



MAWB Operations Committee Minutes

March 24, 2022

The Chair called for approval of the agenda and the previous months' meeting minutes. Rick Roy moved approval of the agenda and minutes. Jinny Rietmann seconded the motion. The agenda and minutes were approved.

- It was recently announced that Marc Majors will be the new Deputy Commissioner of Workforce Development. He will continue to cover many responsibilities from his former role as Director of the Employment and Training Programs until the position has been hired.
- There has been an ongoing issue with the funding streams in Workforce One. The Operations Committee raised this issue again at the last meeting, asking to reopen the topic for discussion and reassess to find a solution. A small group of MAWB members will gather for a meeting with DEED's Director of Finance and Contracts to discuss the issue further.
- Performance negotiations will start soon. The State Plan was submitted without performance numbers because the Statistical Adjustment Model was not working. DEED will have a deeper conversation with DOL tomorrow on this.
- The national Department of Labor will be meeting with Minneapolis, Rural CEP, Ramsey, and Northeast about the COVID-19 "Are You Ready" meetings which were held last October.
- DEED recently had a webinar with the Department of Labor on federal performance. They intended to record the sessions, but there were technical issues. No recordings were made. DOL is working on recording the content of the sessions separately so the information can be shared.
- The employees from DEED who attended the DOL trainings will be meeting together to discuss what they learned. DOL indicated that they are out of technical assistance and training dollars for the year, but there may be more funding available in June for additional Minnesota trainings.

Leading with Equity

- See slides. The Leading with Equity leadership team presented an update on the initiative. During MAWB's strategic planning process, the group identified the importance of doing internal trainings on racism and cultural awareness along with external initiatives to support workforce professionals.
- The Leading with Equity team discussed the idea of doing the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) with the Directors. Discussion ensued.
- The Training Work Group will prioritize trainings about equity, potentially focusing on current events/issues.
- The Leading with Equity team will also work with staff to create a comprehensive list of recommended speakers, training opportunities, and workshops about equity that local areas have already done (along with comments about the experience and the content) to be used as a resource by MAWB members.
- A new "equity icebreaker" activity will start, where members take turns suggesting content for a start-of-meeting learning or discussion opportunity.

- NEXT STEPS: The group agreed it was important to try and connect more frequently with Anisa Hajimumin and Maureen Ramirez at DEED about their work. The team will try to get a meeting set up soon.

Marketing

- Another goal/outcome of the strategic planning process was to hire a marketing consultant for MAWB. The committee discussed possible goals, outcomes, and strategies for this project.
- Committee members suggested adding a metric around employer services to the goal, along with changing the metrics to an “increase in enrollments” in programs, “building awareness” of local board services, and creating a metric around equity.
- Various ideas were presented: having marketing should be “adaptable and customizable” to each local area; needs to be in partnership with DEED and the CareerForce brand; some local areas do not want to lose their individual identities in this project; maybe MAWB should be the hub of advertising for local boards. No consensus was reached.
- NEXT STEPS: A small group will be formed (the Marketing Committee) to discuss further.

Presentation on Open Meeting Law

Sonya Guggemos, Senior Staff Counsel at the Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust (MCIT), provided an overview of requirements for Minnesota’s Open Meeting Law. [See slides](#). The presentation was not a statement of who/which Boards/entities were required to comply with the law: it was simply an overview of what the law entails. Each committee member should identify for themselves or with their legal counsel whether they need to comply with the Open Meeting Law.

Presentation on Areas of Substantial Unemployment (ASU) Data

See slides.

Hot Topics

- Workforce Compass: This new tool is being promoted through the National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB). It may be useful for local areas but is very expensive. Anyone attending the NAWB Forum this year is encouraged to attend that session to see if it’s worth additional follow-up.
- Tracking Performance for MFIP: The committee was asked for ideas/recommendations about metrics for tracking MFIP performance. Placement into SSI was suggested as one method. If you have other ideas or examples, please send to Elena Foshay.

Committee Reports

- NACo: see email.
- GLETA: No report.
- WF1 Advisory Committee: Had a discussion on electronic storage. First phase of plan will focus on enrollment and planning. Continuing with WF1 Connect training.
- Training Work Group
 - Meeting this month focused on brainstorming ideas for MAWB Summer Meeting topics/speakers. Current theme is “Returning Back Better” (maybe not those exact words), with a particular focus on engaging the disengaged.

- Policy & Issues Committee: No update.
- Jobseeker Services: Met yesterday; [see notes](#).
- Business Services/Economic Development Committee: No update.
- Legislative Committee: Discussed legislative topics from this session.