



North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board
CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIALS Meeting
October 17, 2024 • 9:30 a.m.
Marathon County Job Center - Oak Room

Minutes (Approved)

CEO Members Present: Rick Pease (Adams County), John Hokamp (Wood County), Michael Tautges (Oneida County)(Zoom), Ron Skallerud (Forest County), Kurt Gibbs (Marathon County).

CEO Members Absent: Ben Pierce (Langlade County) Bill Bialecki (Lincoln County), Richard Logan (Vilas County), and John Pavelski (Portage County).

Others Present: None

Staff Present: John Cokl, Brian Kalish, Jane Spencer, CJ Tangedal

1. **Call the Meeting to Order** – Pease called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
2. **Approve Agenda** – Hokamp moved to approve the agenda; it was seconded by Gibbs. Motion carried.
3. **Approve Chief Elected Officials’ Minutes from August 15, 2024** – Skallerud moved to approve the minutes from August 15, 2024; it was seconded by Hokamp. Motion carried.
4. **Accept Treasurer’s Report** – Gibbs moved to accept the treasurer’s report as presented; it was seconded by Hokamp. Motion carried.
5. **CEO Consortium Agreement** – Spencer let the group know that Langlade County has not signed the agreement. The group discussed the next steps.
6. **Approve New Board Member Nominations** – Skallerud moved to approve both Amy Yessa and Dan Kinsella as new board members; it was seconded by Hokamp. Motion carried.
 - **Amy Yessa, Executive Director, Wisconsin Automotive & Truck Education Association**
 - **Dan Kinsella, Executive VP/Owner, Pointe Precision**

7. WIOA Performance

- **Program Year 2023 (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024) Annual Report** – Spencer and Kalish reviewed the charts that reflected WDA 6 is meeting or exceeding all measures to the 50% mark.
- **Program Years 2024 and 2025 Performance Negotiations** – Spencer reviewed the approved performance negotiations WDA 6 will be held to for the next two program years.

8. NCWWDB Updates

- **Cost Policy Statement** – Cokl reviewed the Cost Policy Statement regarding tracking direct and indirect costs. The Cost Policy Statement was approved by the Executive Committee on October 10, 2024.
- **401(k) Plan Conversion** – Cokl explained to the group the 401k conversion project to an independent plan under the WWDA umbrella. The process is ongoing and will relieve administrative work on staff.
- **Strategic Plan and Scorecard** – Spencer referenced the Strategic Plan that was included in the packet and posted on the NCWWDB website. The scorecard link will be sent to CEOs for review.
- **DWD monitoring in November** – Kalish let the group know that DWD will be monitoring WDA6 in November and explained the process.

9. Discussion on Workforce Issues in Each County

- **Marathon County** – Gibbs reported the county has completed its budget; the property tax rate is going to drop .20 cents per \$1,000 on evaluation. North Central Healthcare has Pinecrest Nursing Home and is moving forward with a potential sale. The challenge is the high turnover of CNAs and Nurses, and it's difficult to get contracted staff. They will have to limit intake due to lack of staffing. By 2030 the need for nursing home beds and care for the "Boomers" will grow exponentially and there is not enough staff to support that. The board approved a stipend to incentivize childcare workers and providers to help with the childcare crisis.
- **Adams** – Pease reported they voted on a balanced budget; they have a final meeting November 12, 2024. Net new construction is 2.21, which is \$390,000 this year. Mostly due to Sand Valley that has 12% net new construction. The only childcare center in the county closed this past week due to owner's retirement. They are looking for a court counsel. The wage study cost them \$634,000 of new monies for their people. They have two openings in Health and Human Services, they are fully staffed in patrol officers and at the county.
- **Lincoln** – No Report
- **Langlade** – No Report
- **Forest** – Skallerud reported they are in the final stages of their budget and dealing with the split and creating of their own Human Services Center. Forest County will take over the mental health element of the Human Service Center. In November, they will work on getting everyone at the Human Services Center certified and

licensed. Local sales tax is trending down since the previous winter didn't have many winter sports.

- **Wood** – Hokamp reported the county's two nursing homes have many CNA and Nursing positions open. Currently, those are being filled with contracted agencies, which is costing the county more money. The highway department just hired a truck driver, there are no openings in that department. The Sheriff is optimistic they'll find additional correctional officers. Winebrenner Shoe Company announced a new building initiative adding 35 new employees. It will be a manufacturing facility as well as a retail store. The housing market seems to be slowing down, homes are on the market longer and going for below asking prices.
- **Oneida** – Tautges reported the area is wrapping up summer and hoping for snow to boost the area economy since last year they saw very little snow. The county has been going through annual budget meetings. The county will take over the Human Services Center in Oneida County from the three involved counties. They will add 50 new employees to the county payroll.
- **Portage** – No Report
- **Vilas** – No Report

10. Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.