



## **Business Services/Economic Development Committee**

February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 9:30-11:30am

The committee was called to order at 9:33 am.

**MAWB Business Services/Economic Development Feedback Survey Results:** The committee will adjust to bi-monthly and reduce its time to 90 minutes. There was also a few ideas shared. The idea of submitting notes in advance of the meeting was also shared.

### **Featured Topic: Employer Engagement Events & Takeaways from the Minnesota Chamber Summit**

- Networking opportunities and learning topics were extremely helpful.
- Great presentation on AI and great breakout sessions.
- It would be great to invite Whitney & hear some of the employer feedback from the event.
- Thinking of job quality components and other emerging ideas.
- Considering different ideas to target new employers and meeting them at events that they are already attending. Also sharing that collaboration & education with cities/county leaders to have a united front with workforce & economic development.

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

- M State
- Minnesota Chamber of Commerce
- Economic Development Association of Minnesota (EDAM)
  - Summer Conference June 11-13 – consider submitting a presentation to the planning committee
- Minnesota Association of Professional County Economic Developers (MAPCED)
- State Agencies
  - DEED
  - VRS
  - DLI
    - Dual Training Grant Request for Proposal  
<https://www.ohe.state.mn.us/mPg.cfm?pageID=2196>
    - Dual Training Grant: Legal Cannabis Industry  
<https://www.ohe.state.mn.us/mPg.cfm?pageID=2620>
    - Apprenticeship funding opportunities  
<https://www.dli.mn.gov/business/workforce/apprenticeship-funding-opportunities>
  - RETAIN
    - Presented to AFL CIO Union early in the week.
- Local Areas
  - Rural Minnesota CEP
    - Moving back with I-WE meetings.
    - Bemidji layoff (115 employees) has created increased work for that office.

- Job fair season in area.
  - Recently had Whitney from Chamber do a DEI presentation.
  - Drive for 5 extended – working through paper work now.
- City of Duluth
- City of Lakeville
- Central Minnesota (CMJTS)
  - Just participated in Disability Pilot session with VRS for employers working with employees with disabilities.
- Southeast Minnesota (WDI)
- Hennepin-Carver
- City of Minneapolis
  - Registered Apprenticeship office continuing to go well.
- Anoka County
- Ramsey County
  - Slowing job market is slowing down participation in events.
  - Green event coming up later this month.
- Dakota-Scott
- Stearns-Benton (Career Solutions)
  - Reverse Job Fair coming up in May, where jobseekers are behind the tables and the businesses come in to meet with jobseekers.
- Washington County
- Northwest PIC
- Winona County

The committee concluded at 10:30 am.