

## **Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County**

### **Policy Committee Meeting Minutes**

February 14, 2019

3:00-4:30 pm

#### **Present:**

Ryan Hauschild  
Greg Mellas  
Sean Mullan  
Shannon Watson

#### **Absent:**

Clarence Hightower  
James McClean  
Sheila Olson-EA

#### **Staff/Guests:**

Becky Milbrandt, WIB Staff  
Dunn Yoshitani, Ramsey County

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#### **Call to Order**

Chair Sean Mullan called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm.

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#### **Approve January Minutes**

**Motion (Watson/Mellas) to approve the January 10, 2019 Policy Committee meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.**

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#### **2019 WIB Policy Statements**

The final version of the policy platform was reviewed. Mullan pointed out the changes suggested by the other committees. He also explained that because the February WIB meeting was cancelled, final approval will be considered at the April meeting. It was noted that the Executive Committee has reviewed the statements and recommended approval.

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#### **Advocacy Efforts**

Mullan explained that due to staffing issues, the MN Association of Workforce Boards (MAWB) is not planning a large Day at the Capitol event this spring. Instead, Anne Kilzer, MAWB Executive Director, is encouraging each Workforce Development Area to pick a day to either come to the Capitol to meet with their members or to host something in their local area. After some discussion, the committee decided to meet with legislators at the Capitol. A list of local House and Senate members with their committee assignments was reviewed. There was interest in trying to meet with the members who are on the education and jobs committees. Milbrandt was asked to contact Kilzer and the Ramsey County lobbyists to see if they are available on Friday, March 8. Once the date is confirmed, Milbrandt will try to schedule meetings with some or all of the following legislators:

- Senate – Cohen, Issacson and Chamberlain
- House – Mahoney, Bernardy, and Kunesh-Podein

Once scheduled, Executive and Policy Committee members and business members will be encouraged to attend. All WIB members will be updated and invited to participate.

Mellas shared a summary of yesterday's Senate Higher Education Finance and Policy Committee meeting which highlighted workforce development initiatives. The full report will be sent to the committee.

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#### **Other**

Mullan reported that the Trump Administration has announced a new National Workforce Advisory Board. An article containing details on the Board were distributed by email yesterday. Mullan noted that the list of member organizations is well rounded, including Apple, Lockheed Martin, IBM, Boys and Girls Club of America, and the National Association of State Workforce Agencies. The committee will continue to follow the advisory board's actions.

Mellas asked if the Governor's Workforce Development Board will continue under the Walz Administration. Milbrandt will investigate and report back to the committee.

Yoshitani announced that Ling Becker has been hired at the new Workforce Solutions Director/WIB Executive Director. Becker comes from the Vadnais Heights Economic Development Corporation and will start in her new role on March 4.

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**Adjourn**

Upon completion of the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 3:58 pm.