

Name of committee Chair: Barb Chaffee

Name of committee: Policy and Issues Committee

1. What is the mission of this committee?

In partnership with DEED, MAWB, and the GWDB, the Policy and Issues Committee provides solution-oriented information and guidance to policy makers through research and systematic and inclusive discussion in all matters affecting workforce development.

2. What makes this committee's work distinct from other MAWB committees?

Provide a safe environment for open and honest discussion on proposed policies and identify issues affecting the workforce system. Able to take the time to brainstorm, vet ideas, seek solutions, and identify root causes.

3. In what way(s) does this committee's work contribute to the mission of the greater Association?

The Minnesota Association of Workforce Boards was incorporated in 1994 and represents the interests of workforce councils and local elected officials in Minnesota. The Association provides a central forum for the partners to discuss common interests, develop policy consensus, share successful job training strategies, and maintain lines of communication with state and federal governments. It is the mission of the Minnesota Association of Workforce Boards to provide Minnesota with a skilled and competitive workforce through engaged and proactive local elected officials, workforce boards, and staff.

- Strong and equitable policies will support the development of a skilled and competitive workforce.
- Open communication on this forum between partners ensures cohesion across the workforce development system.

4. What goals would you like to achieve with this committee in 2021?

-Ensure information sharing between DOL, DEED, and Local Areas

-Look at DEED polices that don't allow for necessary flexibility and recommend solutions (example: Advocate for the removal of the 20% waiver cap for State DW or Rapid Response), with focus on policies that don't need statutory changes.

-Identify policies that are inequitable or contribute towards inequities and recommend changes

-Bring in partners from DEED and other agencies as necessary to contribute to committee discussions, supportive of an integrated state-wide system