



## MAWB Business Services/Economic Development Committee Minutes

March 11, 2021

**Summary of Special Presentation:** Dr. Steve Hine, former director of the Labor Market Information Office at DEED, shared a presentation on his research regarding the future of work. The research includes an assessment of the “automatability” of certain jobs. Technology may not eliminate jobs as much as it will change how the job gets done. The data was graphed on different charts which organized information by sector, by pay, and other metrics.

### Employer-Related Updates: Items Pertinent to Employers or Employer Services

- M State
  - Currently updating short-term training web resources – hoping to reach those impacted by unemployment/displacement. They are taking existing resources and packaging them differently. Data from RealTime Talent will be used. The project is currently in Phase 1. Phase 1.5 will bring in external partnerships. The goal is to get people into short-term training and then into the job market.
  
- Minnesota Chamber of Commerce
  - [March 23<sup>rd</sup> Webinar](#): Report on Immigrants’ Contribution to Minnesota’s Economy
  - April 29<sup>th</sup>, release of [Minnesota 2030 Report](#).
  - May event with Jamie Merisotis, CEO of Lumina Foundation.
  
- Minnesota Association of Professional County Economic Developers (MAPCED)
  - Presentation end of March about federal policy impacts on local-level economic development. More info to come.
  
- State Agencies
  - DEED, Liz Jennings
    - April is Tech Month. [General info](#) and [virtual events](#) information available on CareerForceMN.com.
    - VRS and SSB are holding an assistive technology webinar on April 14<sup>th</sup> for businesses.
    - Inviting employers to speak at the four Explore Careers webinars on April 6, 13, 20, and 27 to speak about their tech openings and any initiatives they have around recruiting and hiring tech employees (no matter what industry they are in: healthcare, construction, etc.) Contact [liz.jennings@state.mn.us](mailto:liz.jennings@state.mn.us).
    - DEED’s LMI team published [an article](#) on job forecast through 2028. Much of this data was pulled before researchers knew what the true impact of COVID would be.

- DEED, Jackie Buck
  - The full calendar for April's Tech Month will be out soon. Assistant Commissioner for Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Anisa Hajimumin is organizing a forum about immigrants in the tech sector.
  - RESEA restart – calling UI applicants has already started. Workforce Strategy Consultants are following up with employers.
- DoLI, Dan Solomon
  - [Dual Training Grant for Pipeline open](#) for applications through April 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - [Minnesota Registered Apprenticeship Expansion \(MNRAE\) grants open](#).
  - Jan. 22, [announced funding awards](#) for Youth Skills Training.
  - [March 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM](#): Dual-Training Pipeline Speaker Series event “Developing Talent through Mentoring” with Deon Clark, owner of TCI Solutions and a military veteran.
  - [Upcoming Apprenticeship events](#) with industry focus.
- Local Areas
  - *Anoka County*: Closed until June 1 for public-facing services. Still administering virtual services. Still waiting on Opioid grant. They continue to advertise Easy Virtual Fairs (career fairs) online.
  - *Career Solutions*: Now offering the Inclusive Workforce Employer (I-WE) designation in their local area. For Tech Month, they are setting up an event with one of their local high schools. This event model was used during Healthcare Month and was a big success. The EPIC event – career day for high schools which usually has enormous turnout – will be on February 25, 2022. CareerONE summer youth program will run activities in-person.
  - *Central Minnesota (CMJTS)*: Increase in DW applications. Employers are pushing for an in-person career fair at the end of May or start of June. They are planning some summer camps in person.
  - *City of Duluth*: Partnering on the Building Strong Communities project. Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training (NEMOJT) Virtual Job Fair on April 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>: [jobseeker registration here](#).
  - *Ramsey County*: [March 24<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 PM event](#): “One Year Later: COVID-19, Employment, and Ramsey County.” Guest speakers, Erin Olson – RealTime Talent and Tim O’Neill, DEED.
  - *Southeast Minnesota (WDI)*: Employer Development Forum on April 22nd. Commissioner Grove will be the keynote speaker. The event will also include several breakout sessions.
  - *Southwest Minnesota*: CDL training – employers need drivers. Minnesota West Community and Technical College helps get trainees through the permit test. Have been talking to employers about state and federal resources. Also seeing an increase in calls about DW.
  - *Washington County*: Meeting biweekly with Chamber presidents. Easy Virtual job fairs have been successful.