



SWDB BOARD NOTES

Date: 3/8/23

Location: R&R Three Fountains Building, West Des Moines

Minutes

Iowa Workforce Development Board Meeting

March 8, 2023

11 am – 1:00 pm

ZOOM / R&R Three Fountains Building

Agenda item 1. Call to Order

Chair Jay Iverson called to order the meeting of the Iowa Workforce Development Board (the Board) on March 8, 2023, at approximately 11 am at the R&R Three Fountains Building, Training Center, 4200 University Avenue, West Des Moines, IA.

Agenda item 2. Roll Call

Members in Attendance

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Beth Townsend | 16. Matthew Nicol |
| 2. Paula Nissen | 17. Scott Naumann |
| 3. Keri Osterhaus | 18. Carrie Duncan |
| 4. Daniel Tallon | 19. Charlie Wishman |
| 5. Jay Iverson | 20. Andy Roberts |
| 6. Alicia Stafford | 21. Jason Shanks |
| 7. Jack Hasken | 22. Jayson Henry |
| 8. LuAnn Scholbrock | 23. Josh Cobbs |
| 9. Teresa Hovell | 24. Nancy McDowell |
| 10. Kellie Gottner | 25. Quentin Hart |
| 11. Mary Landhuis | 26. Drew Conrad |
| 12. Brad Elliott | 27. Rita Grimm |
| 13. Ofelia Rumbo | 28. Kyra Hawley |
| 14. Alex Severn | 29. Beth Skinner |
| 15. Kelly Barrick | 30. Amela Alibasic |
| | 31. Scott Thompson |

Members Absent

1. Governor Kim Reynolds
2. Dawn Driscoll
3. Dave Deyoe
4. Amy Larsen
5. Daren Westercamp
6. Jessica Dunker
7. Deb Mauricio
8. William Dotzler
9. John Smith
10. Todd Holcomb

Shelly Evans called roll and advised Chair Iverson that quorum was established.

MEETING MINUTES			
Call to Order, Jay Iverson, Chair.			
Roll Call and establish Quorum, Shelly Evans, Board Administrator.			
ACTION ITEM			
ACTION	1st	2nd	Unanimously Approved
Approval of Agenda.	Andy Roberts	LuAnn Scholbrock	X
ACTION ITEM			
ACTION	1st	2nd	Unanimously Approved
Approval of Minutes from 11/2/22 meeting.	Andy Roberts	Dan Tallon	X
Welcome by Jay Iverson, Chair. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction of New Members:<ul style="list-style-type: none">➢ Senator Dawn Driscoll➢ Scott Naumann, Point Builder's, Davenport (Business Member)• Reminder to check out SWDB Website -- https://www.iowawdb.gov/ with materials and all board members serving.• Request for Committee Members / Volunteers for Policies and Procedures Committee.<p>Discussion. Created Bylaws and documents for procedures for everything the board does. Minor changes along the way.</p><p>Core Partner working group working together on system wide policies. Policies are brought to board for review and approval. This committee would do the review before being presented to the full board.</p>			

Member Charlie Wishman volunteered. Alicia Stafford expressed interest and would like information about this committee emailed to her.

- Chair Iverson discussed future meetings in-person versus virtual. Input from members indicated a desire to have meetings in-person.
- Reminder that Shelly will be sending out invites to the upcoming meetings after today's meeting.
 - June 21, 2023 – Hosted by Jackson Manufacturing @ Timer Lanes & The Timber Center, Maquoketa, IA
 - September 20, 2023 – Hosted by LuAnn Scholbrock @ NIACC, Forest City, IA
 - December 14, 2023 @ DMACC Urban Campus

Director's Report by Director Beth Townsend, Iowa Workforce Development.

- Be supportive to employers who offer tours. Encourage in person attendance for SWDB. June meeting will be an important one. Review, discussion and voting on High Demand Occupation list. List will be shared out in May.
- Director and team meeting with stakeholders and legislators around SAA bill which would move Iowa from USDOL run apprenticeship to a state apprenticeship agency. Allow Iowa to make those decisions. Interactive process.
- Meeting with IVRS and DOE regarding realignment. Stakeholders and legislators to answer any questions/concerns. Excited about bringing all 4 titles into one entity. Great opportunity to increase access for all Iowans. Better and more robust referral process between the programs. Thank you to Dan Tallon and his team in support and effort in realignment. Realignment bill passed the Senate and onto the House.
- End of year stats for RCM program. In 2022 paid out \$150 million less in UI benefits. Length of UI was reduced. Lowest level of claimants since in 1973/74. Good indicator work being done on front end of finding jobs is working. Helping those getting off UI faster and applying for jobs they may not have applied for previously due to help with resumes, interviewing, and finding those other jobs. Looking at a job list of over 74,000 can be a little hard to work through. RCM makes it easier to sift through and narrow down for individual needs and make connections.

Charlie Wishman. Heard with realignment of government there will be no job loss going on. Will be through attrition. Heard voc rehab number is at 25. How do we get to that number? Are you expecting people to retire?

Beth Townsend – For IWD there are 38/39 funded or unfunded positions that have been on books for a long time that we have no intention of filling. Part of issue is transition to Workday, and we are getting some confusing information from Workday and process to get right numbers. As Governor and I have said Director said this is not about layoffs. Realignment is not about layoffs. Will probably result in change in duties across both IVRS/IWD. Duplication going on. Need to figure out duties, who can do them, and how to fund and pay. Work is going to happen on how we get to those numbers.

Charlie Wishman – about looking at different positions for efficiency.

Beth Townsend – How can we create efficiencies if 2 people are doing the same tasks in both agencies but can be done by 1 person. No job loss. Number one focus is not having disruption to customers. Not making change just to make change. Will do gradually, thoughtfully, and with collaboration. Priority #1 - no job losses and # 2 - no disruption in services.

Dan Tallon – 2 positions unfilled that do not need to be filled. 25 positions should be just 2.

Andy Roberts – What is amount of registered apprenticeship state expansion? RPF deadline June 30. Told these funds not accessible or funding has run out.

Beth Townsend – not that I am aware of. Plan modifications are allowed.

Michelle McNertney – 2 grants: ASE and SAE. One of them - funding ended 12/31/22. Other grant continues and modifying for no cost extension for 1 year. 2 different purposes so would need to know additional information to answer more specific questions.

Andy Roberts – we received our grant. Other building trades say they are having problem getting funded. Broad list.

Beth Townsend – purpose was to use the money. Allow you to rewrite if you can expend the funds. Have them to reach out to Michelle for assistance.

Andy Roberts – don't kill the messenger.

Michelle McNertney – federal funding and state funding all do different things, so it is better to ask.

Andy Roberts – how much was that grant, do you know?

Michelle McNertney – between 3 and 4 million dollars.

Andy Roberts – I'll have them email the questions.

Beth Townsend – or give us someone to reach out to.

Jay Iverson – apprenticeships remain top priority for Governor and IWD. Linda Fandel is involved.

Beth Townsend – IWD has worked hard to expand high school apprenticeships. Linda Fandel meets with schools all the time and expand that opportunity around the state.

Andy Roberts – maybe you could convince the Governor to have RAs required in economic development.

Beth Townsend – that's a question for Debi.

Andy Roberts - I know it is.

Beth Townsend – any other questions or comments?

Jack Hasken – what list will be approved at June meeting?

Beth Townsend – SWDB will be voting on the approved high demand occupation list. Some new occupations eligible and some others will roll off. Only done twice before. There will be new occupations that are eligible this time. Robotics, paramedic. More programs available but need to priority since we can't approve 100 programs. You will be provided the information well ahead of the meeting so you can review it.

Jack Hasken – offering tours before the meeting and at Timber Center. I know 3-hour commitment from Des Moines. Encourage all to attend. We know how to put on a good show.

Dan Tallon – LDS program community colleges get to add. Can private schools operate in the same area and tap into it?

Beth Townsend – it is in legislative code that each CC gets to name 5 additional programs. Check to see if administrative rule change that can be made to allow for private schools. CC might have someone to say about that, but we can look at it as it may take legislative change.

Kelly Barrick – a lot of questions around what programs were available at the colleges and what was being added and ranked. Did that information get cleared up.

Beth Townsend – list only for occupations for funding at the community colleges.

Kelly Barrick – does anyone remember that discussion from last time.

LuAnn Scholbrock – I think it was childcare was a huge part of that.

Beth Townsend – no.

Kelly Barrick – I'll go back and look at the minutes. I want to understand heading into this meeting that any work that the board could do to help with the discussions and make it easier.

Beth Townsend – Occupations all have corresponding courses at the CCs. Not every CC has the same programs but that is not a reason to stay on the list. Bigger discussion last time was around EMT/paramedics. These did not make the list because did not meet the \$14 wage threshold. They now qualify and CCs were notified 6 months ago.

Paula Nissen – recalls conversation and it was enrollments. Concentrating dollars in areas they will be utilized.

Beth Townsend – That's what I was talking about. Rolled off programs were not new. Voted on some newer programs.

Alex Severn – Are private colleges in Iowa able to participate in these LDS?

Beth Townsend – not many but a few.

Alex Severn – do they not participate because they do not have any programs that fit?

Beth Townsend – that would be my understanding.

Alex Severn – how is the size of the scholarship determined, is there a set amount?

Beth Townsend – Varies by individual. Scholarship pays the difference between the tuition cost and less any non-payable. Money never goes to students; it goes to institutions. Some are going to get more financial funds than others.

Alex Severn – average # for size of scholarships?

Beth Townsend – Aid Commission from 7,200 scholarships in 2021 to over 9,000 this year. Significant spike.

Alex Severn – what is the pool of resources?

Beth Townsend – Website last year provided 24.5 million dollars.

Alex Severn – the 9,000 exhaust this amount?

Beth Townsend – usually exhaust the funds and then some. Try to find other funding opportunities to help.

Alex Severn – data for June meeting. Looked at occupations for scholarships. Is data available?

Beth Townsend – list that we will provide will have that data.

Alex Severn – interesting last year –

Beth Townsend – 2 years ago because it is too hard for CCs in short turn around and need some advance time. Will vote in June but will not be implemented until the next fall.

Alex Severn – interesting from his viewpoint of broader view of openings.

Beth Townsend – Always nurses.

Alex Severn – looking at it from this perspective, wanting to make sure we are making funding available, even if it doesn't align would rather support an occupation that doesn't have a high demand –

Beth Townsend – the code has specific requirements to meet certain threshold. These are high demand occupations.

Alex Severn Rules around the program are filters based off that –

Beth Townsend – they must meet certain criteria.

Teresa Hovell – any stipulations for the scholarships that you must use those skills in the State of Iowa for a period?

Beth Townsend – no - enforcement mechanism would be difficult. Recruitment of money. Those attending CC tend to stay in Iowa.

Matt Nichol – apprenticeship such a focus on the state they have redesigned their apprenticeship programs for advanced manufacturing and skilled trades. Would like to share their success story. Ton of interest and attraction. Tremendous success. Over 60 applicants. Ton of interest and attraction.

Beth Townsend – that would be great!

Discussions on Appointing Vice Chair by Chair Jay Iverson.

Jay Iverson - Jack Hasken no longer serving as vice-chair, needs to focus on business. Need to appoint a new Vice Chair for 2-year deal. At recent meeting with Michelle and heard from other state board chairs who have been in that position for 16 years. No – just two years. Anyone interested in stepping up to the plate?

Michelle McNertney – It must be a business member.

Jay Iverson – easy deal and I have enjoyed it very much. Just 2 years.

Andy Roberts – if it doesn't have to be a business member, I am more than happy to step in.

Jay Iverson – we don't have to do it today if no one has any interest.

Josh Cobbs – volunteering.

7.1 -- ACTION ITEM

ACTION	1st	2nd	Unanimously Approved
Motion to Nominate Vice-Chair – Josh Cobbs.	Dan Tallon	Kelly Barrick	X

Discussion on Appointing Interim Chair for Disability Access Committee by Chair Jay Iverson.

Jay Iverson – we need to appoint interim chair. Any volunteers?

Dan Tallon – I'll do it.

8.1 -- ACTION ITEM

ACTION	1st	2nd	Unanimously Approved
Motion to Nominate Interim Chair.	Kelly Barrick	LuAnn Scholbrock	X

Presentation of 2021 Future Ready Iowa Annual Report by Kathy Leggett, Future Ready Iowa Policy Advisor, IWD.

Kathy Leggett – Reporting on required in legislation to SWDB and then presented to the legislature. LDS numbers for 2021.

7,864 apprentices in program.

High demand – registered nurse the 1,886 participants. Vocational nurse the 2nd. Completion numbers are annually - 3,326. Mentoring program for in-person. 37 mentors for 43 LDS students. Wages – 1st year of \$46,461; median Annual \$48,520 for women; and 48,084 for minorities. 86.6% employed in Iowa. \$12,512 more in wages than those not in LDS eligible programs. FRI Grant Program established years ago. FY21 – 49 participants, 10 institutions participated. Did not meet what was expected. Continue to support those involved but it has been discontinued. FY22 we do not have wage information. Should have by the beginning of

May. Program for 22 had 7,764 participations. High demand, RN, and LPN programs. Same 15 colleges and 2 private colleges. Mentor program 46 mentors for 57 students. Information technology and healthcare. RN and LPN highest. Next was computer programming and specific applications and then automotive technology.

Andy Roberts – Motion to Approve the 2021 Annual Report.

Alex Severn – 2 private colleges no supporting data – it is an agreement issue.

Kathy Leggett – an agreement issue.

Beth Townsend – CCs has a lot of reporting requirements.

Alex Severn – would that take legislative fix?

Beth Townsend – yes it would.

Paula Nissen – we are now able to work with Iowa College Aid and IVD to at least get private community college just for recipients.

9.1 -- ACTION ITEM

ACTION	1st	2nd	Unanimously Approved
Motion to Approve 2021 Future Ready Iowa Annual Report.	Andy Roberts	Jason Shanks	X

WIOA Update by Michelle McNertney, Division Administrator Workforce Services, IVD.

Providing this updated with my IVD hat on.

Updates. Core partners, Title I, II, III, and IV currently involved staff from DOE, IVRS, DOB, and IVD.

Infrastructure funding agreement. Long time coming and very difficult but making progress. All of partners that operate out of IowaWORKS centers across the state. Currently on some informal cost sharing. Working for months to develop policy and procedure. Consultation with required local level state partners. Completed all required. 17 other required programs that must contribute. Financially, in-kind. CEO done and next LWDBs. Hope to have ready at next SWDB meeting. Release policy and procedures in July and work through process locally.

LWD areas and compliance. November training for all local WDBs. Identify true grant recipients. Funding through fiscal agent. Next step in process to ensure compliance and oversight at local level is present. At training, a lot of questions. What happens if we refuse the funds. IVD passes the money and local control. One CEO from each county. CEOs have fiscal responsibility for those funds and if they are misspent, county governments required to pay back the funds. CTEC similar situation. Premise of liability. Federal law that CEOs have liability. Working closely with local and federal office with USDOL. Happened once in Hawaii. DOL said they can refuse the funds and don't have to operate. Given this information to all local areas. As of today, received Western Iowa, CEOs agreed to refuse Title I funds. 3 other western part of state to also refuse. No precedence. Continuity of service is the most important piece. Working closely with DOL. First step, reaching out to other local areas to see if they can support and form new local area. County officials that refused funds

would not have liability. If those other areas chose to bring new areas on, only those CEOs would have liability for all of it. Cannot figure out a scenario where this will happen, it will fall to IWD to provide services and ensure continuity of services. IWD will make sure that services will continue to be provided. CEOs and local boards will not exist in those areas. No role for SWDB to play in this right now. Local decision. A lot of unknowns. Very dedicated to making sure we come out of the other side with services continuing without disruption.

Teresa Hovell – what burden does that put on IWD staff?

Michelle McNertney – Good news is that the funding stays. Allocation formula. Hire staff just like local areas do. Could procure out. A lot of options. Funds available and funding will not go away. Only local responsibility goes away.

Beth Townsend – important to remember LWDB impose significant burden on local officials. Complicated program. All unfunded an unpaid position and it is voluntary. WIOA is so complicated. Brought in outside trainers. Michelle and team provide significant amount to help to local areas.

Drew Conrad – how will regional plan be implemented if LWDB is not responsible?

Michelle McNertney – great question and talking with DOL weekly. Unknown. Any questions, please call her cell number.

Jay Iverson – great job explaining that. She does an excellent job as the Executive Director to this board. Meeting in DC also showed them that other state boards have staff of 15+ people. Michelle doing it part-time.

Beth Townsend – Publicly acknowledge working with local boards is trying. Michelle has taken abuse. Worked hard and truly dedicated professional. Her and her team.

Update from Youth Services Committee by Committee Chair Matthew Nicol.

Met in December and connected again in January. Building live youth committee document. Some committee members accepted new roles with new employment. Ashley set up communications to get back on plan. How to be building consultative approach across the state and to local boards. More to come.

Update from Minority Unemployment & Outreach Committee by Committee Chair Ofelia Rumbo.

Meeting on March 16. Broader view of education and employment expenses, industry employment and earning levels and how that affects unemployment for this group. Working with Wayne Ford. Coaching her and very influential. Hoping to assist her in grant writing.

General Discussions.

Jay Iverson – mentions Quentin Hart and Amy Larsen this is their last meeting for this board. Thank you for your service.

Andy Roberts – meeting time set for Maquoketa – what time?

Shelly Evans – 11 am to 1 pm. A tour will be held beforehand, and I'll get that information out to this group.

Jay Iverson – how about a motion to adjourn?

Charlie Wishman – questions on how this group operates. Not here to debate policy or legislation. Missed last meeting for jury duty. In general discussions, Ms. Dunker talking about what leads to child labor, now 2 child labor law bills. IWD and Governor’s office helped draft it and all that kind of stuff.

Beth Townsend – it was this board that drafted it, Charlie.

Charlie Wishman – when it comes to legislation that is going to be moved forward from this Board are we all on it? Where did this working group come from? No reference in other meeting minutes. If this Board is going to advance legislation, who – I mean like Andy, Jayson, and Andy can come up with great legislation and do it in the name of the board. How does this all work when it comes to legislation?

Beth Townsend – I want to make sure we are going beyond the agenda and violate any open, because this was no on the agenda to have this discussion, so I want to make sure. Are we okay?

Charlie Wishman – are you afraid to talk about it?

Beth Townsend – no, no it is not that. As you know the public meetings open, if boards are not supposed to take up issues that are not on the agenda.

Jay Iverson – let’s adjourn this agenda and we can have a discussion after the meeting. How is that?

Carrie Duncan – shout out to Ryan West from IWD, Deputy Director. Worked closely and issues with UI. He has gotten case managers on it right away. Employees at her facility are grateful they had someone to reach out to. We are connecting the dots, so these people are getting them unemployment. Thank you very much to Ryan West and the case management.

Beth Townsend – thank you Carrie I really appreciate that, and I will pass that along to Ryan. Okay Charlie we have a response from our Attorney General that we table the discussion.

Jay Iverson – just add it. We are talking more philosophical at this meeting about child labor.

Charlie Wishman – no but policy that has been proposed and what –

Jay Iverson – let’s add it to the agenda for the June meeting.

Beth Townsend – we will take her advisement and put it on the agenda for the next meeting for discussion, so the public has an opportunity to participate.

Jay Iverson – okay someone want to make a motion to adjourn?

MOTION		
Motion to Adjourn. Adjournment at approximately 12:12 p.m.	Kelly Barrick	