

**Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County**  
Constructions-Green Jobs Committee Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, May 13, 2025  
3:00 – 4:00pm  
Zoom Video Conference

**Present:**

Liz Boyer  
Becky Brink Ray  
Sarah Northrup  
Mary Rick  
Rachel Stiglitz

**Absent:**

Joseph Adamji  
Don Mullin-EA  
Elisa Rasmussen

**Staff/Guests:**

Mariann Macalus, Workforce Solutions  
Brad Mahr, Workforce Solutions  
Becky Milbrandt, Workforce Solutions  
Catrice O’Neal, Workforce Solutions  
John O’Phelan, Workforce Solutions

**Introductions**

Introductions were made.

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**Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement**

Mahr called the meeting to order at 3:04pm. O’Phelan read the land acknowledgement aloud.

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**Approve March Minutes**

**Motion (Boyer/Brink) to approve the March 11, 2025, minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously by chat vote.**

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**Staff Updates**

The following updates were provided:

- *Apprenticeship Group Update:* Ramsey County is participating in the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry’s (DLI) apprenticeship training program working in collaboration with Minneapolis as the lead applicant and school districts on a regional model to hire an Apprenticeship Navigator. This Navigator would then go out into the community to promote apprenticeship programs. The Metro Directors Workforce Group is working together to enhance these programs in aligning with the counties’ career pathways programs not establishing apprenticeship program. WIB partners are encouraged to develop apprenticeships with potential grant funding in Summer 2025.
- *Environmental Service Center:* The Service Center opened April 1 at 1700 Kent Street, Roseville. It offers drop-off for household hazardous waste, electronics, recycling and food scraps; a product reuse room with free paint, cleaners; and a space for a Fix-It Clinics and environmental education.

Mahr shared the following recaps from workgroups that he attended which will tie into the next agenda item for the Committee Work Plan discussion of future of “green” trainings:

- *Regional Climate Workforce Workgroup:* This was the first of many sessions hosted by the Metropolitan Council to support the development of regional Climate Action Plan. Key themes were the need for better workforce data and projections for clean jobs; equity and access; strengths and challenges. The next Council meeting is Summer of 2025 and will focus on workforce analysis findings.
- *Hub for Environmental Justice and Sustainable Energy:* This was a resource share out around economic impact and career pathways tied to environmental justice. The initiatives highlighted were Reconnect Rondo and Co-Lab NorthStar Program for 18-24-year-olds to build career readiness, mental wellness and hands-on experience; St. Paul College EV auto academic

program; Northrup (on behalf of the Center for Energy & Environment (CEE)) and Brink (on behalf of Goodwill-Easter Seals) shared the partnership they have regarding green sector programs: Learn & Earn model continues with a new cohort in March 2026 and planning of three tech programs and developing union & non-union pre-apprenticeships. Mahr shared Building Science Principles Train-the-Trainer event in June which is a paid opportunity for educators and Saint Paul College Friends on the Lawn fundraising event featuring County Manager Becker being awarded the Community Partner of the Year award.

- *Clean Energy Workforce Table:* Monthly convening of a six-month initiative with future plans by Real Time Talent to extend through December 2025. The table discussion also included a speaker (Kyle Makarios) who provided union perspectives and recommendations to get to the key state goal of clean-free energy by 2040.

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### **Committee Work Plan Updates**

*Discussion of Future of “Green” Trainings:* The purpose of this discussion is to identify emerging challenges and opportunities in the green jobs training space to help guide this Committee’s priorities for 2025. The discussion focused on collaborative advocacy with the need to engage employers, traditional skills vs. soft skills and transportation.

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### **Construction – Green Jobs Related Events**

Due to time, only a few events were highlighted; all will be included in the follow up email:

- Drive for 5: Unlocking High Growth Career Pathway Webinar: May 15, 9:30a-10:30a via Zoom. This will address each of the Drive for 5 sectors’ top five gateway careers which meet the wage and demand requirements.
- Midway Area Job Fair: June 18, 10a-2p at Allianz Field. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> annual job fair. New this year is the Tech Skills & Resource Corner with 6-8 providers having resources to help access training and on-line applications.
- Tech Month (May): Webpage to explore resources and events to connect with the people and programs shaping the future of tech in our community. The Tech Committee is sponsoring two tours of leading tech companies – US Bank and BetterYou. WIB members are encouraged to visit the webpage.
- Luminaire-Level Lighting Controls (LLLC) Demo Kit Workshops: This event is being hosted by Ramsey County Workforce Solutions, Powered by the LLLC Initiative + ETA on May 20. There will be workshops and system demos with hands-on setup.

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### **Other Committee Updates**

Brink shared the link for their upcoming career fair on May 15, 9:30a to 12:30p.

Mahr shared that if there is anything else that people want to share, send him an email and he’ll include in the follow up email.

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### **Adjourn**

Upon completion of the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 3:59pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 9, 2025, 3-4pm via Zoom