

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

Wendi Secrist
Executive Director



Deni Hoehne
Chair

John Young
Vice Chair

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

514 W Jefferson St, Ste 131, Boise, Idaho 83702

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023

Time: 1:00 – 2:00 PM

Council Committee Members: Deni Hoehne, John Young, Joe Maloney, Kelly Kolb, Sarah Griffin

Staff: Wendi Secrist, Sherawn Reberry, Amanda Ames, Matthew Thomsen, Cassie Mansour, Stacy James, Rebecca Watson, Jenny Hay

Guests: Carlie Foster with Lobby Idaho

Call to Order at 1:02 PM

Roll Call – Quorum Met.

Ms. Secrist introduced Ms. Hay, the WDC's newest staff member: a Grants/Contracts Operations Analyst who will work with Ms. Ames on Child Care Expansion Grants.

Review Agenda – No changes.

***WDTF Grants**

Boise State University Industry Sector Grant

Mr. Thomsen presented the Boise State University Industry Sector Grant.

BSU is creating a Semiconductor for All program in response to the need for skilled workforce in the semiconductor industry. The program will target 9-12 grade students, non-traditional students, non-degree seeking students, and tradition students seeking an undergraduate, graduate, or advanced degree in a semiconductor related field. Programs will be provided online/remote, in-person, and in mobile labs. Hands-on activities and summer camps will help engage youth interested in the industry. Students will be able to take dual credit courses. BSU is also working with IDLA to make content available online.

WDTF Request: \$4,996,474.36

Discussion:

- Which funding stream will this come from?
- The \$15m transfer to the WDTF for CHIPS Act projects will provide funding for Semiconductors for All.

Ms. Griffin moved to approve the Boise State University Industry Sector Grant in full. Mr. Kolb. Motion approved.

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College of Western Idaho Industry Sector Grant

Mr. Thomsen presented the College of Western Idaho Industry Sector Grant. This would be funding under ARPA. *The College of Western Idaho application intends to expand the number of trained technicians and meet the needs of the growing semiconductor industry in Idaho. Funding will be used to double the size of CWI's established Associates of Applied Science program in Advanced Mechatronics Engineering Technician (AMET). The program aligns with industry partners' needs for mechanical, electrical, problem-solving, and professional skills.*

WDTF Request: \$4,194,931.13

Mr. Kolb moved to approve the College of Western Idaho Industry Sector Grant in full. Second by Ms. Griffin. Motion approved.

Review Council Meeting Agenda

Ms. Secrist presented the draft agenda for the June 7th Council Meeting. She reviewed the WDC Budget Updates that will be shared with the full Council at the Quarterly meeting.

Discussion:

- Mr. Kolb can help explain the newly implemented grant review process to the Council.
- Do we have any progress on new council members that might be joining the Council in June?
 - Ms. Secrist will reach out to Mr. Reiber at the Governor's office.
- It's likely that the child care presentation won't take a full hour.
 - The Outreach Committee's Career Pathway plan was missing from the draft agenda, so Ms. Secrist will place it in the 2:30 timeframe, right after the child care presentation.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Secrist shared the outcome of the Policy Committee's all-day meeting. She shared with the Committee that they identified minimum thresholds for providers and then the Policy Committee would approve Launch courses.

Ms. Secrist presented an update on In-Demand Occupations. Some of the challenges of the data are that many occupations are suppressed due to the number of people and/or number of employers in Idaho. For this reason, the Policy Committee used a more general data grouping (the first 3 numbers of the SOC code) to determine whether these occupations are in demand. As long as 50% of the occupations have a double-digit growth rate, or more than 100 openings, within a data grouping, the committee proposes that group is considered in-demand.

Discussion:

- The Committee appreciates how much work was done to strike a balance between granularity and generalization.
- The staff shared that we are looking at multiple ways of managing the grant application administration.

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Executive Committee Open Discussion

- Do we have updates on the venue for the June Council Meeting?
 - We will be in the St. Luke's Plaza.
- For September the plan will be to travel to Idaho Falls. We can ask INL to host.
 - The industry deep dive will potentially be on energy.
 - We have been having some trouble identifying an available facility that can hold all of us. Staff are working on this.

Motion by Ms. Griffin to adjourn. Second by Mr. Kolb. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 1:45 PM