

**BRAD LITTLE**  
GOVERNOR

**Wendi Secrist**  
Executive Director



**Deni Hoehne**  
Chair

**Sarah Griffin**  
Vice Chair

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** Wednesday, December 11, 2024

**Time:** 1:30 – 5:00 PM

**Council Committee Members:** Deni Hoehne, Joe Maloney, Kelly Kolb, Sarah Griffin, Scott Bedke, Hope Morrow

**Staff:** Sherawn Reberry, Matthew Thomsen, Denise Hill, Elaine Zabriskie, Jenny Hay, Wendi Secrist

#### Call to Order at 1:50 PM

##### Welcome

**Deni Hoehne, Chair**

- Roll Call
- Review Agenda
- **\*Approve November 21 & 25, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

**Motion by Mr. Maloney to approve the November 21 & 25, 2024 Meeting Minutes. Second by Ms. Morrow. Motion carried.**

#### Council Meeting Debrief

**Deni Hoehne**

- Good participation, tenured group, engaged with great comments
- Burning Glass Institute data, a great deal to define
- Good message from Superintendent Critchfield, changes to senior project process is great
- Continue to integrate new council members into committees
- Council seats open:
  - 1 Union
  - 1 Veteran – have potential candidate
  - 2 Private Sector Industry

#### WDTF Grants for Approval

**Kelly Kolb**

##### **\*BSU Empowering Educators Industry Sector Grant**

Through this project, Boise State University will train pre-service and in-service (focusing mainly on 6-12 grades) educators to leverage AI technologies to foster critical thinking, problem solving, and generate interest in STEM related fields in their students thus creating a workforce that is ready to engage in the industry they choose to enter upon high school or college graduation. BSU is building onto its existing pre-service and in-service educational programs by offering courses that cover GenAI foundations, history, and ethical use. Additionally, the program engages teachers in AI content generation, individualized learning plans, AI STEM problem solving, and Problem Based Learning content creation in which students learn from real life problems such as animal migration due to human population growth. Educators will receive a Graduate Gen AI Certificate upon

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completion of the training. A portion of the funds will go towards stipends for educators attending the AI/STEM Career Day and AI/STEM Innovation Day events that are part of the proposal. In total, BSU will serve 312 educators during the grant. BSU has partnered with Caldwell School District, Middleton School District, and Idaho Digital Learning Alliance. The intent is to work with these three partners during the first year of the grant and expand each year, inviting a minimum of three new districts each year.

- Amount Requested: \$262,671.20
- Discussion:
  - Tool will be used to save time and help students
  - Chat GPT is allowed by some districts
  - What is the role of the STEM AC in the AI experience? They may have taken the lead, but the leadership piece was missing during the development of this proposal. It is not part of their workplan.
  - BSU is standing up to fill the need. Would want them to share what they develop with other Colleges of Education.
  - This is a way to help those that want to use AI, and give those with concerns understanding that there is a safe path
  - This is the beginning and initial buildout, going forward school districts have PD budgets to continue to send teachers
  - Committee was supportive of the “pilot” program, and stipulating the sharing of the program with others

**Motion by Ms. Griffin to approve the BSU Empowering Educators industry Sector Grant proposal in the amount of \$262,671.20. Second by Mr. Maloney.**

- Further Discussion:
  - Add stipulations to ensure how it is handed off to other schools
  - Sustainability will be addressed as training will likely will become part of offerings for early release dates/teacher development days

**Motion to amend the previous motion by Ms. Griffin adding a stipulation that developed curriculum be shared with other institutions throughout the state. Second by Mr. Maloney. Motion carried.**

### ***\*LEAP Housing Innovation Grant***

LEAP Housing is proposing a project to connect communities across all six regions of Idaho through a statewide workforce housing training. This initiative will provide technical assistance to economic development officers, elected officials, business owners, community leaders, and other stakeholders to identify and implement effective workforce housing solutions tailored to their community's needs. The program will deploy experts to deliver a year-long training course, offering various tracks focused on assessing needs, building partnerships, leveraging resources, acquiring technical knowledge, and enhancing leadership skills. By equipping participants with the necessary tools and support, this project seeks to address the workforce housing shortage that hinders

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economic development and employee recruitment. LEAP Housing will provide training to 150 participants over the 12-month project period.

- Amount Requested \$149,592.30
- Discussion:
  - More information on projects
    - Successful workforce housing depends on having partners at the table
    - Trying to provide the playbook to bring these partners together
    - They cannot be the developer for the entire state
    - Resources being provided are to understand the how, why and what it takes to get it done
    - Do not want to have to charge for the program, thus no customization
    - 101 would be self-paced, can reach out to trainers for support
    - Committee recommendation for director to partner with TPM partners highlighting economic development
    - Funds are for 1 person travel the state to train, lead, and facilitate how to bring these partners together to get the job done
    - Housing is part of most communities' priority list, simplified by having TPM involved with an expert leading helps show what federal and local programs are available
    - Ecosystem for workforce housing
    - Fits criteria for Innovation grant
      - Providing training that can be delivered to individuals that need it
    - This is enhancing skills of economic development and community officials
    - Definite skills gap with city and elected officials
    - If we are going to fund this, we should incorporate workforce housing as a priority in our strategic plan (along with child care and the other issues related to workforce development)
    - Work with Idaho Economic Development Association on this to encourage participation

**Motion by Ms. Morrow to approve the LEAP Housing Innovation Grant proposal in the amount of \$149,592.30. Second by Mr. Kolb.**

- No additional discussion

**Motion carried.**

### WDC Strategic & Future Planning

**All**

- Child care was much like housing is now, but was handed to us by Governor
- Council Member Roles & Responsibilities, Goals & Strategies
  - Goals are a part of the Executive Order and cannot be changed
  - Strategies were created and can be adjusted
    - Goal 1 – 3 Strategies are still on point

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- Launch innovative way to match training to those that need training
- Leverage employers, work with other associations, most now have a staff member focused on workforce
- We will always lead the WIOA efforts. One-Stop has come so far, still some work to do...great interaction between VR & IDOL is an example
- Goal 2 – child care, housing, transportation, economic development should live here, do we need to add a strategy here?
- Potentially call out the ongoing measurement and accountability
- Potentially remove baseline, continuous improvement, and effectiveness
- Going to start looking at all partners as a whole, one can affect the other, possible implement statewide goals
- Strategic Plan
  - Same goals and objectives
    - Includes quantitative performance measures
    - Report annually to legislature, tell a story
    - Lacks conversation about collaboration. Need to be better about tracking what we are doing from a collaboration standpoint, and the process used
    - Apprenticeship Coalition is putting together an annual report
    - Success stories need to be available
- WIOA State Plan
  - Continuation of goals and strategies
  - Great work being done on all goals
  - March Council meeting, general review, have alignment with minor changes
- Bylaws
  - May adapt as we integrate STEM AC
- Operating Policies & Procedures
  - Speaks to who can do what
  - Operating budget set by legislature, Executive Director has full authority

**Unanimous consent motion to adjourn by Mr. Kolb. Second by Mr. Maloney. No objections.**

**Adjourned at 4:28 PM**