

**BRAD LITTLE**  
GOVERNOR

**Wendi Secrist**  
Executive Director



**Trent Clark**  
Chair

**B. J. Swanson**  
Vice Chair

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

317 West Main Street, Boise, Idaho 83735-0510

### Workforce Development Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Tuesday, December 17, 2019  
**Time:** 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm (Mountain Time)

**Committee Members:** ~~BJ Swanson~~, Kelly Kolb, ~~Jason Hudson~~, Christi Rood, Todd Schwarz, ~~John Smith~~, Scott Syme, ~~Lori Wolff~~, ~~Jani Revier~~, Tom Kealey, Tom Schultz

**Staff:** Wendi Secrist, Paige Nielebeck, Caty Solace, Amanda Ames

**Guests:**

**Call to Order at 2:02 pm**

**Roll Call** – Quorum not met

**Review Agenda** – No changes to the agenda

**Approve November 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Moved to the January meeting.

#### **Preliminary WDTF Evaluation Results**

Over the past decade, two formal evaluations of the Workforce Development Training Fund have been done to show the effectiveness of the fund and the return on investment for Idaho. The first evaluation was conducted in 2012 and the second in 2017. At the time, the evaluations only looked at Employer Grants. The first Industry Sector Grants were awarded in 2014. The Idaho Department of Labor Economists create the evaluations based on the grants that closed during a determined time period. When the Workforce Development Training Fund was moved to the Council, Ms. Secrist asked that an evaluation of the Workforce Development Training Fund be conducted every year. Idaho Department of Labor suggested to conduct an evaluation every two years since not enough grants would close in a one-year time period to gather statistically relevant data.

Right now, the Idaho Department of Labor and the Workforce Development Council staff are finalizing the 2019 evaluation of the fund. This particular evaluation looks at grants that were awarded and closed out before the Council had a significant role in awarding grants. Ms. Secrist went through the preliminary results of the evaluation with the committee. Please see attached presentation.

**Comments:**

- The \$960 per trainee for employer grants does not add up mathematically. Ms. Secrist will check with Idaho Department of Labor on this figure.

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Why is there information missing from this report and what information is missing?

- Prior to 2014 Idaho Department of Labor asked for Social Security numbers but did not require the numbers for reimbursement. The Council is very strict in requiring Social Security Numbers, as without them we cannot report outcomes. This is the last evaluation that should be influenced by missing data.

What is the return on invest to Idaho from the increase in wages? This is data that all the constituents want to see. If the Council is spending tax payer dollars, the constituents want to see how that is impacting Idaho.

- Ms. Secrist will talk with Idaho Department of Labor to see if the data can be used to estimate this information.

### **Demo of Real-Time LMI Available for Decision Making**

The Council has access to the BurningGlass Labor Insight Tool. This tool will help show what kinds of education and certifications are being sought in job postings and fill in some of the gaps we see in the existing data. Ms. Secrist showed some examples of data reports from the BurningGlass LMI Tool to the Committee.

Who has access to the BurningGlass LMI Tool?

- The STEM Action Center, the Council Staff, and Idaho Department of Labor. Idaho Department of Labor are the ones who use the system the most. The Council Staff has reached out to BurningGlass to ask what the cost would be to get additional licenses. The State Board of Education and the Technical Colleges would like access to the system.

How does this differ from EMSI's Tool?

- EMSI has access to some of the same type of data. The BurningGlass LMI Tool presents the information in a tiered format and has the capability to look at individual skills requested in job openings.

There is a possibility that job postings could be fed into the NextSteps site to help individuals who have degrees find what businesses are hiring for positions with their skill set.

The Council needs to figure out how to use the Workforce Development Training Funds to reduce some of the need in the current in-demand positions. The Council staff would like to create a list of certifications that are the most in-demand, so people know what training they need to get to fill the workforce gaps.

Could the Council crosswalk the most important certifications and see what certifications cross multiple occupations?

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- The BurningGlass LMI Tool has the capability to do that, but the staff has not received training on that functionality yet.

The Committee has been asked to think about how this data could be leveraged to help the Council make decisions.

**Meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm**

DRAFT