



## North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board

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Non-Profit Center  
2801 Hoover Road Stevens Point WI 54481  
Community Hall Atrium  
Thursday, June 8, 2023 • 10:00 a.m.

### Minutes

**WDB Members Present:** Marcia Christiansen, Paula Erickson, Paul Herold, Cindy Kiesling, Joe Kinsella, Craig McEwen, Anthony Negani, Patty Noland, Tim Norlin, Kristine Porter, Lisa Sobczak and Ron Zimmerman

**WDB Members Present by Phone:** Angie Close and Al Chaney

**WDB Members Absent:** Thad Brockman, Bobbi Damrow, Dave Eckmann, Ronald Karl, Luke Kramer, Matthew Murphy, Casey Nye, Jolene Peet, Diane Sennholz, Tait Strand, and Andy Thompson

**WDB Staff Present:** John Cokl, Peter Gelhar, Rob Golla, Brian Kalish, Jane Spencer, and CJ Tangedal

**Others Present:** Sandy Bishop, Rene Daniels, Jodi Gruhn, Chris Klesmith, Tim Krause, Kent Olson, Lisa Omen, Scott Soik, Amber Stancher, Michelle Szabrowicz, and Brian Wolfe

- 1. Call to Order-** Kinsella called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.
- 2. Announcement of Quorum-** There was quorum.
- 3. Acknowledgement of Guests** – Spencer welcomed the guests present.
- 4. Approval of Agenda** – Kiesling moved to approve the agenda; it was seconded by Norlin. Motion carried.
- 5. Approval of Minutes from March 9, 2023** – Zimmerman moved to approve the minutes from March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023; it was seconded by Herold. Motion carried.
- 6. Announcements from the Chief Elected Officials** – Craig McEwen reviewed the workforce issues from the nine counties discussed at their last meeting.
- 7. Announcements from the Chair** - Kinsella introduced Peter Gelhar, the new Business & Community Engagement Coordinator. He said a few words about his background and his plans for the role.
- 8. Program Presentation:**

- **Rural Innovation Network - Chris Klesmith, Neighborhood Planner/Economic Development Specialist, City of Stevens Point and Tim Krause of UW-Stevens Point** – Discussion followed the presentation.
- **Recognizing Current and Former Board Members** – Spencer acknowledged past and current retirements of board members. The two current ones being Cindy Kiesling and Marcia Christiansen.

**9. Approval of Treasurer’s Report** – Norlin moved to approve the treasurer’s report as presented; it was seconded by Zimmerman. Motion carried.

**10. PY23 Budget** – Cokl presented the projected PY23 budget with a 5% variance. It has been approved by the Executive Committee and will go to the CEOs for approval next week.

#### **11. Workgroup/Program Summaries**

- **Executive Committee** – Kinsella reported that they approved the PY23 budget at their last meeting and continue to review and approve program policies.
- **Program Updates** - Kiesling referred to the handout. LETC is wrapping up the Footlocker and Marshfield Clinic dislocations. There were a few smaller dislocations such as the Wausau Upper Iowa Campus, Nekoosa Coated and Wisconsin Valley High School. Spencer referred to the performance reports in the meeting packet for PY22 Q3. She is still waiting to hear on the 50% or 90% level. Once that is known, the reports will be updated. The one area that is a struggle is the Measurable Skills Gain. The Department of Workforce Development monitored the WIOA programs in December 2022. The results showed 22 findings with \$25,000 in questionable costs. Staff worked with the Providers to resolve all but \$109. Staff worked with the Executive Committee on a competitive bid for the Dislocated Worker Program; the award was given to Forward Service Corporation.
- **Job Center Updates** – The North Central Wisconsin One-Stop Operator Consortium agreed to renew the contract for Program Year 2023. Staff will work to implement a new agreement in the coming months.
- **Other Programs** – The Windows 2 Work Reentry Program continues to work with Adams and Wood Counties to meet the contracted numbers for this year. The Support

to Communities Grant had a goal of serving 55 people; the total number served to date is 106. The Rural Healthcare Grant continues with serving 31 people to date. Staff worked with the Northwest Workforce Investment Board and the Department of Labor on monitoring that grant; it went well. The Quest Grant is a collaboration between the DWD and Department of Children and Families to build the childcare workforce. Meetings for this grant are ongoing.

## **12. Partner Reports**

- **OSO** – met earlier this week where they decided to renew the agreement for PY23.
- **CWIMA** – no report
- **WATEA** – Kent Olson updated the group that Sara Guild resigned from the position of Executive Director. They have their annual fundraiser on July 28<sup>th</sup>.

**13. Adjournment** – Christiansen moved to adjourn the meeting; it was seconded by Norlin. The meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.



## North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board

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Northcentral Technical College  
1000 W Campus Drive, Wausau  
Meeting Room 1004B – Center for Health Sciences  
Thursday, March 9, 2023 · 10:00 a.m.

### Minutes

**WDB Members Present:** Dave Eckmann, Paul Herold, Ronald Karl, Cindy Kiesling, Joe Kinsella, Craig McEwen, Kristine Porter, and Tait Strand

**WDB Members Present by Zoom:** Al Chaney, Bobbi Damrow, Paula Erickson, Matthew Murphy, Anthony Negani, Tim Norlin, Jolene Peet, Diane Sennholz, Lisa Sobczak, and Ron Zimmerman

**WDB Members Absent:** Thad Brockman, Angie Close, Marcia Christiansen, Luke Kramer, Patty Noland, Casey Nye, and Andy Thompson.

**WDB Staff Present:** John Cokl, Elsa Duranceau, Rob Golla Brian Kalish, Jane Spencer, and CJ Tangedal

**Others Present:** Sara Guild and Mitchell Rupp

1. **Call to Order-** Kinsella called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.
2. **Announcement of Quorum-** There was quorum.
3. **Acknowledgement of Guests** – Spencer welcomed the guests present, Mitchell Rupp from DWD and Sara Guild from WATEA.
4. **Approval of Agenda** – Kiesling made a motion to approve the agenda; it was seconded by Eckmann. Motion carried.
5. **Approval of Minutes from December 8, 2022** – McEwen made a motion to approve the minutes from December 8, 2022; it was seconded by Kiesling. Motion carried.
6. **Announcements from the Chief Elected Officials** – McEwen reviewed the issues each county CEO brought forward at the February 16th CEO meeting.
7. **Announcements from the Chair** –
  - Kinsella welcomed the new board member Anthony Negani, Tribal WIOA Coordinator, Lac du Flambeau Economic Support.

- Spencer added that the CEOs seated Angi Close from Langlade County Economic Development. The list of the board member's contact information is included in the packet. She has received notice of two board member's retirement. Marcia Christiansen effective June 30<sup>th</sup> and Cindy Kiesling effective June 30<sup>th</sup> as well.

#### **8. Program Presentations:**

- Labor Market Updates & Trends, Mitchell Rupp, Regional Economist – Mitchell Rupp reviewed the regions unemployment rates, labor force participation rates, population projections and job openings compared to hires and what's to come in the future.
- Workforce Program Highlights, NCWWDB staff – Rob Golla highlighted the Windows to Work program and Elsa Duranceau gave a background on the Workforce Advancement Initiative grant.

**9. Approval of Treasurer's Report** – McEwen made a motion to approve the treasurer's report; it was seconded by Eckmann. Motion carried. Cokl also reviewed the audit results for the group.

#### **10. Workgroup/Program Summaries**

- **Executive Committee** – Kinsella reported they approved to renew the contract for the Adult and Youth contracted service providers, based on the results of the mid-year review. For the Dislocated Worker program, because LETC is ending their services effective June 30<sup>th</sup>, a competitive RFP is necessary. Spencer updated that board member Al Chaney has volunteered to help with the RFP process, but she is looking for one more volunteer to help review bids. The bids are due March 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Executive Committee also established the Executive Director's review process, which will begin soon.
- **Program Updates** – Kiesling reviewed the recent dislocation. They held work meetings for Footlocker back in January, there was a low turnout. They also held worker meetings for Biery Cheese with very low attendance. Kiesling reported that people are transitioning directly into new jobs. Biery Cheese also held an internal job fair. Marshfield Clinic will have 109 workers dislocated across the nine counties. There will be a mix of positions, with the largest concentration at the Marshfield location. The worker meetings will be scheduled this month. Spencer announced Brian Kalish moved into the Workforce Director Position. She is currently interviewing for the Business and Community Engagement Coordinator, a position created with the restructuring in the organization. The mid-year monitoring took place. CEOs and Executive Committee approved renewing the Adult and Youth contracts with Forward Service Corporation. Spencer will move forward with the competitive RFP process for the PY23 Dislocated Worker program. Spencer and Kalish are now in the formal process of monitoring the

OSO. There is a new grant, Quest, which allows expansion in the child care industry. There will be more information forthcoming. The WAI grant will be extended another year. Cokl, Kalish, and Spencer are working on the responses from the December 2022 monitoring. Spencer also highlighted the performance blue table reports. To date, the region is doing well by meeting or exceeding all measures. The state has not yet determined the 50% or 90% of the negotiated rate with the Department of Labor.

## 11. Partner Reports

- **OSO** – Jolene Peet reported that OSO met on March 7<sup>th</sup>. They reviewed the results of the customer satisfaction survey. From the 111 responses, most were positive. They will begin to explore doing an electronic survey rather than a paper survey. They held their annual partner meeting, where everyone was able to share their updates and best practices.
- **CWIMA** – Tait Strand reported that they have a new board chair, Jim Waldron of Wausau Tile. They have their expo coming up in April. In partnership with the technical colleges, they are recruiting for Master’s Quest, and they started planning the Heavy Metal Tour. For 2023, they are projecting 5,500 students and 90 companies to be involved.
- **WATEA** - Sara Guild reported that they held their annual Transportation Career Expo Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at Brickner’s of Wausau. They had 90 students and parents come through. They are a week away from graduating their 2022/2023 Collision Certificate class. In partnership with NTC through their adult training program, they had ten students complete the seven-credit class. This year, WATEA covered all the costs on their own. All but one student is already employed. That one student is being recruited for multiple jobs. WATEA is working with MSTC as part of their WIG grant providing rides to students. Last semester they served nine students. This semester 18 are participating.

## 12. Adjournment – Strand made a motion to adjourn the meeting; it was seconded by Chaney.

The meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.



## North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board

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Northcentral Technical College  
1000 W Campus Drive, Wausau  
Meeting Room 1004A – Center for Health Sciences  
Thursday, December 8, 2022 • 10:00 a.m.

### Minutes

**WDB Members Present:** Bobbi Damrow, Paul Herold, Ronald Karl, Joe Kinsella, Tim Norlin, Kristine Porter, and Ron Zimmerman.

**WDB Members Present by Zoom:** Thad Brockman, Paula Erickson, Cindy Kiesling, Casey Nye Jolene Peet, Diane Sennholz, and Lisa Sobczak.

**WDB Members Absent:** Sandy Bishop, Al Chaney, Marcia Christiansen, Dave Eckmann, Luke Kramer, Matthew Murphy, Patty Noland, Tait Strand, and Andy Thompson.

**WDB Staff Present:** John Cokl, Elsa Duranceau, Brian Kalish, Ginger Keymer, Nicole Rice, and Jane Spencer

**Others Present:** Jared Eggebrecht, Sara Guild (Zoom), Zoe Kujawa (Zoom), Craig McEwen, Greg Miljovich, Melissa Warner (Zoom), and the Point/Plover Metro Wire (Zoom).

- 1. Call to Order-** Kinsella called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.
- 2. Announcement of Quorum-** There was quorum.
- 3. Acknowledgement of Guests** – Spencer welcomed the guests present.
- 4. Approval of Agenda** – McEwen made a motion to approve the agenda; it was seconded by Zimmerman. Motion carried.
- 5. Approval of Minutes from September 8, 2022** – Zimmerman made a motion to approve the minutes from September 8, 2022; it was seconded by Norlin. Motion carried.
- 6. Announcements from the Chief Elected Officials** – McEwen reviewed the issues each county CEO brought forward at the October 20th CEO meeting.
- 7. Announcements from the Chair** - Kinsella thanked Sandy Bishop for her years of service and acknowledged her retirement from Nicolet Technical College resulting in resignation from the NCWWDB Board effective 12/31/2022.
- 8. Program Presentations: Technical College Resources & Services for Employers**

**Dr. Bobbi Damrow, Mid-State Technical College** – Dr. Damrow, Vice President of Workforce Development and Community Relations provided an overview of the MSTC system, the college’s vision, system initiatives, and 5-year strategic plan. She detailed the types of workforce training opportunities at Mid-State and the team of staff who lead these services, including customized incumbent worker training, technical assistance, professional development/continuing education, community enrichment, and dislocation rapid response. Damrow also outlined the variety of community partners with whom they collaborate and the training resources the college offers.

**Jared Eggenbrecht, Northcentral Technical College** – Eggenbrecht provided an overview of services offered by the Technical College including who they serve, their campus environments, and the customized contract training and consulting services they provide. He also highlighted a few specialized programs such as NTC’s “Move to Manufacturing:” a free training program composed of eight hours of online instruction and 20 hours of hands-on skill work. Participants receive business tours, guaranteed job interviews, incentive bonus, as well as hourly rates above a livable wage. Eggenbrecht also outlined the availability of various Workforce Development Grants, the timeline and process involved, and opportunities to serve on campus advisory committees.

**Greg Miljovich, Nicolet College** – Miljovich has been with Nicolet for 14 years, but currently transitioning to a new role within the College. Nicolet serves a large district with low population density. He highlighted the school’s Corporate Training program with customized solutions for businesses. The Nicolet district has a concentration of businesses in the tourism industry with a need for seasonal employees. Vilas, Oneida, and Iron Counties contain a high number of small businesses and solo operators, or companies comprised of a single entrepreneur. Nicolet provides focused opportunities for career growth and development.

**9. Approval of Treasurer’s Report** – McEwen made a motion to approve the treasurer’s report; it was seconded by Zimmerman. Motion carried.

## **10. Workgroup/Program Summaries**

- **Executive Committee** – Kinsella reported that Tim Roman joined the November meeting to review NCWWDB’s investments. Also during the November meeting, Spencer informed Executive Committee members about Winning with Wisconsin’s Workforce, something she is still waiting for a final statement of work from DWD.
- **Program Updates** – Rice reviewed the current participants being served in the Title 1 programs, and the Q1 performance results included in the packet. Kiesling reported on the recent dislocated worker activities that included five events affecting 158 workers. A copy of the DW report was provided.
- **Executive Director Updates** – Spencer provided a report from the ED report in the packet.



## 11. Partner Reports

- **OSO** – Porter reported that OSO met on December 6, 2022. The main topic was implementing the winter round of customer satisfaction surveys to being mid-January through February. Also discussed was the Customer Service Training that was provided to all job center staff in October. The OSO Committee members are planning the area wide partners' meeting for March 2023.
- **CWITA** – Kalish reported that CWITA is evolving into something new. He is working with Mid-State, UWSP, the City of Stevens Point, and the IT community to gather employers and partners on the development of a new business incubation center.
- **CWIMA** – No report.
- **WATEA** - Sara Guild reported that a Transportation Career Expo will be held on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at Brickner's of Wausau at 2325 Grand Avenue. Doors open at 5:30pm. The snow date for the event will be January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Expo activities will include behind-the-scenes tours, hands-on activities and equipment demonstrations, body shop demos, pit crew challenge competition, industry vendor booths and vehicles, pizza and socializing with industry professionals, as well as door prizes for students in attendance.

## 12. Adjournment – McEwen made a motion to adjourn the meeting; it was seconded by Herold.

Meeting adjourned at 11:43a.m.



North Central Wisconsin  
Workforce Development Board

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Northcentral Technical College – D100  
1000 W Campus Drive, Wausau  
Thursday, September 8th, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.  
Zoom

**Minutes**

**WDB Members Present:** Marcia Christiansen, Paula Erickson, Paul Herold, Ron Karl, Cindy Kiesling, Joe Kinsella, Luke Kramer, Tim Norlin, Casey Nye, and Ron Zimmerman

**WDB Members Present by Zoom:** Thad Brockman, Al Chaney, Bobbi Damrow, Matthew Murphy, Patty Noland, Jolene Peet, Diane Sennholz, Lisa Sobczak, and Andy Thompson

**WDB Members Absent:** Sandy Bishop, Dave Eckmann, Kristine Porter, and Tait Strand

**WDB Staff Present:** John Cokl, Brian Kalish, Elsa Duranceau, Jane Spencer, Rob Golla, and CJ Tangedal

**Others Present:** Sara Wynne, Makayala Pflugradt (Zoom), Tim Kordula, Zoe Kujawa (Zoom), Shane Heilman, Paul Strehlow, Darren Ackley, Colt Nicklaus, Kristin Derrie, Mitchell Rupp (Zoom), John Peters (Zoom), Chad Strehlow, and Chang Yang,

1. **Call to Order-** Kinsella called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.
2. **Announcement of Quorum-** There was quorum.
3. **Acknowledgement of Guests** – Spencer welcomed the guests present.
4. **Approval of Agenda** – Herold made a motion to approve the agenda; it was seconded by Erickson. Motion carried.
5. **Approval of Minutes from June 9, 2022** – Kiesling made a motion to approve the minutes from June 9, 2022; it was seconded by Herold. Motion carried.
6. **Announcements from the Chief Elected Officials** – McEwen reviewed the issues each county CEO brought forward at the October 20th CEO meeting.
7. **Announcements from the Chair** – Kinsella thanked President Kate Ferrell for serving her one-year term. He welcomed Bobbi Damrow from MSTC as she starts her one year term. Chair Kinsella acknowledged the resignations from Janene Beck-Hafner, Dean Zaumseil, and

Mark Kramer. He thanked each for their service. He then welcomed the newest board member, Luke Kramer, fulfilling the workforce apprenticeship position.

8. **Program Presentations of the NCWWDB's Annual Awards of Excellence:** Spencer presented the WIOA Program Participants, Sara, the WIOA Youth participant, Hli Tag, the WIOA Adult participant, Sarah Payne, the Dislocated Worker Participant and Makayla, the Windows 2 Work participant winners. Great Lakes Cheese was awarded the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Kent Olson Employer of the Year Award. **Supply Chain Industries** - Tim Norlin, Roehl Transport & Tim Kordula, Karls Transport gave a presentation on "Careers in Transportation"

Shane Heilman and Paul Strehlow from NTC gave a presentation on their Truck Driving CDL programs offered at Northcentral Technical College.

9. **Approval of Treasurer's Report** – Erickson made a motion to approve the treasurer's report; it was seconded by Norlin. Motion carried.

10. **Workgroup/Program Summaries**

- **Executive Committee** – Kinsella reported that they have approved board member Al Chaney as a new member for the Executive Committee. They also approved the Executive Director's incentive bonus for the year.
- **Program Updates** – Kiesling reported there has been lots of sales of companies and businesses. She referred to her report that in the current quarter Associated Bank closed several of their smaller banks. The Artisan Assisted Living Center in Wausau will reach out when they need assistance. Spencer reviewed the blue table performance reports included in the packet. NCWWDB is meeting or exceeding in all measures in the Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth programs. Spencer reported that the CEOs participated in the PY22 & 23 performance negotiations. The CEOs approved the counteroffer of five measures. DWD accepted four of the five counteroffers. We will discuss the counteroffer at the next CEO meeting. Spencer referred to her report included in the packet. She updated the group that we are on track to move into the new administrative office mid-October and hope to have the December board meeting at the new space.

## 11. **Partner Reports**

- **OSO** – Jolene Peet reviewed the last meeting where they reviewed the Job Center Satisfaction surveys, which were all very good. They will have the all-staff training in October. The Northern Advantage Job Center had some hour changes that are working out well.
- **CWITA** – Kalish reported they have been in a holding pattern for a while, they are working to get the alliance back up and running.
- **CWIMA** – Spencer mentioned they are planning for the Heavy Metal Tour scheduled for October 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **WATEA** – Spencer mentioned they are working on the commuter project for intercampus shuttles.

12. **Adjournment** – Christiansen made a motion to adjourn the meeting; it was seconded by Norlin. Meeting adjourned at 11:54am