



North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board

Northcentral Technical College
1000 W Campus Drive, Wausau
Meeting Room D100 – Timberwolf Conference Room
Thursday, September 14, 2023 • 10:00 a.m.

Minutes

WDB Members Present: Angie Close, Dave Eckmann, Brad Gast, Ronald Karl, Joe Kinsella, Casey Nye, Kristine Porter, Tait Strand, and Ron Zimmerman

WDB Members Present by Zoom: Al Chaney, Paul Herold, Patty Noland, and Lisa Sobczak

WDB Members Absent: Thad Brockman, Paula Erickson, Luke Kramer, Matthew Murphy, Craig McEwen, Anthony Negani, Tim Norlin, Jolene Peet, Diane Sennholz, and Andy Thompson

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

Others Present: Polly Holzem, Lee Cloutier, Bob Bauer, Chyloe Bean, Nicole Stucharski, Jodi Gruhn, Cam Loll, Joni Bailey, William Wagner, Sarah Bristow, Elizabeth Walter, Colt Nicklaus, Kristin Derrie, Adriana Jasso, Juliana Jasso, Isaac Jasso, Nicky Lindman, Amy Yessa, Brian Wolf, Michelle Szabrowicz, Lisa Omen, Jeremy Higgins, and Mitchell Rupp

- 1. Call to Order-** Kinsella called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.
- 2. Announcement of Quorum-** There was quorum.
- 3. Acknowledgement of Guests** – Spencer welcomed the guests present.
- 4. Approval of Agenda** – Eckmann moved to approve the agenda; it was seconded by Close.
Motion carried.
- 5. Approval of Minutes from June 8, 2023** – Nye moved to approve the minutes from June 8, 2023; it was seconded by Zimmerman. Motion carried.
- 6. Announcements from the Chief Elected Officials** – No report
- 7. Announcements from the Chair** - Kinsella announced Brad Gast from NTC is beginning his one-year term and Jeremy Higgins will be seated as a board member at the next CEO meeting.

8. Program Presentation:

- **NCWWDB's Annual Awards of Excellence** – County Materials Corporation was awarded the Employer of the Year, Adriana Jasso, Isaac Jasso, and Juliana Jasso were awarded Youth Participants of the Year, Chyloe Bean was awarded the Adult Participant of the Year, Polly Holzem was awarded the Dislocated Worker Participant of the Year, and William Wagner was awarded the Windows2Work Participant of the Year.

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

10. Workgroup/Program Summaries

- **Executive Committee** – Kinsella reported they are continuing to approve the policies that come forward.
- **Program Updates** – Spencer reported working with DWD on the December 2022 monitoring, all questionable costs have been resolved. There will be a state-wide Job Center Open House on Wednesday September 27th at all five job centers. The Support to Communities Grant surpassed the goal of serving 55 people with its current enrollment at 106. The Rural Healthcare Grant was slated to serve 40 and is currently serving 32 participants. The newer grant, QUEST, designed to build the childcare workforce has 11 participants enrolled. The Wisconsin Pathways Home 4 Grant is in its planning phase and will include collaborating with four other workforce boards. WPH4 is similar to the Windows2Work Program, targeting the justice-involved population prior to their release from state and county correctional facilities. The Worker Advancement Initiative received a no cost extension and will wrap up by September 2024. Kalish referred to the Blue Table Reports included in the packet that reflects performance. All three WIOA programs met or exceeded every measure with the exception the Measurable Skills Gains in Youth and Dislocated Worker. Brian Wolfe reviewed the WIOA programs report included in the packet; FSC took over the Dislocated Worker Program responsibilities as of July 1, 2023.

11. Partner Reports

- **OSO** – Kalish reported that the MOU is currently being reviewed. The all-staff training will take place October 11th and 12th virtually.
- **CWIMA** – Tait Strand mentioned they had two golf outings, generating \$90,000 for their scholarship fund. They have partnered with the McDonald Foundation for a scholarship, awarding five students \$2,000 each to attend a Wisconsin school of their choice. The Heavy Metal Tour will take place soon and will impact 4,500 students. CWIMA is hiring an Office Manager and currently in the final interview process.
- **WATEA** – Amy Yessa, the new Executive Director, reported they had their annual golf fundraiser and awarded three scholarships to students attending NTC. Commute to Careers has 23 riders and 251 one-way trips so far this year. The collision training program in collaboration with NTC and Wausau East will be launching next month; they currently have eight students enrolled.

12. Adjournment – Close moved to adjourn the meeting; it was seconded by Eckmann. The meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.