



MAWB Operations Committee

September 26th, 2024

Voting members present: Elena Foshay, Tina Jaster, Nicole Swanson, Heather Gleason, Mark Jacobs, Deb Bahr-Helgen, Jinny Rietmann, Erik Aamoth, Carrie Bendix, Kevin Cardille, John Preuss, Becky Milbrandt, Dina Wuornos, Tammy Biery, Marie Domiano, Rick Roy

Chair, Elena Foshay convened the meeting at 9:02 AM.

Approval of the August minutes moved by Mark, seconded by Deb. 16 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Approval of today's agenda moved by Mark, seconded by Jinny. 16 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

CareerForce MN Director Updates – Jeanna Fortney

- Calling in from a conference in New Orleans and presenting later today.
- Staffing
 - Veteran's Program Changes
 - Recent cuts to grant over the last few years – two positions have been reassigned.
 - Employer Engagement
 - Two new hires: Justin Olson in Southern MN & Robert Willis in the metro.
 - Central & NW Positions reopened.
 - Once everyone is hired, Liz Jennings (supervisor) will do training and will hear from Liz about getting engaged with the LWDAs.
 - Duties of this role: it will vary based on the local area and be based around what existing work is being done in the local areas – goal is to not step on toes & double up on work. The position will also support with Drive for 5 awardees and employers in those industries. Will also work with workforce development consultants in areas.
 - Regional staff placements were decided based on labor market information and geographic constraints.
 - Job Service Coordinator: Heather Anderson, taking over for Art Larsen.
- Service Delivery Working Group
 - Met virtually & in-person
 - Developed top ideas for innovation & how DEED and MAWB work together
 - Next Steps:
 - Members will submit feedback on ideas.
 - Convene virtually to discuss priorities and establish implementation steps.
 - Future Ops meeting discussion of DEED's perspective of what is job service in Minnesota – performance measures, etc. & discussion of referrals to the dislocated worker program
- Minnesota Workforce Summit
 - Held in September 12 in Duluth.

- 300+ attendees – over 100 people on the waiting list.
- Many people from all over the state in attendance.
- Many MAWB members attended & participated in panels/discussions on best practices.
- Discussion of merging the Workforce Summit with MAWB Summer Meeting.
- Referral Calls were adjusted to be done via calls given that UI changed their model. UI has had greater performance in this new model. Invite Jim to future meeting to discuss this.

Executive Director Update – Cate Duin

- Ama sends her regrets for her inability to be here given travel and many conflicting priorities. Please send Cate any requests for Ama to discuss at the next meeting.
- Elena & Cate were invited to a DEED training on TEGL 10-23. The training will next be provided internally and then provided to us.
- Upcoming financial training next week on 9/30. Please forward to staff. The training is being recorded and sent out following the training. If you have questions that come up during the training, please note them and send them to us for future trainings.
- Planning for the joint MAWB/GWDB has begun.
- Following up on communication with Ama and DEED. Clarifying that MAWB requests come through Cate and Elena to be tracked and passed along to DEED.
- Onboarding continues to go well. Cate has finished visiting all 16 local areas. Takeaways from these will be shared later in the meeting. Meetings with external partners continue.
- The legislative committee & Cate are working with DEED and Workwell to discuss legislative priorities as well as tracking political climate given that it is an election.
- The federal funding bill passed yesterday. HELP committee remains at an impasse. The house and the senate are working on better alignment on the WIOA bills.
- Cate to connect with ABE on IFA processes.
- MNState ETPL questions about getting their programs on the list. Maybe this is something that DEED's ETPL coordinator.
- Confirming that the Financial Training is being recorded & how folks are to access it in the future, and who is going to update.

MN Apprenticeship Program Update – Erin Larsen

- Erin shared and update on the Apprenticeship Program team and what all the program can help with.
- The program is operating under a 5 year strategic plan which is made up of 4 priorities included developing registered apprenticeships in new industries, expanding existing registered apprenticeships, increasing diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and aligning the state system to the national apprenticeship system.
- Erin shared the new apprenticeship sponsors that have been added this summer.
- Minnesota Received Fundings including Formula Funding for 5 years and \$4.7 million competitive grant that goes for 3 years. See the full break down and how local boards can work with the apprenticeship program in Erin's slides [here](#).

WDA-Level Statistical Adjustment Model Performance Goals Feedback – Michael Prideaux, Amy Carlson, Ahmed Mohidin

- Michael Prideaux walked the committee through the WIOA Local Area Statistical Adjustment Model (WIOA LSAM). Please find the full presentation [here](#).

GWDB Updates – Katie McClelland

- Sector Strategy
 - Roll out will be covered during MAWB/GWDB joint meeting.
 - Work has been done to ensure inter-agency coordination has been well planned before it is rolled out.
 - Dashboard is being built that will have job, project, and funding data.
- Subsequent Designation
 - Clarifying questions went to DOL, once they receive an answer – the letters will be sent out.
- Updates from GWDB meeting yesterday
 - GWDB open position closes tomorrow for a role to support inter-agency coordination.
 - Received Working Families Fund to help with capacity building to help with sector strategy and federal funding implementation.

Hot Topics

- AMC Board Rep and GLETA Rep replacement – Cate
 - AMC Board Rep: Mark Jacobs
 - GLETA Rep: Dina Wuornos (Greater MN), Nicole Swanson (Metro)
 - Motion: Carrie, seconded by Tina. 16 ayes, 0 nays.
- Microsoft Teams plan (how we use it, first steps, October plan) – Cate
 - The team is being built and you will be added in the coming weeks.
- Onboarding Visits Takeaways – Cate
 - Cate shared takeaways from her visits from her onboarding meetings with all of the MAWB directors.
- Regional Planning Grant Monitoring Report – Cate
 - Cate discussed the MAWB Regional Planning Grant Monitoring process & report.
- Integrated service delivery discussion debrief – Elena
 - Working group members shared takeaways from the working group meetings and discussion of future goals/asks of the group.
- New DOL sector strategy framework – Elena
 - A new framework was launched in September and is comparable to the Colorado model. Consider having relevant staff look at in and the accompanying webinars. Available on Workforce GPS.
- MOU/IFA status updates – Elena
 - Committee members shared their progress.
- OSO Guidance Update – Elena/Nicole
 - Concerns raised to Katie who is inquiring more on this.
- Legislative Visits and Best Practices – Jinny

- Share best practices from legislative visits coming to your area.
- RFP for Fiscal Services – Heather
 - Are there any areas that contract out fiscal services? Dina to share her RFP & Nicole to share information.
- [NYE Annual Conference Save the Date](#): May 12-14th, Minneapolis – Deb
 - The planning committee is looking for sponsors from employers in your area. Contact Deb if this is of interest to you.
- Salary Survey Update – Bob
 - 13 respondents – analysis will hopefully be done by October meeting.
- October Ops will be virtual given the fall retreat.
- Winter Meeting Topics – Bob
 - Bob gathered ideas from the committee on topics for the winter meeting.
- VRS Changes – Nicole
 - Intake process is going fully remote – opportunities to discuss with partners on this.
- New State Paid Leave Laws
 - Does it apply to Youth Work Experience & CCEP Placements.
 - Kay Tracy is working on finding an answer. Elena to update as they become available.
 - Takes effect in 2026.

The committee concluded at 2:03 PM.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 24th, from 9am-2pm via Zoom