



## North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board

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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 27<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> 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.



## North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board

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Northcentral Technical College  
1000 W Campus Drive, Wausau  
**Health Sciences Building - Room 104A**

Thursday, December 14, 2023 · 10:00 a.m.

### Minutes

**WDB Members Present:** Paul Herold, Jeremy Higgins, Ron Karl, Joe Kinsella, Craig McEwen, Patty Noland, Kristine Porter, and Ron Zimmerman

**WDB Members Present by Zoom:** Thad Brockman, Angie Close, Al Chaney, Dave Eckmann, Paula Erickson, Brad Gast, Jolene Peet, Diane Sennholz, and Lisa Sobczak

**WDB Members Absent:** Luke Kramer, Matthew Murphy, Anthony Negani, Tim Norlin, Casey Nye, and Andy Thompson

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

**Others Present:** Brian Wolfe, Jodi Gruhn, Amy Yessa(Zoom), Zoe Kujawa(Zoom), Conney Edmondson, and Rene Daniels

- 1. Call to Order-** Kinsella called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
- 2. Announcement of Quorum-** There was quorum.
- 3. Acknowledgement of Guests** – Spencer welcomed the guests present.
- 4. Approval of Agenda** – Herold moved to approve the agenda; it was seconded by Zimmerman. Motion carried.
- 5. Approval of Minutes from September 14, 2023** – Eckmann moved to approve the minutes from September 14, 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 the last meeting. The CEO's seated Jeremy Higgins as a board member.
- 7. Announcements from the Chair** - Kinsella announced his retirement from the Board.
- 8. Election and Approval of Board Officers for Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer**

Chairman – Kinsella nominated Al Chaney for Chairman; it was seconded by Zimmerman. Motion carried.

Vice-Chair - Kinsella moved to retain Ron Zimmerman as the Vice-Chair; it was seconded by Herold. Motion carried.

Secretary/Treasurer – Kinsella moved to retain Matt Murphy as Secretary/Treasurer; it was seconded by Chaney; motion carried.

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

**10. Approval of Revisions to Bylaws** – Spencer reviewed the proposed changes highlighted in the packet. Chaney moved to approve the revision to the bylaws presented in the packet; it was seconded by Zimmerman. Motion carried.

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

- **Executive Committee** – Kinsella reported they have been discussing the strategic plan. It was agreed that the plan needs some modifications, working towards a review in the early spring. The focus will be finding ways to measure results with the help of the DWD local labor market analyst.

- **Program Updates** – Kalish reported that DWD monitoring concluded last week; the report will be available in 45 days.

Brian Wolfe reported on Forward Service Corporation; the highlights of the program were included in the packet. The past quarter had two dislocations in Stevens Point and Lincoln County. There were 197 individuals served across all the programs; the largest seen in healthcare and manufacturing. Wolfe also referenced the Blue Table Reports included in the packet; the data provided from DWD is a rolling four-quarter data rather than isolated Q1 data. Staff will get the correct data and produce new reports to share with board members.

### **12. Partner Reports**

- **OSO** – Kalish reported that the previous meeting scheduled did not have quorum. They are looking to reschedule a meeting in January.
- **CWIMA** – Edmondson reported the Heavy Metal Tour had 4,682 8<sup>th</sup> graders and 55 school districts participate. The program is great at exposure, but in the future the alliance is looking to create a secondary system to follow up with high school

aged students. CWIMA is in the planning stages of the Expo taking place on April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

- **WATEA** – Amy Yessa, Executive Director, reported the auto collision program has launched and is going well. NTC and WATEA are hosting the Transportation Expo on January 16<sup>th</sup>. It is open to anyone interested in transportation related careers.

**13. Adjournment** – Chaney moved to adjourn the meeting; it was seconded by Eckmann. The meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.



# North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board

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Northcentral Technical College  
1000 W Campus Drive, Wausau  
**Health Sciences Building - Room 104A**

Thursday, March 14, 2024 • 10:00 a.m.

## Minutes

**WDB Members Present:** Brad Gast, Jodi Gruhn, Jeremy Higgins, Ron Karl, and Tim Norlin

**WDB Members Present by Zoom:** Angie Close, Angela Eberhardt, Paula Erickson, Paul Herold, Anthony Negani, Patty Noland, Casey Nye, Kristine Porter, Lisa Sobczak, and Ron Zimmerman

**WDB Members Absent:** Thad Brockman, Al Chaney, Dave Eckmann, Diane Sennholz, and Andy Thompson

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

**Others Present:** Brian Wolfe, Colt Nicklaus, Mitchell Rupp, and Logan Krueger

1. **Call to Order-** Murphy called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. **Announcement of Quorum-** There was quorum.
3. **Acknowledgement of Guests** – Murphy welcomed the guests present at the meeting in-person and Zoom.
4. **Approval of Agenda** – Nye moved to amend agenda to reorder item #9 to occur after agenda item #6; it was seconded by Norlin. Motion carried.
5. **Approval of Minutes from December 14, 2023** – Higgins moved to approve the minutes from December 14, 2023; it was seconded by Gast. Motion carried.
6. **Review Fiscal Year (ended June 2023) Audit Results:** Logan Krueger from Vesta CPA Firm reviewed the Fiscal Year audit results, which was a clean audit.
7. **Program Presentations:**
  - Current State of the Local Education Workforce: Peter Gelhar and Mitchell Rupp presented a PowerPoint that focused on the school districts functioning as employers and their hiring needs.

- 8. Announcements from the Chief Elected Officials** – Spencer gave the update on behalf of the CEOs. They approved the PY23 Job Center Agreements, that has gone out to WIOA partners to sign. The CEOs discussed the upcoming April elections, as some of them are not running again and some are running contested; therefore, there is expected to be several new CEOs. The CEOs will hold their elections and elect a new liaison to the Executive Committee as Craig McEwen has chosen not to run again. The CEOs have scheduled a special meeting on April 4<sup>th</sup> to accommodate the deadlines for the 2024-2028 Local Plan submissions.
- 9. Announcements from the Vice chair** – Murphy welcomed the three newest board members, Conny Edmondson, Angela Eberhardt, and Jodi Gruhn.
- 10. Approval of Treasurer’s Report** – Norlin moved to approve the treasurer’s report as presented; it was seconded by Close. Motion carried.
- 11. Approval of Program Year 2024 WIOA Provider Contract Renewals** – Spencer and Kalish reviewed the mid-year review of NCWWDB’s contracted provider, Forward Service Corporation. The results were presented to the Executive Committee, which was approved. It will also go to the CEOs for approval. Zimmerman moved to approve Forward Service Corporation as the PY24 WIOA Provider; it was seconded by Erickson. Motion carried.
- 12. Workgroup/Program Summaries**
  - **Executive Committee** – Murphy reported that at their last meeting they reviewed and approved the annual employer contribution to 401K retirement plan. They also reviewed the mid-year monitoring report for Forward Service Corporation and approved the PY24 contract renewal.
  - **Program Updates** – Spencer updated the group on the Local Plan schedule and process. Spencer will update the group when the document is ready for review and comment. Spencer explained the new way the performance results will be presented based on the direction from DWD. The difference between the data is a YTD model vs a rolling four-quarters model. Program Year 2023 performance is on track, but final results will be available at the end of the fourth quarter.



Colt Nicklaus reported they had 47 new enrollments in WIOA programs - 12 adults, 12 youth, and 23 dislocated workers.

Spencer highlighted a few items in her Executive Director report. The Talent Development Conference will be held in La Crosse on April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. Spencer introduced Jennifer Reinert, NCWWDB's newest employee. Reinert was hired to serve as the Reentry Coach for the new Department of Labor grant, Wisconsin Pathways Home 4.

- **Partner Reports**

- **OSO** – Kalish reported at their March 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, they discussed how to use the \$2,000 remaining in the budget. There will be a couple of hiring events taking place. June 4<sup>th</sup> will be the annual OSO partnership meeting.
- **CWIMA** – Conny Edmondson reported they are working on their Expo which will be held on April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. The event is intended to help local manufacturers get automated equipment on their shop floors. They have signed the articulation agreement between NTC and UWSP with a stackable credential that allows individuals to work their full-time job while getting an education. They have begun the planning process for the Heavy Metal Tour 2024.
- **WATEA** – No Report

**13. Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m.



## North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board

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Northcentral Technical College  
1000 W Campus Drive, Wausau  
Room D100

Thursday, June 13, 2024 • 10:00 a.m.

### Minutes

**WDB Members Present:** AL Chaney, Paul Herold, Jeremy Higgins, Ron Karl, Kristine Porter, and Ron Zimmerman

**WDB Members Present by Zoom:** Angie Close, Angela Eberhardt, Conney Edmondson, Paula Erickson, Matthew Murphy, Anthony Negani, Casey Nye, Diane Sennholz, Lisa Sobczak, and Andy Thompson.

**WDB Members Absent:** Thad Brockman, Dave Eckmann, Brad Gast, Jodi Gruhn, Luke Kramer, Patty Noland, Tim Norlin, and Eva Schepp

**WDB Staff Present:** John Cokl (Zoom), Brian Kalish, Jane Spencer, Jennifer Reinert, and CJ Tangedal

**Others Present:** Mitchell Rupp, Colt Nicklaus, Kathy Kloes, and Kristin Derrie

- 1. Call to Order-** Murphy called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.
- 2. Announcement of Quorum-** There was quorum.
- 3. Acknowledgement of Guests** – Chaney acknowledged the guests from the Department of Workforce Development and Forward Service Corporation present at the meeting.
- 4. Approval of Agenda** – Zimmerman moved to approve the agenda; it was seconded by Higgins. Motion carried
- 5. Approval of Minutes from March 14, 2024** – Herold moved to approve the minutes from the March 14, 2024, meeting; it was seconded by Zimmerman. Motion carried.
- 6. Approval of Treasurer’s Report** – Erickson moved to approve the treasurer’s report as presented; it was seconded by Zimmerman. Motion carried.
- 7. Approval of Program Year 2024 Budget** – Murphy made a motion to approve the proposed budget for Program Year 2024; it was seconded by Porter. Motion carried.

- 8. Announcements from the Chief Elected Officials** – Spencer mentioned that after the elections in April, there are four new Chief Elected Officials. There was an orientation meeting with the new members and will conduct their officer elections in June.
- 9. Announcements from the Chair** – Chaney announced that Brad Gast from NTC will rotate off the board and the new appointment will come from Nicolet. Chaney also announced Ron Zimmerman’s retirement after serving roughly fourteen years on the board.
- 10. Waiver of Officer Elections until June 2025** – Higgins moved to waive the officer elections until June 2025 due to elections occurring in December 2023 following the past chair’s retirement announcement; it was seconded by Zimmerman. Motion carried.
- 11. Formal Approval of WIOA Local Plan** – Herold moved to approve the WIOA Local Plan; it was seconded by Erickson. Motion carried.

**12. Program Presentations:**

- **Current Labor Market Information – Mitchell Rupp** – Mitchell Rupp gave a presentation on the area’s current labor market to the group, discussion followed.

**13. Workgroup/Program Summaries**

- **Executive Committee** – Chaney reported the last meeting they discussed the pool 401k proposal. They discussed the plan for updating the strategic plan that will take place with NCWWDB staff this summer.
- **Program Updates** – Kalish reviewed the performance numbers on the blue table reports included in the packet. DWD’s is still working out the data that was presented. Kalish also reported that DWD monitoring concluded in April and went smoothly. The WAI and STC Grants will be closing out soon. There is one last WAI welding project scheduled with McNaughton and Nicolet College. In Adams, there is a CNA cohort for the COW Grant. Contract renewals for the upcoming PY24 have been completed. Spencer mentioned the Wisconsin Pathways Home 4 Grant has 67 referrals so far. A modification to add the Southcentral Board to the grant was recently approved. The first round of monitoring for the WPH4 sub-recipients will begin soon.

Colt Nicklaus reported on the WIOA activities from the report included in the packet. There were a few dislocations as Wausau Window & Wall and ND Paper. Colt Nicklaus shared a participant's success story to the group, a previous Awards of Excellence winner.

Spencer let the group know the September board meeting will be a Winning with Wisconsin's Workforce event along with the Annual Awards of Excellence. More information on that is forthcoming.

#### **Partner Reports**

- **OSO** – Kalish reported they met on June 4<sup>th</sup>, which was the annual partner meeting, all partners reported on their agencies and programs and discussion followed. The OSO business meeting followed, they agreed to renew the OSO Consortium contract for PY24.
- **CWIMA** – Conney Edmondson reported they had a successful expo that was very well attended. The summer program Master Metals at NTC had to be cancelled due to lack of enrollment. They are planning strategies for future years to keep the program going. Registration for Heavy Metal Tour has started, there are already 2,700 students registered in the NTC area and 32 manufacturers registered. The annual event is expecting 4,900 students this year.
- **WATEA** – Spencer gave the report on behalf of the Executive Director, Amy Yessa. Eight students graduated from their auto collision program in May. WATEA received a two-year Fast Forward Grant and will collaborate with CarQuest Institute to offer classes free of charge in various areas. This project is due to start in August. WATEA will host their annual *Fore the Road* golf event this summer.

**14. Adjournment** – Herold moved to adjourn the meeting; it was seconded by Zimmerman.

Meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.