect from trainees during and immediately after the training?
 - Find out if they see the training as successful.
 - Follow-up after employment (6-9 months later).
 - The WDC does not directly survey participants. This would be valuable with Launch. The mechanics of this kind of survey might be difficult.
- Aggregate Economic Impact – This data needs to be elevated in WDC discussions. This should help drive what programs the WDC should focus on.
- Wage Data – as much information as possible.
- Tracking business expansion and those relocating to Idaho. How many entities are asking for trained employees before moving to Idaho.

****Preceptor Incentive***

Ms. Secrist reviewed the Preceptor Incentive Policy. Please see attached document.

Discussion:

The Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation has agreed to match \$100,000 in funding if the Council approves this program. If the pilot is successful, then industry will be pushing for funding to keep it going.

IDOL is going to be publishing survey results later this week and will share the executive summary with the Council. Everyone knows there is a worker shortage and that there are shortages in almost every healthcare profession. The survey looks at the intentions of existing providers. Prior to the pandemic there was a shortage of nurses and doctors. Coming out of the pandemic, the problem has gotten worse and spread to other healthcare professions. Idaho needs to take aggressive action if it wants to maintain the quality care Idaho has. The rural areas do not have access to good healthcare. One of the biggest things that came out of the survey is that there is not enough training in Idaho to meet the demand. Preceptors are key. If someone enters a training program, they need to be able to do clinicals or a preceptorship in Idaho or the individual is likely to leave the state.

The scope of this problem is too big for just the Council to address. The beauty of this project is the proof of concept which will make it easier to be able to go to the legislature and request more funds.

Motion by Ms. Revier to approve the preceptor incentive program as presented and allocate \$100,000 from the WDTF to the program. Second by Mr. Greene.

Motion carried.

Chair's Report

Ms. Nielebeck shared a preview of the Resources hub. Please see the WDC website link below.
<https://wdc.idaho.gov/resource-hub/>.

Ms. Nielebeck will be adding everyone on the Council to the article of the day emails.

The WDC Executive Committee will be meeting with the State Board of Education Executive Committee on December 20th. These are always valuable discussions and provide a great opportunity to create and maintain relationships.

Executive Director's Report

The WDC Staff introduced themselves and shared what their roles are.

Sherawn Reberry will be joining the WDC staff as the Communications & Program Manager. Sherawn is currently at the West Ada School District and previously worked in Middleton and for IDLA. She has a wealth of experience and knowledge to bring to the WDC.

Jeff Greene, at the September meeting, provided a report on the CNA Advisory Committee. The Committee has come up with a draft governance framework. The WDC is gathering feedback through a survey. There are 21 responses so far. The Committee will meet on January 4 to look at the survey data and if there is a consensus Senator Lent may bring legislation forward this session. This has been a challenging project.

The WDC is working with ITD, IDOL, and AGC on a technical assistance cohort through the US Transportation Department and NGA on how funding can be leveraged through IJIA to support transportation workforce development (specifically apprenticeships). The cohort has a meeting on Friday to talk about the progress of the project.

The legislature is coming into session soon. The WDC does not have any pending legislation. Our budget hearing is on February 8. After the State of the State Ms. Secrist will send out an email sharing what has been integrated into our budget request.

The Idaho CTE Foundation holds an annual student day at the legislature. It will be February 8 at 5:30 p.m. The Council is invited and will be receiving formal invitations. At the event, the guests will learn more about CTE and the opportunity to support the CTE Foundation and the scholarships they provide.

Chair's Closing Remarks

Ms. Hoehne proposed the 2023 meeting schedule.

- March 15, 2023
- June 7, 2023
- September 13, 2023 – outside Boise
- December 13, 2023 - virtual

Motion by Ms. Barber to adjourn. Second by Ms. Revier. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 12:13 p.m.