



## Operations Committee Minutes

September 23, 2021

Meeting convened at 9am with approval of agenda and minutes.

### **Marc Majors, ETP**

- Discussed sudden retirement of P Jones, DOL will identify a new FPO, working with other DOL staff right now.
- DOL will be talking to 4 LWDAs to determine readiness to serve customers post-COVID, not a monitoring visit but trying to understand what TA may be needed
- Discussed I-WE program, Vicki voiced that the program originated in Region 1 and other regions are doing it through an MOU with them, we need to discuss this more before moving forward. Work group will meet Sept 29 with Elena, Anne, Vicki, and Dan representing MAWB.
- ERAG changes—Marc will talk more with Vicki one-on-one about this and then provide more info to the group

### **Lorrie Janatopoulos/Mike Lang, CareerForce/Job Service**

- Discussed priorities:
  - Agricultural Wellness Committee work
  - Workforce shortages in long-term care and bus drivers—looking at long-term solutions and current crisis
  - Involved in Afghan refugee resettlement planning
  - Good Jobs Now, 85k calls have been made
    - Received feedback from MAWB listening sessions and working on next steps
  - Transition of systems coordination to DEED Operations division
  - Statewide library systems collaboration—new staff member will be working on workforce development
- Discussed CareerForce/Job Service org chart, programs and services
  - RESEA—UI will do a first call, JS will do a follow up call, orient people to services and resources. No current plans to do group activities, calls give a better opportunity to connect more directly
  - In-person appts underutilized, many still want virtual services
  - Discussion around GJN, MAWB requested script around how DW program is discussed as referrals are down, DEED will share this with us

### **Ben Baglio, GWDB**

- Discussed local and regional plans, updates in 2022
- Looking for ideas for ARP uses
- New Americans Task Force will be launching

#### **Assistant Commissioner Evan Rowe, Operations**

- Leads operations for DEED
- Taking over IFAs, MOUs, subsequent designation, are rehiring for Sean's role
- State Dept of Admin authorizes all leases, not DEED, there is a lot of complexity
- Looking forward to working closely with MAWB and having open communication

#### **Abdullahi Mohammed, Contracts Office**

- Presented on the contracts process at DEED—[slides are here](#).

#### **Leading with Equity: Digital Divide**

- Reviewed MAWB's Leading with Equity leadership (chairs: Ling, Carrie, Nicole)
- Discussed [information](#) that came digital divide discussions and what MAWB can do. Anne stated we will look at the how issue is framed in the MAWB legislative platform.
- We will consider this information and discuss further at October Ops meeting.

#### **Christen Pentek, ETPL**

- Presented on Skills, Non-Degree Credentials, and Credential Attainment. See [slides](#).
- MAWB would like to be engaged in this work and Christen will connect with Jeanna as needed.

#### **Directors Report**

- Discussed upcoming quarterly Executive Committee with DEED leaders and priority topics
- Discussed strategies for training dollars, will revisit with training workgroup

#### **Legislative Committee**

- Reviewed WIOA recommendations, discussion around the need for a summary document first, the details are important for staff, Jeanna will work on summary document
- Reviewed advocacy plan document, timing may be a bit ambitious, Jeanna will follow up with an email on next steps.

#### **Business Services Committee**

- Did not meet in September, Janelle Wald Kovar will take over as chair in October.

#### **View other committee minutes:**

- [Jobseeker Services](#)
- [Policy and Issues](#)

**Meeting adjourned at 1pm.**