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, May 7, 2025
Time: 2:00 – 3:30 AM

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

Staff: Sherawn Reberry, Matthew Thomsen, Denise Hill, Wendi Secrist, Amanda Ames, Dee Mooney, Jenny Hay, Stacy James, Chad Lahti, Kimberly Gardner

Guests:

Call to Order at 2:04 AM

Welcome **Deni Hoehne, Chair**

- Roll Call
- Review Agenda
- ***Approve April 11, 2025 Meeting Minutes***

Unanimous consent motion by Mr. Kolb to approve the April 11, 2025 Meeting Minutes. Second by Ms. Griffin. No objections. Motion carried.

WDTF Grant Review** ***Kelly Kolb, Grant Review Chair

Amped Pumped & Controls LLC Employer Grant

Amped Pumped and Control, based in Ponderay, Idaho, is in the process of expanding after securing a securing a lease in Kootenai County. With the launch of a Registered Apprenticeship Program, this expansion positions the company to offer hands-on, advanced training in electrical systems, controls, and instrumentation. The curriculum includes newly released driller courses from the National Ground Water Association, providing employees with access to the latest industry standards and techniques. Training will take place both in the classroom, led by experienced instructors, and on job sites, where participants can apply their skills in real-world settings. The employer will train 16 new employees and retrain 8 existing employees during the grant.

Amount Requested: $974,600.00 (only eligible for $48,000)

Discussion:

- 64% rubric score
- Helpful to see the rubric

Motion by Ms. Griffin to approve the Amped Pumped & Controls LLC Employer Grant for $48,000. Second by Mr. Maloney.

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No further discussion
Motion carried.

Kaniksu Community Health Innovation Grant

Kaniksu Community Health, based in Sandpoint, Idaho, is requesting workforce development training funds to support its Forensic Nursing Services Program. This initiative aims to enhance access to trauma-informed, evidence-based care for survivors of violent crime by addressing the local shortage of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs). Through specialized SANE/SAFE training, the program will equip six local nurses with the expertise needed to provide high-quality medical care, perform forensic evidence collection, and offer compassionate support to survivors. Key goals include training nurses across multiple healthcare organizations, expanding capacity to ensure 24/7 SANE coverage with a sustainable pool of 8–10 trained professionals, strengthening collaboration with law enforcement, victim advocates, and legal partners, and reducing barriers to forensic medical care in rural areas. Grant funding will be used to cover training expenses and purchase necessary equipment, bolstering the community's coordinated response to violent crime.

Amount Requested: $23,291.18

Discussion:

- Rubric score 76%

Motion by Ms. Morrow to approve the Kaniksu Community Health Innovation Grant for $23,291.18. Second by Mr. Maloney.

No further discussion.
Motion Carried.

LCSC Direct Support Professionals Innovation Grant

The Direct Support Professional (DSP) Apprenticeship Program addresses Idaho's critical need for skilled DSPs, particularly in rural and underserved communities. The program will develop an in-house, competency-based DSP curriculum to strengthen workforce retention and elevate care quality. Key components include hiring a DSP Training Coordinator, transitioning to a fully Idaho-developed curriculum by Year 3, and reaching training self-sufficiency by Year 4. Mentor stipends are included to support experienced DSPs who play a vital role in guiding apprentices, despite current CMS reimbursement limitations. Grant funding will support curriculum development, mentorship, and operational costs. LSCS will train 40 participants during the 2-year grant period.

Amount Requested: $266,412.57

Discussion:

- Rubric score 67%
- WDC Staff has been working on this project for over a year
- LCSC stepped up to take on this state-wide training

- Has this worked in other states, will it be sustainable? Wages are low in this field
- There are many elements to this, having evidence that the training is being provided should help with Medicaid reimbursement
- Industry is looking at this from a long-term perspective
- Helping to leverage into higher level jobs
- Multiple state reports done on issue – by Office of Performance Evaluations and stakeholder groups
- Training helps create a more professional aspect to this

Motion by Ms. Griffin to approve the LCSC Direct Support Professionals Innovation Grant for $266,412.57. Second by Mr. Maloney.

No further discussion.
Motion carried.

Sorrento Lactalis Employer Grant

Lactalis American Group is investing approximately $36 million to modernize its Nampa, Idaho facility, enhancing production capacity and operational efficiency. The plant, which employs nearly 930 people, produces mozzarella and string cheese using milk sourced from 40 local dairies. This modernization effort is expected to preserve current jobs and create new roles in production, maintenance, and quality assurance. As part of the initiative, Lactalis will provide training for 131 existing employees to support the transition. Of these, 12 will be trained as trainers, while the remaining employees will receive targeted upskilling to align with the new technologies and processes introduced through the expansion.

Amount Requested: $310,000

Discussion:

- Rubric score 75%

Motion by Mr. Maloney to approve the Sorrento Lactalis Employer Grant for $310,000. Second by Ms. Griffin.

Further discussion

- Great project

Motion carried.

University of Idaho CIIR Industry Sector Grant

The University of Idaho (UI) Center for Intelligent Industrial Robotics (CIIR) is located on the North Idaho College campus, forming part of the 2+2 Computer Science and Robotics degree program. The proposed CNC Machine Tending (CMT) project aims to integrate a CNC machine and a 6-axis robotic arm into the automation curriculum, forming the foundation for a comprehensive manufacturing lab. The lab will train 380 students, equipping them with skills in full-stack automation, including machine operation, programming, system integration, and software management through a manufacturing Execution System

(MES). The project will update current courses, create new certificates, and develop new labs and coursework. The required equipment includes a CNC machine, robotic arm, tooling, and funding for personnel and administrative costs, totaling $249,870. MES software licenses valued at $300,000 have already been secured, with plans to extend the equipment at the Moscow campus for further integration.
Amount Requested: $249,870.50
Discussion:

- Rubric score 70%

Motion by Ms. Griffin to approve the University of Idaho CIIR Industry Sector Grant $249,870.50. Second by Mr. Kolb.

Further discussion:

- In line with past grant support
- Working with mechatronics programs at North Idaho College

Motion carried.

LAUNCH Update — Sherawn Reberry

- April 25th, sent 9,925 final awards to 2025 graduates
- Attended Appian World to present
- Won Global Public Sector award
- Asked to do interviews with media; Route 50

Executive Director's Report — Wendi Secrist

- Recent attendance by Wendi and Sarah at the Boise Metro Chamber Leadership Summit in Sun Valley
  - Theme "Intersection of Education and Workforce"
  - Discussed ways they are becoming intertwined
  - Provided a handout for LAUNCH which included
    - Class of 2024 data, along with some preliminary for 2025
    - Adult LAUNCH information, showing 8,800 participants to date
  - Updated data and new data will be provided in the next legislative session
  - Beginning evaluation to provide outcome data for LAUNCH by the end of summer
  - Sarah's panel participation in Sun Valley was around business and education, how are they engaging
    - Having business see the value of the engagement pays off in the talent pipeline
  - Every group referenced the Workforce Development Council and the great work we are doing
  - There was some legislative presence, very positive

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- Amanda Ames and Dee Mooney are working with the Controller's Office and Amplifund
  - WDC will be transitioning from Community Grants to Amplifund in June
  - STEM AC currently using it
  - After agency integration is complete, will interface with LUMA
  - CHIPS – Matt drafting our Workforce Solutions Funding Order
    - Has to be approved by USDOC
    - Central NY Community Foundation will be fiscal agent but we will provide all the grant development and management for the Idaho projects.
    - 65M to be invested in WF training, 16-17 M in Idaho
  - Matt and Wendi attending the Micron Intermediary Workshop and Kick-off in New York May 19th – 21st
    - Real Life Rosies program visit by Matt
    - Looking at replication in both locations
  - June Council Agenda
    - Wendi will not attend, presenting at the IACI Conference in CDA
  - EcosySTEM
    - Currently working on job descriptions
    - Contract with Idaho Business for Education ends in June
    - A new law allows us to work directly with 4-yr universities
      - 2 of the 4 have turned in letters of intent
      - Decision by May 16th taking effect in July
      - Allows overlap while winding down with IBE
    - Still reviewing STEM AC programs to determine their future status
    - New org chart this July, separate budget until FY27
    - Giving time for evaluation and restructuring

Executive Committee Open Discussion All

- Council Agenda Topics
  - Policy Committee this month could bring In-demand career matrix to Council
  - No WIOA or One-Stop actions, WIOA update based on President's recent budget structure possible
  - Debrief on desk audit, very happy with governance and how we operate
  - One possible finding, did not re-procure One-Stop operator, held until clarity of program reauthorization settled at federal level
  - WDTF Grant Presentations, Semi for All? Other?
  - Industry focus deep dive, cyber national security AI – Eleanor at INL: how do we keep it at the forefront
  - Tech Industry frame it around that
  - Any update from big grants to tech hubs, yes can-do readout
  - STEM Report on outreach for summer, externship

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- Breakouts – how to discuss STEM, ways to advocate for LAUNCH, deepen employer engagement with LAUNCH
- Executive Meeting currently scheduled the day after – cancel, combine, executive session to discuss WS for annual review

Unanimous consent motion by Mr. Maloney to adjourn. Second by Ms. Morrow. No objections.

Adjourned at 3:07 PM