

Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County
Policy & Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 15, 2022
1:00-2:00 pm

Present:

Lisa Guetzkow
James McClean
Camila Mercado Michelli
Sean Mullan
John Perlich

Absent:

Sheila Olson-EA

Staff/Guests:

Ling Becker, Ramsey County
Karyn Berg, Ramsey County
Mariann Macalus, Ramsey County
Rebecca Milbrandt, Ramsey County
Funlola Soyomokun, Ramsey County

Call to order & Land Acknowledgement

Chair Mullan called the meeting to order at 1:02pm. Mullan read the land acknowledgement aloud.

Approval of March Minutes

Motion (McClean/Guetzkow) to approve the September 27, 2022, Policy and Oversight Committee meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried by chat vote.

2023 Committee Meeting Schedule

Mullan presented the proposed 2023 meeting schedule. Meetings will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of odd-numbered months from 3-4pm.

Motion (McClean/Guetzkow) to approve the 2023 meeting schedule as presented. Motion carried by chat vote.

WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker Updates

Berg shared that Soyomokun has been working with her and will be taking over as the new WIOA Planner.

Demographics Summary: Berg provided updates on both the Dislocated Worker and WIOA Adult programs for the period October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022. She also provided background as to the ways people are referred to each of the programs. Both programs are serving a majority of people in the 30-39 age range and are self-reporting as to barriers.

DOL Monitoring: Becker provided an update on the Federal Department of Labor Monitoring held the week of October 24, which focused on three programs: Adult, Dislocated Worker and Wagner Peyser (DEED). It did not include any fiscal information. The monitoring report is anticipated in about 30-45 days. A note for this committee is that future state monitoring reports will likely have more “findings” due to DOL stating that DEED monitors have been lenient in the past, giving “areas of concern” rather than “findings”.

Adult and Youth Workforce Development Legislative Outreach

Becker shared the feedback collected during the adult and youth workforce development Legislative Outreach sessions. The sessions were held by DEED to get input from stakeholders about the priorities the state should consider. Key takeaways were supporting people of color in workforce development and where the state could make investments to ensure that youth have the skills to meet demand.

Committee Work Plan Updates

Action Plan Strategies Status: Becker provided an update on the community work plans for this committee. There may be a need to reprioritize the strategies given the legislative changes.

New Legislators: Becker shared the delegation changes in Ramsey County. The WIB might need to develop an approach on who and how to get connected with the new legislators. There’s a potential event

scheduled for November 28 at Finishing Trades Institute with Reps. Noor and Xiong in partnership with the Minneapolis Workforce Development Board that this committee could be involved in.

Policy Agendas:

- MAWB: Becker reviewed the MAWB Legislative Platform. The two main items are to increase funding for the Minnesota Youth Program from \$5 million to \$10 million and an ask for \$20 million to address persistent workforce challenges via business-led local workforce boards.
- Ramsey County: Becker shared the County legislative priorities, which are being adopted in December centering around the County's strategic priorities. She also shared the Digital Equity priority (now referred to as Digital Inclusion) needs are not just the connectivity but also include high-speed broadband internet for underserved areas, affordable, sustainable and subsidized device ownership programs and multilingual digital navigation.

Director Updates

Networking/Info Event at 3M Advanced Training Center: Becker reported that St. Paul Public Schools (SPPS) recently opened a career pathways training center to offer career training to 9-12th graders districtwide. While foundational career pathway courses and internship opportunities are available through a student's home high school, there are further opportunities available online and through the Career Pathways Center. District staff offer support in earning industry recognized certifications, internships, and advanced training. A networking event is scheduled for January 25, 2023 from 3:30-5pm, sponsored by the WIB, SPPS, the St. Paul Area Chamber and Saint Paul Right Track. All WIB and committee members will be invited.

Other

No further items discussed.

Adjourn

Upon completion of the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 1:56pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 11, 2023, 3-4 PM