

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

Wendi Secrist
Executive Director



Deni Hoehne
Chair

Sarah Griffin
Vice Chair

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

514 W. Jefferson St. Boise, ID 83702

Quarterly Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, September 10, 2025
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Mountain Time)
Location: Chobani
3450 Kimberly Rd
Twin Falls, ID 83301

Council Member Attendees: Amanda Logan, Anna Almerico, Ben Davidson, ~~Bill Reagan~~, Brandon Dansie, Senator Carrie Semmelroth, ~~Daniel Puga~~, ~~Debbie Critchfield~~, Allison Duman proxy for Debbie Critchfield, Deni Hoehne, ~~Donna Butler~~, Hope Morrow, Isaac Belden, James Smith, Jani Revier, Jeff Greene, Jeff Hough, Jeret Whitescarver, ~~Jody Hendrickx~~, Joe Maloney, ~~Josh Tanner~~, ~~Judy Taylor~~, Kelly Kolb, Lori Barber, Marie Price, Martha Luna, ~~Miren Unsworth~~, Russell Barron, Sarah Griffin, Lt. Governor Scott Bedke, Sean Coletti, ~~Sergio Mendoza~~, ~~Shawn Keough~~, Stephanie Pfeifer, ~~Tia Davis~~, Todd Putren, Tom Kealy

Staff: Wendi Secrist, Matthew Thomsen, Denise Hill, Sherawn Reberry, Dee Mooney, Kimberly Gardner

Call to order at 8:35 a.m.

Deni Hoehne, Chair

Roll Call/Introductions – Quorum met.

Note: The WDC Staff made a good-faith effort to upload the agenda for this meeting to Townhall. This action was not completed. Per Townhall, noting this mistake in the minutes remedies the action. Council Leadership is aware. – Denise Hill, 9/10/2025.

****Review/Approve Agenda***

A unanimous consent motion was made by Ms. Logan to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Ms. Revier. There were no objections.

****Approve Minutes of March 13, 2025 Meeting***

A unanimous consent motion was made by Mr. Greene to approve the March 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes as presented. Second by Ms. Revier. There were no objections.

Budget Updates

Wendi Secrist, Executive Director

- FY25 Year End Reports – WDC

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL Fiscal Year 2025 Budget For the Period July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

WDTF				
State Expenditure Category	Budget	Actual	Under/(Over)	Actual %
Salary & Benefits	\$ 518,300	\$ 440,322	\$ 77,978	85%
Personnel	\$ 518,300	\$ 440,322	\$ 77,978	85%
Administrative Services & Supplies	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,532	\$ 4,468	55%
Communication Costs	8,000	3,938	4,062	49%
Computer Services & Supplies	25,121	26,354	(1,233)	105%
Contracts, Events & Other Council Activities	333,441	333,441	(0)	100%
Employee Development, Memberships & Subscriptions	6,400	16,969	(10,569)	265%
Employee Travel Costs	25,000	14,611	10,389	58%
Government Overhead & Insurance	11,138	9,924	1,214	89%
Rentals & Operating Leases	27,500	22,654	4,846	82%
Operating Budget	\$ 446,600	\$ 433,423	\$ 13,177	97%
Grand Total	\$ 964,900	\$ 873,745	\$ 91,155	91%

Trustee and Benefits	
Grant Reimbursement Spending Authority	\$ 16,258,500
Innovation	2,659,909
Launch	418,471
Outreach	4,504
Employer	227,033
Industry Sector	4,673,923
TPM	144,694
Ending Balance	\$ 8,129,967

WDTF Financial Summary		WDTF Revenue			
WDTF Cash Balance 6/1/2025	\$ 27,547,429	Month	Transfer In	Interest	Collection Cost
Revenue	9,715	July	\$ 552,299	\$ 103,477	\$ 21,080
Interest	94,370	August	1,178,340	106,637	5,399
Payments	396,925	September	23,371	113,923	16,057
WDTF Cash Balance 6/30/2025	\$ 27,254,589	October	589,035	109,736	8,992
Obligated Employer Grants	804,344	November	862,460	108,184	19,798
Obligated Industry Sector Grants	2,909,031	December	17,436	106,385	12,491
Obligated Innovation Grants	1,147,938	January	437,712	106,018	9,796
STEM-Focused Grants	9,213,235	February	692,007	101,511	44,291
Obligated Outreach Projects &		March	13,754	90,414	18,070
Allocated Budget	250,000	April	461,725	93,660	8,154
Preceptorship	138,000	May	1,204,285	89,508	9,315
*LAUNCH	6,401,275	June	9,715	94,370	17,268
FY25 WDTF Admin Costs	-	FY25 Totals	\$ 6,042,138	\$ 1,223,823	\$ 190,711
Obligated Balance	\$ 20,863,824				
Unobligated Balance	\$ 6,390,765				
Proposals Under Review	876,307				
Unobligated Balance if all funded	\$ 5,514,458				

*Includes all Launch funding made available for FY22 - FY25.

- Workforce Training fund spend at 91%
- Trustee & Benefits spending authority is \$16M, dispersed \$8M
- June 30th cash balance \$27.25M, obligated \$20.8M

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
Fiscal Year 2025 Budget
For the Period July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

WIOA				
State Expenditure Category	Budget	Actual	Under/(Over)	Actual %
Salary & Benefits	\$ 124,700	\$ 115,439	\$ 9,261	93%
Personnel	\$ 124,700	\$ 115,439	\$ 9,261	93%
Administrative Services & Supplies	\$ 1,000	\$ 542	\$ 458	54%
Communication Costs	-	-	-	0%
Computer Services & Supplies	-	-	-	0%
Contracts, Events & Other Council Activities	31,425	24,594	6,831	78%
Employee Development, Memberships & Subscriptions	17,575	17,119	456	97%
Employee Travel Costs	-	-	-	0%
Government Overhead & Insurance	-	-	-	0%
Rentals & Operating Leases	-	-	-	0%
Operating Budget	\$ 50,000	\$ 42,255	\$ 7,745	85%
Grand Total	\$ 174,700	\$ 157,694	\$ 17,006	90%

YARG				
State Expenditure Category	Budget	Actual	Under/(Over)	Actual %
Salary & Benefits	\$ 11,100	\$ 10,256	\$ 844	92%
Personnel	\$ 11,100	\$ 10,256	\$ 844	92%
Administrative Services & Supplies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%
Communication Costs	30	-	30	0%
Computer Services & Supplies	-	-	-	0%
Contracts, Events & Other Council Activities	10,000	9,946	54	99%
Employee Development, Memberships & Subscriptions	-	-	-	0%
Employee Travel Costs	-	-	-	0%
Government Overhead & Insurance	-	-	-	0%
Rentals & Operating Leases	-	-	-	0%
Operating Budget	\$ 10,030	\$ 9,946	\$ 692,007	99%
Grand Total	\$ 21,130	\$ 20,202	\$ 101,511	96%

Trustee and Benefits	Beg Balance	Apprentice Disbursements	Third-party Disbursements	End Balance
Grant Reimbursement(s) Spending Authority	\$ 636,500	\$ 10,252	\$ 89,891	\$ 536,357

- WIOA 90% spend
- YARG ended 2024, 96% spend managing final payouts

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
Fiscal Year 2023 - 2025 Budget
For the Period July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

ARPA WFDT			
Category & Grantee	Budget	Obligated	Disbursements
Idaho Launch	\$ 20,337,642	\$ 20,660,295	\$ 19,942,953
Talent Pipeline Management (TPM) – Regional Coordinators	\$ 2,162,001		
1 Percent Consulting		\$ 290,138	\$ 290,138
Center for Advanced Energy Studies		\$ 550,000	550,000
Clearwater Economic Development Association		\$ 168,325	168,325
Coeur d'Alene Area Economic Development Corp		\$ 198,528	198,528
College Southern Idaho		\$ 247,106	247,106
Idaho Associated General Contractors		\$ 286,156	286,156
Idaho Manufacturing Alliance		\$ 248,998	200,898
TPM Training & Lightcast Licenses		\$ 171,750	171,750
Reserved for CHIPS Act Projects*	\$ 26,000,000		
Boise School District - DTEC Welding ISG		\$ 325,972	\$ 325,972
BSU Semiconductor Cleanroom ISG		1,759,972	-
CEI Mechatronics ISG		499,999	499,999
CSI Mechatronics/Engineering ISG		1,414,605	281,579
CWI Mechatronics (AMET) ISG		4,194,931	1,609,868
ISU Semiconductor Technician ISG		994,472	78,840
Micron Employer Grant		13,498,100	-
NIC Mechatronics ISG		734,896	405,144
UI/ASAI (NGEM) ISG		1,039,557	-
UI Semiconductor Cleanroom ISG		1,100,000	-
Next Steps Idaho Investments	\$ 110,758	\$ 110,758	\$ 110,758
Idaho Launch Website & Marketing	\$ 350,000	\$ 497,542	497,542
Salary	\$ 691,600	\$ 691,600	\$ 299,328
Operating	\$ 348,000	\$ 316,300	\$ 91,485
Grand Total	\$ 50,000,000	\$ 50,000,000	\$ 26,256,369

*ISG = Industry Sector Grant

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Fiscal Year 2023 - 2025 Budget

For the Period July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

ARPA Child Care			
Category & Grantee	Budget	Obligated	Disbursements
Child Care Grants with Disbursements Open	\$ 14,989,552		
ABC Above and Beyond the Classroom		\$ 72,318	\$ 23,829
Acuarela LLC		120,000	8,022
Apples and Oranges		90,000	64,230
Armbruster Kids LLC		138,547	77,966
Ashley's Daycare & Montessori		152,665	132,336
Baraka Childcare		60,000	53,339
Bilingual Adventures Academy		180,000	83,186
Boise State Children's Center		393,705	367,659
Castleford Joint School District		270,000	229,844
City of New Meadows		600,000	489,638
Creative Corner Learning Center LLC		180,000	35,546
Ducks in A Row Child Care LLC		180,000	151,182
Future Leaders Academy 2 LLC		238,619	-
Gem Kids Infant and Toddler Center LLC		180,000	-
Genesee Joint School District #282		284,962	94,588
Giraffe Laugh		1,823,947	1,395,524
Huckleberry Montessori		176,635	-
Idaho Falls Family YMCA		204,500	135,917
Ignite Idaho Family Resource Center		96,449	52,596
Jabbers Kids LLC		180,000	125,413
Jellybeans PlayCare Center		179,957	51,434
Kreative Kids Academy TF LLC		1,288,988	891,538
Lilypad Childcare LLC		160,000	28,988
County of Lincoln		450,000	100,000
Loly's Daycare LLC		400,000	128,508
Magic Stars Spanish Preschool		180,000	92,649
Mayra's Spanish Preschool and Daycare		195,000	80,266
Nampa School District		571,495	222,455
National Law Enforcement Foundation		2,962,475	30,000
Our Future Society LLC		177,100	113,385
Tamarack Resort		166,724	-
The Advocates		455,000	376,815
Tiny Tots Learning Center		235,620	151,381
Treasure Valley Waldorf LLC DBA Wildflowers		180,000	134,179
United Way of South Central Idaho (E-Street)		386,674	386,674
Whole Child		378,455	257,695
YMCA Treasure Valley		965,311	-

Category & Grantee	Budget	Obligated	Disbursements
Child Care Grants with Disbursements Closed	\$ 14,305,544		
<i>Baby Bee Daycare</i>		\$ 360,000	\$ 360,000
<i>Boys & Girls Club Ada County (Kuna)</i>		1,404,000	1,404,000
<i>Boys & Girls Club Lewis Clark Valley</i>		1,680,000	1,680,000
<i>Boys & Girls Club Magic Valley (Rupert)</i>		318,000	318,000
<i>Bright Stars Childcare</i>		150,000	150,000
<i>Bruneau-Grand View School District</i>		165,000	165,000
<i>Care House Learning Center</i>		88,860	88,860
<i>Chita's Kids Preschool</i>		94,756	94,756
<i>Cookies N Milk Daycare</i>		351,500	351,500
<i>Kaniksu Community Health Clinic</i>		375,000	375,000
<i>Kuna Joint School District #003</i>		75,000	75,000
<i>Little Me with Daycare</i>		67,090	67,090
<i>Lollipop Land LLC</i>		1,022,456	1,022,456
<i>Lost Rivers Medical Center</i>		270,000	270,000
<i>Lucky Duck Preschool</i>		2,198,900	2,198,900
<i>McCall-Donnelly Joint School District</i>		452,000	452,000
<i>Micron Technology Inc</i>		100,000	100,000
<i>Saggy Britches LLC dba the Barnyard Daycare & Learning</i>		179,068	179,068
<i>Storybook Adventure</i>		2,250,000	2,250,000
<i>Teton Regional Economic Coalition</i>		1,170,000	1,170,000
<i>The Little Red Roost Child Care</i>		101,671	101,671
<i>Tiny Town</i>		616,950	616,950
<i>Wonderschool</i>		849,700	849,700
Salary*	\$ 644,904	\$ 644,904	\$ 551,435
Operating Budget	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 50,840
Grand Total	\$ 30,000,000	\$ 30,000,000	\$ 21,509,004

* Includes expenditures FY22

- ARPA Child Care
- 50.8% Disbursement
- Created over 4000 seats
- Lost 5,000 seats during pandemic, Health & Welfare would have full data

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
Fiscal Year 2025 Budget
For the Period July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

In Demand Careers				
State Expenditure Category	Budget	Actual	Under/(Over)	Actual %
Salary & Benefits	\$ 1,238,300	\$ 487,629	\$ 750,671	39%
Personnel	\$ 1,238,300	\$ 487,629	\$ 750,671	39%
Administrative Services & Supplies	\$ 6,000	\$ 1,674	\$ 4,326	28%
Communication Costs	30,317	24,717	5,600	82%
Computer Services & Supplies	19,416	14,162	5,254	73%
Contracts, Events & Other Council Activities	2,878,129	2,330,041	548,088	81%
Employee Development, Memberships & Subscriptions	7,500	559	6,941	7%
Employee Travel Costs	20,000	5,283	14,717	26%
Government Overhead & Insurance	11,138	8,993	2,145	81%
Rentals & Operating Leases	22,500	27,009	(4,509)	120%
Operating Budget	\$ 2,995,000	\$ 2,412,438	\$ 582,562	81%
Grand Total	\$ 4,233,300	\$ 2,900,067	\$ 1,333,233	69%

Trustee and Benefits			
Grant Reimbursement Spending Authority	\$70,766,700		Expenditures \$ 22,048,424

Other Transactions		
Month	Transfer In	Interest
July	\$ 20,000,000	\$ 50,600
August	-	70,647
September	(5,000,000)	128,102
October	20,000,000	107,904
November	-	122,184
December	-	147,997
January	20,000,000	137,900
February	(62,200)	141,537
March	-	174,681
Apr	20,000,000	168,646
May	-	173,023
June	-	228,048
FY25 Totals	\$ 74,937,800	1,651,269

- LAUNCH
 - 70% Spend
 - \$70M Spending Authority
 - \$22M disbursed by end of fiscal year for Class of 2024. Students have 3 years to expend their grants.
- FY26 Budget Reports – WDC & STEM AC
 - July expenses only at present
 - \$3.7 in unobligated funds, Executive Committee approved \$362K in grants yesterday
 - Revenue received is split 60% to Adult LAUNCH, 40% to grants per Council direction
 - Discussion/ Question 3% cut from the Governor
 - 3% hold back of general funds per direction of DFM
 - WDC does not have general funds, STEM AC does
 - Organizational changes have addressed it by reducing 2 positions, and \$350K in

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savings from contracts

- In-demand Career Fund is also dedicated; however, \$1.5M was already shifting from OPEX & Personnel to grants, so decided to offer holdback of 3% which will require legislative approval.
- LAUNCH will level out at \$2.9M operating cost per year
- Vacancy report, giving back 2 positions from STEM
- Review of contracts, boards, councils, and commissions
 - WDC is Federally required by WIOA
 - Will be reporting spending
 - Possible future conversation around virtual versus in-person meeting frequency to save funds

- FY27 Budget Submission

- Combined into one agency
- Bare bones budget
- Headcount 14 WDC + 6 from STEM
- Total Maintenance \$84.6M
- \$75M is LAUNCH
- Consolidation with STEM AC
 - Justification, purpose
 - Savings of 2 FTP, \$339K in general funds, \$2.9M in dedicated Spending Authority
 - Discussion
 - Not aware of comparisons from other groups
 - Every agency is different, so comparison is difficult
 - STEM Foundation is now independent
 - Proposing that STEM AC dedicated fund be dissolved
 - STEM AC Board will be discussing the unobligated balance next meeting to prepare for a grant cycle
 - Unobligated – board discussed next meeting
- Legislation Changes
 - Changes are being proposed for what is pertinent only and what is affected by the integration
 - Wendy Horman is House sponsor, Senate sponsor in process
 - Cleanup of some language
 - Adding 72-1202.d.i – 72-1201.d.iii
 - Brings in the STEM responsibilities
 - Addition of 72-1201.d.iii.6
 - Added reporting on general fund expenditures
 - New Council Committee “Program Impact & Evaluation” to align what we have been reporting on creating appropriate performance measures
 - How will the institutions access STEM funds?
 - Computer Science grants, will be restructured going forward
 - Council will approve expenditures

- Sections of STEM Statute to be repealed

One Stop Committee Updates

Wendi Secrist

***WIOA Funding Distribution, Recapture & Reallocation Policy**

- Cleaning up current policy
- Striking outdated federal reference
- Adjustments typically made Dec – Mar, reality is \$.5M in rapid response fund that acts as a buffer for unexpected events
 - Equus could serve more adults if transfer earlier in the year
 - Policy is giving us the ability to decide to transfer Title I funds between Dislocated Worker & Adult earlier in the program year
 - Approval not needed by the Governor
- 2 service providers, adding clarity
- Service providers must spend 80% or we can pull back for special projects or return the funds to service delivery areas that are performing thus adding clarity: cannot return funds if they don't meet the 80%
- Add age groups to align to federal law
- Chart of timelines has expired, updating and generalizing

Motion by Ms. Griffin to approve the proposed changes to the WIOA Funding Distribution, Recapture & Reallocation Policy as presented. Second by Ms. Logan.

Discussion: None

Motion carried

***WIOA WDC vs AE Policies**

- Administrative Entity has received and updated several policies
- For the benefit of the USDOL
- Only change is updated dates of “last updated” column and/or elimination of policies that are no longer active

Motion by Ms. Price to approve the proposed changes to the WIOA WDC vs AE Policies as presented.

Second by Ms. Duman.

Discussion: None

Motion carried.

***WIOA Title I Dislocated Worker to Adult Transfer Request**

- \$350K from Dislocated Worker fund to Adult
- From 2 service areas SDA 1 & 3 to distribution across SDA 1,2,3,4, & 5
- Keeping service delivery consistent

Motion by Mr. Maloney to approve the movement of funding in the amount of \$350,000 from WIOA

Title I Dislocated Worker to Adult LAUNCH. Second by Ms. Griffin.

Discussion: None

Motion carried.

Council Discussion – Childcare & Housing

- Workforce Housing

Gerald Hunter, Idaho Housing & Finance
Association

- US Secretary of Labor visited Idaho August 6th, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development visited August 19th
 - Huge issue for both is workforce development and workforce housing
- Affordability issues, growth in wages have not kept pace with housing costs
- 2-3 areas being worked on with initiatives
 - Education & Counseling
 - Prepare families, households, & individuals to be better renters and owners
 - Home buyer education program online
 - 15K have been trained so far
 - Tools being used are endorsed by all the national mortgage companies
 - Questions are answered by a personal counselor
 - Financial Basics program online
 - Renter focused
 - Budget, credit score
 - Free counseling
 - Historically looked to real estate for marketing program, recently turned to businesses to promote as employee benefit
 - Landlord training coming, along with post purchase
 - Downpayment systems
 - Partnership in North Idaho
 - Coeur d'Alene realtors, bring dollars in to create a down-payment fund
 - Revolving loan program
 - Working with home builders
 - Community investment
 - Land Donation
 - Has become pervasive
 - Rental focused
 - Land donations/ financial donations
 - Recently happening near Chobani
 - Land Trusts becoming a new thing
 - Deed restrictions in place, donate to the group
- Questions?

- Private activity bond
 - Federal resources
 - Tax exempt bonds
 - Allocation to state based on population
 - Certain uses –
 - Single or multiple residences
 - Tax code limits on what can be done
 - Single family homes with reduced interest rates
- How does a business get involved
 - Email Gerald, he will connect you appropriately
- Superintendent Critchfield has financial literacy program
- Can we play off the 2 programs?
- Is it a parallel path or is there any interface?
- Would like to compare notes and see what could be done
- Higher education should tap into that as well
- How is the interest from local governments so far, any trends?
 - Some local governments have no funding
 - Others seem to have resources, putting into land trust
 - Hit and miss
 - More opportunities in surplus property
 - Philanthropic approach is current effort
- Takeaways
 - Great resources for employers
 - Great partnerships
 - Great opportunities

• Childcare Cost Sharing Model

Commissioner Jeff Hough, Bannock County

- Bannock County launched this program in October
- SE Idaho is a childcare desert, 50% of Idaho families live in a similar “desert”
- Estimated \$478M loss annually for Idaho’s income
- Problems are Quality, Affordability, and Accessibility
- Tri-Share Model – KIDS First Coalition
 - How are parents both employed and taking care of their kids without childcare, source: Household Pulse Survey 2024 Employment Table 5 Cycle 9
 - 22K cut work hours
 - 19K unpaid leave
 - 14K used vacation or sick leave
 - 25K left or lost job, compared to 5K in 2023
 - 36K women & 20K altered work-arrangements
 - Tri-Share Model
 - Divides cost equally between

- Private (employers)
 - Parents (employees)
 - Public/County funds
 - Eligibility based on household size and income
- \$25K seed money used in Bannock County
- United Way is financial agent
- 3 goals
 - Increase workforce retention numbers
 - Roll out state-wide
 - Local solution to a problem
- Questions?
 - Who manages the employee information
 - Employers
 - If lose government funds it goes to dual model, 1/3 employer 2/3 employee
 - Next phase for possible public funds
 - Meeting with local counties
 - 2 legislators are participating with the coalition
 - Functioning model for session this year
 - Health & Welfare has \$45M available for Childcare, eligibility must hit ICCP mark which makes it challenging to administer
 - Will provide update at March Council meeting

Break

Industry Deep Dive – Food Processing

Facilitated by Lt. Governor Scott Bedke

- Adam McKee, Chobani
 - Manages People Team
 - Expansion will grow company by 1200 employees
- Mike Roth, Si-Ellen Dairy
 - Produce 1 million pounds of milk per day
 - 30 years in business
 - 140 – 145 employees
- Laurie Lickley, Rancher
 - Operations in Idaho and Nevada
 - Gate to Plate
 - Partners with True West in Jerome

1. Markets Trends

- a. What should we be paying attention to and how can we help?
 - i. Chobani
 - 1. Try to hire with experience

2. Infuse education with robotics, tech trades
3. Excite high schoolers about the trades
4. Relationship with CSI/ Launch
 - a. Building partnership, to directly enter the workforce
5. Hiring Veterans programs? 4 – 5% currently
- ii. Si-Ellen Dairy
 1. Robotics is not the complete answer
 2. Working with live animals
 3. Huge need for more employees
 4. Trends
 - a. Availability of labor, water, feed, being a good neighbor
 - b. Invested \$40M to create a better system with better outcome
- iii. Ranching
 1. Seeing 41% reduction in production
 2. \$2B contributed to Idaho economy each year
 3. Struggling in the packing side
 4. Costs remain high
 5. Hard time recruiting labor
 6. A lot of no-shows
 7. Missing softer side/ skills
 8. Idaho is an export market
- b. Other issues
 - i. Hodge podge of regulations
 - ii. Need to understand the importance of agriculture in these communities
 - iii. Need to get into high schools and define agriculture as an industry
 - iv. More exposure to the environmental experience
 - v. Dairy highly regulated
 - vi. Guest worker program changes
2. What can we do
 - a. Work with economic development
 - b. Support for immigration reform
 - c. LAUNCH, Chobani helped fund 12 students
 - i. Mechatronics, electrical
 - ii. Looking at New York's model to build internships

Group 1 – Lunch/Group 2 – Tour of Chobani

Group 2 – Lunch/Group 1 – Tour of Chobani

Idaho LAUNCH Success Stories

- College of Southern Idaho Scholars Partnerships
- Support provided for LAUNCH through counselors and mentors

Facilitated by Dr. Sherawn Reberry

Dean Fisher

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- Chobani participating in mentorship
- Metallica Scholarship Initiative
 - A major workforce education program that provides direct support to community colleges to enhance their career and technical education curricula. These courses provide skills and services to students looking to enter a conventional trade or other applied learning program.
- Top Gun Trucking McCoy Peterson
 - 2024 graduate & a LAUNCH participant
 - Increasing female participants
 - Initial conversations about LAUNCH provide relief to students and adults. Cost is a large barrier.
 - No official partnerships with employers, remain independent but we continue to have conversations with those that will hire from our trainees.
- Non-Traditional Educator Preparation Program Cheri McKenzie
 - Why can't the school pay?
 - Can't pay for credits, can pay for hotel & conferences
 - \$60 – \$90 per credit for continuing education
- Lincoln Elementary Teacher Lynn Wilson
 - Surprising and rewarding, makes me feel young again, taking it to the next level
 - Changes perspective, humbling
- Chobani Brandon Dansie
 - Chobani Scholars
 - Advertised through Chobani workforce
 - Currently 35 openings
 - Working with CSI & High Schools
 - Single point of contact at each
 - Chobani covering 20% not paid by LAUNCH and \$1000 for books

Questions:

- CDL Students almost doubled, 85% through LAUNCH
- CSI increased enrollment attributed to LAUNCH, males especially, closing the gap, especially CTE
- 50% of the people asked would not have taken the training without LAUNCH
- How many are getting help from their current business? Minimal/ bigger companies have some internal training, but small/medium sized companies lack resources

Policy Committee Updates

Hope Morrow, Policy Committee Chair

- ***WDTF Industry Sector Grant Policy Update**
 - Update to training intent language
 - Add 3 bullets to Grant Review Committee application evaluation items
 - Additional bullet regarding failure to comply with quarterly reports
 - Added additional performance metric
 - Update to training definition in WDTF Policy
 - Additional bullets to fund availability

- Additional statement for compliance terms
- Additional bullet for performance metrics

Motion by Ms. Revier to accept the WDTF Industry Sector Grant Policy Updates as presented. Second by Ms. Price.

Discussion:

- Using experience to make the policy more robust
- Statistics from IDOL and Bureau of Labor Statistics using methodology prescribed by Bureau of Labor Statistics for consistency across the nation

Motion carried.

In-Demand Careers for Class of 2026

- Identifies career options that provide strong job prospects, wage growth, and accessible training
- Follows Idaho Statute 72-1204
 - Determined by 4 factors
 - Job Openings 40%
 - Wage Potential 20%
 - Idaho Economic Strength 20%
 - Education/ Training Needs 20%
- No appeal process, data driven
- Methodology adopted for 2025, used for 2026 as well
- Policy will continue to be refined as new data sources become available

Break

WDTF Evaluation Report & Next Steps

Kimberly Gardner

- Independent evaluation from IDOL
- Will be completed every 2 years moving forward
- Some missing data currently, final copy available at the end of October
- Still refining ROI on both programs
- Evaluation period 2018 – 2024
- Both WDTF and LAUNCH for Adults are increasing wages and helping fill in-demand jobs in Idaho industries
- Wage gains are significant compared to statewide averages
- 76 WDTF grants, 7,414 trainees
- Biggest gains in construction
- 9,800 Adult LAUNCH participants since inception
- Average wage increase for Adult LAUNCH participants is 39.6%, WIOA participants average 19.8%
- Retention data coming

Out of School Network Update & Social Media Promotion

Anna Almerico, Idaho Out of School Network

- Mission is to build, advocate for, and lead a strong out-of-school community
- Vision: Every Idaho child has an opportunity to learn and thrive through participation in a high quality out-of-school program
- Mission & Vision in action
 - Increase public awareness of programs
 - Ensure our youth are workforce ready
 - Train out-of-school professionals
 - Building Blocks for Out-of-School Time Quality improves programs
- 30 TMC (Think Make Create) Labs across the state
 - 500 educators trained
 - AmeriCorps engaged
 - 90,000+ youth interactions
 - Innovation Grant recipient
 - TMC trailers. 28 across the state, many are owned by the site
 - Increase the STEM readiness of Idaho's workforce
 - Career Awareness Elementary School
 - Career Exploration Middle School
 - Career Preparedness High School
 - Theory of change through quality curriculum
 - Building confidence
 - 172 pre-apprenticeships completed
 - 43 STEM Supervisors trained
 - Workforce readiness assessment being implemented

Future Tech @ CEI

Lori/ Hope

- Battelle Energy Alliance Applied STEM Institute at the College of Eastern Idaho was announced in late August in partnership with Frontier Credit Union
 - Projected opening August 2026
 - Applied STEM Institute opening Fall 2026
- Industry partnering with institution to build STEM pathways
- Battelle Energy Alliance \$5.5M profit dollars chosen to give back to Idaho

Chair's Report

Deni Hoehne

- Opportunity for Idaho to lead
- Data helps us make good decisions

Executive Director's Report

Wendi Secrist

- Federal Programs Update
 - House Bill includes \$9.6B for USDOL – 30% decrease from FY25

- Eliminates 5 duplicative programs
- \$1.1B for Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act State Grants (block grant) which is a 63% cut and eliminates adult and youth programs
- \$285M for Registered Apprenticeship – level funded from FY25
- 880M for Job Corps – 50% decrease
- Eliminates Senior Community Service Employment Program (run by Commission on Aging in Idaho)
- \$25m to grow cybersecurity workforce
- Renames Workforce Pell Grants (approved as part of the One Big Beautiful Bill” to Trump Grants
- One-Stop Partners continue to have conversations on how partners can support impacted participants
- Executive Agency Legislation, Idaho Code Clean-Up & Budget Holdbacks
 - In addition to changes associated with STEM AC integration, submitted proposal to eliminate section of WDC statute tied to youth employment programs. It isn’t needed – it was a holdover from Great Recession funding requirements.
 - Asked to reduce headcount by positions that have been vacant for over six months. WDC does not have any; STEM AC are included as part of the overall consolidation package.
 - Review contracts for costs that exceeded inflation – nothing for WDC or STEM AC.
 - Review boards, councils and commissions – may look to shift WDC meetings to virtual to save money, eliminating STEM AC board.
 - Review travel policies – we comply with state policies.
 - Identify unobligated dedicated fund cash balances – reviewing any additional unobligated money in the In-Demand Career Fund, WDTF unobligated funds are for grants.
- WIOA Procurements
 - In the beginning of the process
 - May ask for volunteers to review the proposals

Unanimous consent motion to adjourn by Ms. Revier. No objections.

Adjourn 4:30 PM