



SWDB BOARD NOTES

Date: 6/03/25

Location: ZOOM

Minutes

Iowa Workforce Development Board Meeting

June 3, 2025

2:00 – 2:30 pm

Virtual

Agenda item 1. Call to Order

Chair Teresa Hovell called to order the meeting of the Iowa Workforce Development Board (the Board) on June 3, 2025, at approximately 2:00 pm.

Agenda item 2. Roll Call

Members in Attendance

1. Dawn Driscoll
2. Barb Kniff McCulla
3. Director Beth Townsend
4. Keri Osterhaus
5. Scott Naumann
6. Brandy McOmber
7. Teresa Hovell
8. Kelly Barrick
9. LuAnn Scholbrock
10. Jessica Dunker
11. Ofelia Rumbo
12. Nick Glew

13. Charlie Wishman
14. Jason Shanks
15. Mckenzie Snow

Members Absent

1. Laura Book
2. Jack Hasken
3. Brad Elliott
4. Carrie Duncan
5. Tiffany O'Donnell

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

Agenda item 3. Approval of Agenda

Chair Hovell called the next order of business which was the approval of the meeting Agenda for June 3, 2025. The agenda was previously emailed to the Members of the Board.

Keri Osterhaus motioned to approve the agenda and Kelly Barrick seconded the motion. Members of the Board in attendance voted on the motion by voice vote, which carried unanimously.

Agenda item 4. Welcome by Teresa Hovell, Chair

Chair Hovell welcomes attendees.

- Welcome and thanks for everyone for adjusting calendars.
- Please identify yourself when making comments so notes can accurately reflect.
- Moved public comments to beginning of the meeting and will be limited to 3 minutes.

Agenda item 5. Public Comment.

- Moved public comment period to beginning of agenda so any public comments can be heard by the board before any discussion and action
- If you have a public comment, please raise your hand
- Public comments will be limited to 3 minutes

First public comment:

Matt Thompson, President of Indian Hills Community College and today I am representing all 15 community colleges (CCs) who proudly educate and train over 120K Iowans annually. At the Workforce Development Board meeting on May 15 the Workforce Board took action to approve the list of Last Dollar Scholarship (LDS) program recommendations.

Teresa Hovell – Matt the conversation, we have to, we cannot talk about that because it's not on the Agenda for today. I apologize. The comments today would be related to the items on the Agenda which is for the Workforce Grant and Incentive Program.

Matt Thompson – I do tie into that grant and incentive program at the end of my comments.

Teresa Hovell – okay.

Matt Thompson – okay, so I can proceed?

Teresa Hovell – yes for 3 minutes. We will go ahead and start your 3 minutes.

Matt Thompson – at the Workforce Development Board meeting on Thursday, May 15, the Workforce Board took action to approve the list of LDS program recommendations made by Workforce Development. This action was taken with a 7 – 6 vote and eliminated 20 occupations in LDS program reducing the program from 66 occupations to 46. This action, all of the occupations are considered in demand and are needed to prepare Iowa's future workforce. Reducing 20 occupations from the LDS program would impact 2,500 students in programs at Iowa's CCs. Some of the programs that are no longer included are criminal justice training preparing students for jobs as police and county sheriff's deputies, fire science training that provides a pathway for future firefighters, dental hygiene and dental assistance programs that lead to high wage and in demand jobs in healthcare. Medical assistance programming that ladders a nursing profession and fulfills existing shortages in healthcare. Culinary science programming that helps meet the needs of hotels, restaurants, and small businesses across Iowa who are desperate for head cooks and chefs to maintain the health of the culinary industry. That proposal also excludes waste water treatment technicians who are essential to keeping Iowa's drinking water safe. We know the Iowa Code does not require Workforce Development to work with the Iowa CCs on the approved list of LDS programs as is required with the Regents institutions. We believe it is in the best interest of partnerships and student outcomes to work collaboratively to determine the best programs to include on the LDS program just like you are considering today. Today I am requesting the Workforce Board give consideration to requiring Workforce Development and the Iowa CCs to meet and reach a compromise on a list of occupations approved at the last Workforce Development Board meeting. This resolution would reduce the number of students who will no longer receive the LDS and provide open dialogue regarding the importance of this program and how it helps meet the needs of employers in Iowa just like we are today with the Regents. Thank you.

Teresa Hovell – thank you. Any additional comments? If no additional public comments, we will move onto the next Agenda item.

Agenda item 6. Update on Iowa Workforce Grant and Incentive AY 25-26 List (in coordination with the Iowa Board of Regents) by Ryan Murphy, Division Administrator Labor Market Information Division, Iowa Workforce Development. (Attachment 1 – Iowa Workforce Grant and Incentive AY 25-26 SWDB Approved List and Board of Regents Requested Additions)

Ryan Murphy discussed the Iowa Workforce Grant and Incentive AY 25-26 List and Board of Regents Requested Additions.

Only one attachment which I'm sure everyone appreciates. I am referring to the list that was approved in May. On the very last page in blue we were approached by the Board of Regents (BOR) with 12 additional occupations that they would like this board to consider adding to the Iowa Workforce Grant and Incentive Program. This board and the BOR approval list have to be in alignment for this next academic year. The BOR let us know that adding these 12 additional occupations will not add any additional programs at the universities but more for the incentive piece of this programming that is in code where there is funding available for students who after they complete their

programs decide to stay and work in these occupations within the state of Iowa. They need to have that information available so that when they follow up with these students post-graduation that they can award them with that incentive. All 12 occupations proposed by the BOR do meet the criteria in Code.

Teresa Hovell - thank you for the information, Ryan. As a reminder, we must have a motion made and seconded to have discussion. At this time, we will consider motions from the Board, please be specific. Are there any motions or seconds that anyone has regarding the addition of these 12 programs?

Beth Townsend – I will move that we accept the 12 occupations proposed by the BOR to be added to the list so that we can come to an agreement with the BOR which we are required to do under the Iowa Workforce Grant and Incentive Program.

Scott Naumann – I would second that motion.

Teresa Hovell – so we have a motion to approve and a second. Is there any discussion.

Nick Glew – I have a comment. Glad to see the list. As a workforce board member am not in a position to say where this is a good, bad, right or wrong list. List was generated through collaboration with the BOR which Iowa Code mandates. Last month board not put in the same position trying to navigate a couple of parties that might not able to come to same decision collaboratively. I think Code or not it is not in the best interest collectively of all of us for those things to be decided and debated by a group like ours. We were not necessarily in the middle of who can best make those decisions. My hope and request is that when in a couple of years when we come back to this process, that the Workforce Board not be put in the same situation that we have been in the last couple of years. Code or not if both sides would collaboratively work together has it is being done with the BOR's list. We as a SWDB put stamp of approval on both sides that we have a list that we are all supportive of.

Teresa Hovell – thank you Nick. Any additional comments or discussions. With that motion being seconded and no additional discussion, all in favor of approving the list with the BOR addition say I, Is. All opposed the same. Members of the Board in attendance voted on the motion by voice vote, which carried unanimously.

- **ACTION ITEM: Motion to Approve the Iowa Workforce Grant and Incentive AY 25-26 SWDB Approved List and Board of Regents Requested Additions.**

Beth Townsend motioned to approve the Iowa Workforce Grant and Incentive AY 25-26 SWDB Approved List and Board of Regents Requested Additions Future Ready Iowa Grant AY 26-27 List and Scott Naumann seconded the motion. Members of the Board in attendance voted on the motion by voice vote, which carried unanimously.

Teresa Hovell – one last item, Director Townsend to discuss the implementation of the new IT system within Iowa Workforce Development.

Beth Townsend – Quick update. Went live last night and has been up and running since that time. Over 3,500 lowans who successfully navigated the new program in filing for benefits. So far a good successful launch and we are very excited about that. Will have more information in September. So far so good.

Teresa Hovell – thank you Director.

Beth Townsend - Governor will be signing the UI tax overhaul on Thursday in Pleasant Hill.

Teresa Hovell – thank you.

Motion to adjourn.

Jason Shanks – motion to adjourn.

Jessica Dunker - second.

Teresa Hovell – with motion and second will adjourn for today. Thank you everyone for your time.

Adjournment.

Chair Hovell adjourned the meeting of the Board at approximately 2:15 pm.



Shelly Evans - Executive Assistant to the SWDB