

Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County
April 1, 2021 2:30-4:00pm
Meeting Minutes

WIB Members Present

Tom Aasheim
Robert Blake
Becky Degendorfer
Chris Duffy
Jennifer Germain
Kristin Guild
Susan Jambor
Hyon Kim
Chad Kulas
Cindy Larson
Tony Lusiba
Karin McCabe
James McClean
Yolanda McIntosh
Sean Mullan
Camila Mercado Michelli
Don Mullin
Paul Nikstad
Sheila Olson
Koami Pedado
Elisa Rasmussen
Trish Stevens
Julie Thiel
Chris Tolbert
Carly Voshell
Brooke Walker
Ramona Wilson

Members Absent

Lisa Guetzkow-EA
Channon Lemon-EA
Gaye Massey-EA
Jim McDonough-EA
Sheri Riemers-EA
Tanya Velishek-EA
Tracy Wilson-EA

Staff/Guests Present

Ling Becker, Workforce Solutions
Becky Milbrandt, Ramsey County

Call to Order

Chair Chad Kulas called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m.

Announcements

Kulas read the following announcements:

- Welcome to the Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County meeting. We especially welcome our partners and guests.
- Congratulations and welcome to new member Channon Lemon, VP of Economic Development with the Saint Paul Chamber.
- Meetings Law makes it possible for the WIB to have meetings via telephone or other electronic means when an in-person meeting is "not practical or prudent because of a health pandemic or an emergency declared under chapter 12." Under these circumstances, the law requires that all votes be taken by roll call. We plan to do this through the chat rather than a voice roll call. After each motion, please respond with a YES or NO in the chat so your vote can be recorded.
- Article 8 of the WIB's Bylaws state that "...members shall not cast a vote on any matter regarding the provision of services by the member or by an entity that the member represents or on any matter that would provide direct or indirect financial benefit to such member or the immediate family of such member". If you believe you have a conflict on any items on today's agenda, please abstain from discussion and voting. The one exception called out in the bylaws is that all members may

vote on the Local Plan, which we will be voting on today. It does not mention the Youth Plan, also being voted on today, so please abstain if needed by typing “Abstain” in the chat.

- WIB members and guests are invited to attend any committee meetings. All agendas and minutes are available on the WIB’s webpage. Due to the pandemic, all meetings are being conducted via video conference. Instructions to participate are included in the meeting invites and are posted on the WIB’s webpage.
- The next WIB meeting is Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 2:30. The location is yet to be determined but will likely be through Zoom.
- At 3pm, we will shift from the regular meeting to the Breaking Ice Equity Training. The training will take place using a separate Zoom link which was included in your meeting invite and is also listed at the top of the meeting agenda and in the meeting packet.

Land Acknowledgement

Blake read the land acknowledgement.

Approve Consent Agenda

April Meeting Agenda

February Meeting Minutes

WIB Financial Report

2021 WIB Budget

Motion (Rasmussen/Jambor) to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2021-2024 Unified Local Plan

Becker provided an overview of the Local Plan and highlighted the four key Plan themes:

- Expand use of technology
- CareerForce site location change
- Focus on equity
- COVID-19 pandemic response

Becker explained that the North Saint Paul lease will not be renewed when it expires in November and the resource room will be closed. The closure of this location still aligns with the federated model since services will be provided at locations in the community, including the suburban area.

Motion (Blake/Guild) to approve the 2021-2024 Unified Local Plan as presented. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Unified Local Youth Plan

Becker explained that both the PY20 and PY21 Plans reflect the same information except for a proposed shift in the Outreach to School program for the 2021-2022 school. Instead of having interns in just a few schools, Becker would like to explore opportunities to provide drop-in sessions at all schools.

Motion (McCabe/Kim) to approve the revised PY20/SFY21 Unified Local Youth Plan Update and PY21/SFY22 Unified Local Youth Plan as presented. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Director’s Report

Email Communications: There was consensus that the bi-weekly email updates are beneficial. Milbrandt will continue to send them.

One Year COVID-19 Event: Becker thanked Walker and Kulas for their help with the webinar.

Despite the technical issues, the event was a success.

Reappointment Process: A memo outlining the modified reappointment process will be sent to all members up for reappointment. Becker encouraged current members up for reappointment to apply for another two-year term.

Workforce Development Fund: Becker will send an email update on the changes DEED is proposing to the way these funds are appropriated. As currently proposed, the MN Association of Workforce Boards is opposed to DEED's changes.

2020 Annual Report: Becker shared a page from the Report showing the banner graphic with the theme, Lifting Up. The report will be digital only this year. Milbrandt will send the link once completed.

Equity Training: Breaking Ice

The Pillsbury House Theater Company lead members and guests in an equity training session called Breaking Ice.

Adjourn

Upon conclusion of the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

The next WIB meeting is June 3, 2021, 2:30-4pm.