



MAWB Operations Committee

December 7, 2023

Following introductions and an icebreaker, the Chair convened the meeting at 9:06 AM.

Approval of the minutes, moved by Barb C., seconded by Deb B., 12 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Hot Topics

- Driver's Licenses
 - Youthprise is a good partner on addressing the barriers to getting a driver's license across the state. <https://youthprise.org/drivers-license-to-work/>
 - This past September had the highest number of jobs requiring a driver's license.
 - Drivers license classes used to take place in the high schools but that is no longer happening. Also limited access to a car to bring to test.
 - Small group to work with GWDB Construction Committee (Roy Smith) on this topic: Carrie, Elena, Ling, Deb.
- TANF Youth Program
 - The state hasn't requested its amount from the federal government yet. Please let Kay know if you are interested in receiving funds and if you want the same or more allocation.
 - Any adjustments/new ideas to make TANF more effective? (to be shared back with Kay)
 - Duluth is using more for GED completion – this is the greatest need for folks who are eligible instead of work experience. Similar experiences in other areas.
 - It has been difficult to spend the money on work experience & isn't what is most needed among eligible folks. Some areas are able to use it for work experience but more flexibility would be helpful.
- Local/Regional Planning
 - What are you planning related to engagement, given the short timeline for input?
 - [Survey of employers](#) and a forum – survey was 65 folks, forum was ~40s. Feeling concerned about the various asks all going to employers all at once.
 - More plans to reach out to employers, less so jobseekers. May be related to the time constraints and lack of understanding for what jobseekers would be meaningful.
 - Engagement is planned through working group committees in Duluth which is made up of engaged employers.
- Job Quality
 - Having conversations around employers voluntarily adopting job quality elements and encouraging adoptions. Also wondering about how these can fit into local/regional plans.
 - Jeanna is working with DEED about a roadmap of how implementation will look like. Jeanna will be sending out a draft to the committee this afternoon. There is already a log of existing materials, but a roadmap may be helpful for local areas.
 - Parts of the Drive for Five components can relate to the job quality elements.
 - Local plans also have a question related to job quality elements.

- Liz is most in the know on “train the trainer.”
- This may be an opportunity to make MAWB more prominent, building a uniform slide deck that could be used when talking to chambers, other folks needing this information. There is an existing slide deck that would need refining to make it more applicable to employers.
 - Who would be interested in helping Jeanna refine slide deck: Ling, Elena.
- Business Services: No movement on them yet.
- No news on P2P.
- Drive for Five Letter of Support
 - Contact with MN State Jess Nyberg: a few areas of the state should have had their local colleges reach out to you about working together.
 - Tina has heard from Alexandria Tech. Barb hasn’t heard.
 - Should MAWB send a letter? Or should each local workforce board send a letter?
 - It may make more sense for local boards to send a letter, not a joint MAWB letter.
 - General conversation around what is required for MAWB to participate in a letter of support.
 - Must be a program that impacts the entire state.
- Chicago Convening Debrief
 - Most successful part of the meeting was spending time with state partners.
 - Infrastructure funding and working with state agencies sessions were very interesting and informative of how Minnesota could replicate some of these partnerships.
 - Presentations on the impact of AI on the workforce. Elena will share slides when they are released. This included what industries who will be most impacted. Potential speaker for MAWB.
- ESST Work Experience
 - Federal SCSEP is not doing this and wondering how other areas running into any questions. Duluth asked SCSEP and heard that they were planning to do it.
 - Currently on hold waiting to hear from DEED.
- “Top 10 List”: Items for collaboration with DEED
 - How we go about collaboration with DEED?
 - Future of Service of Delivery
 - Funding for communication person at DEED
 - From Deb:
 - We would like to work together to elevate the visibility of the public workforce system, including local workforce boards which are the backbone of the state’s workforce system. Local workforce boards across the state are leading development of locally-responsive strategies and implementation of programs and services that are responsive to the needs of local employers and jobseekers.
 - We operate an infrastructure of brick and mortar locations, and DEED is a critical partner we depend on to help. We’ve had some challenges over the pandemic and post-pandemic years around DEED partner commitments to maintaining and contributing to these brick and mortar locations – particularly with VRS and Job Service. We need help finding a solution that works for everyone.
 - We hope to sit down with DEED soon to develop a shared vision for CareerForce locations, how services are delivered and by whom, how affiliate sites fit in, and how in-person services are prioritized.
 - From Erik:

- 1. Bus Services 2. REA 3. CF system.
- Who would be on the working group?
 - This would be more time condensed working group than the Policy and Innovation Committee.
 - By the end of 2024 we want a shared vision of what service delivery looks like with DEED.
 - Jeanna can do pre-work. Please send Elena & Jeanna an email if you are interested in being a part of a working group.
 - Curtis Anderson, Erik Aamoth, Jinny Rietmann, Deb Bahr-Helgen, Elena Foshay.

IFA/MOU Check-In

- Where are you at with your IFA conversations?
 - Duluth is close. Elena to share what information she can.
 - Tina, Marie, and Elena are using a cash contribution for ABE.
 - Tina: moving along with the comprehensive site, however, a bit of a hang-up with Perkins CTE. We have two affiliate sites that we are stuck on. Has anyone gotten anywhere with affiliate sites?
 - No movement on payment for affiliate sites.
 - Nicole: VR has been paying their share for Career Lab/Reception services ongoingly. If JS isn't going to pay their share they will need to cover more hours, right now they do 5 hours.
- Potential for satellite location rather than affiliate where space could be used for services in place of affiliate sites.

GWDB Updates

- In the middle of WIOA planning – state/regional/local plan guidance is out.
 - Pulling together strategic narrative for the state plan that will be open for public comment on 1/15 – 2/15
 - A special committee is being put together to review both the state and local/regional plans. They will also help with ideas in sharing what is included in the plans.
- Working on workforce analysis for infrastructure projects with Governor's office. Goal to have information to MAWB by Feb/March.
- Looking at starting monthly/quarterly newsletters to go out to local workforce boards.
- Subsequent designation process with certifying your board – a new letter will come out next week to the state being able to certify your regions.
- Upcoming policy update work – Sonji and Wadena from Economic Development are working together on this. Information will eventually be shared with program directors after approval from deputy commissioners. Sonji is open to hearing about input committee members. Please reach out to Sonji as soon as possible with a list of priorities. Committee members can reach out to Jeanna with priorities as well.
- How do we make sure the state-wide committees are working with the local board committees?
 - There were some lessons learned from the Colorado Workforce Development Board. Trying to understand the needs in these major sector committees so that partnerships can be made with state and local committees.

Director's Report

- Planning for Leadership Development Training
 - A survey was sent out to gather input. Received 13 responses. Top training topics: WIOA training, best practices in workforce development, and board development.
 - Training audience and delivery method would be decided based off of the training topic.
 - Maybe something more about building sector partnerships and general leadership skill development.
 - Maybe something Bob Lanter could help?
- Marketing Follow-Up
 - Presentation from Becky A was shared with committee members after the last meeting. Got stalled around if folks wanted to put money towards this.
 - May need to focus on marketing within MAWB (website, etc.). This would mean finding funding for consultant and figuring out what it is that we are marketing. ****how do we elevate local workforce boards****
 - Create survey for local boards how best to proceed with this.
 - How much would local boards be willing to contribute?
- EDWH Subcommittee Meeting
 - Ling and Jeanna presented on workforce development at Sunday's meeting in conjunction with AMC Annual Conference.

MAWB Committee Updates

****the committee ran out of time and will hear an update next month****

- Jobseeker Services
- Business Services
 - December 14th meeting will have a presentation on Earned Sick and Safe Time
- Legislative
- USCOM
- NACO
- WF1
- GLETA

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 25th from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM in-person & over zoom!