NEBRASKA workforce development board

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Nebraska Workforce Development Board
Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2021, 9a – 12p
Administrative Services Building
Conference Room D, 4th Floor
1526 K Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Agenda item 1. Call to Order

Chair Mark Moravec called to order the meeting of the Nebraska Workforce Development Board (the Board) on March 5, 2021 at approximately 9a at Nebraska Department of Administrative Services, 4th floor, Conference Room D, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Agenda item 2. Roll Call

Nicole Goodwin called roll and advised Chair Moravec that quorum was established.

Members in attendance

1. Senator Greg Adams
2. John Albin
3. Elizabeth Babcock
4. Brian Deakin
5. Gary Dixon
6. Lindy Foley
7. Allen Hale
8. James Hanson, Jr.
9. Susan Martin
10. Mark Moravec
11. Don Nordell
12. Terri Ridder
13. Bradley Schroeder
14. Jennifer Sedlacek
15. Senator Jim Smith
16. Becky Stitt
17. Paul Turman

Members absent

1. Governor Pete Ricketts
2. Senator Joni Albrecht
3. Kyle Arganbright
4. Phil Bakken
5. Jason Feldhaus
6. Michael Geary
7. Anthony Goins
8. Tate Lauer
9. Kyle Nixon
10. Danette Smith
11. Carol Swigart
12. Lisa Wilson

Nebraska Department of Labor (NDOL) Board Support Staff

1. Deb Andersen, Reemployment Services Administrator, Division of Reemployment Services
2. Dawn Carrillo, Reemployment Services Program Analyst, Division of Reemployment Services
3. Nicole Goodwin, Administrative Assistant, Division of Reemployment Services

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4. Shauna Smith, Reemployment Services Administrator, Division of Reemployment Services
5. Erica Sousek, Reemployment Services Program Coordinator, Division of Reemployment Services
6. Katie Thurber, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel

Agenda item 3. Notice of Publication

Nicole Goodwin announced that the Notice of Public Meeting was duly published in the Beatrice Daily Sun, Grand Island Independent, Lincoln Journal Star, North Platte Telegraph, Omaha World Herald, and Scottsbluff Star-Herald. Nicole also announced that notice of the meeting was also posted on the State of Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar, and that the notices were published in accordance with the requirements of the Nebraska Open meetings Act.

Agenda item 4. Approval of Minutes

Chair Moravec called the Board's attention to the draft minutes from the last meeting of the Board held on September 10, 2020, which were included in the Board Members' meeting packets as Handout 1. The minutes were emailed to Members of the Board on March 3, 2021. Chair Moravec asked if Members Board had additions or corrections to the minutes. No additions or corrections were provided by Board Members. Deb Andersen recommended corrections to the September minutes. In sections 4 and 8 of the minutes, the links to the Board's webpage are no longer valid due to recent restructuring of the Nebraska Department of Labor website, on which the Board's webpage is housed.

Chair Moravec opened the floor for public comment on the draft minutes. No public comments were made. James Hanson, Jr. motioned to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2020 meeting of the Board, and Bradley Schroeder seconded the motion. Members of the Board in attendance voted on the motion by voice vote. The vote carried unanimously.

Chair Moravec reminded the Board that agendas, minutes, and packets provided during meetings of the Board are available on Board's webpage, which is accessible at https://dol.nebraska.gov/ReemploymentServices/Training/WIOA/NWDB.

Agenda item 5. Old business

a. Career Pathways Update – Facebook Career Connections – Digital Marketing

Chair Moravec introduced Bobbi Jo Howard, who gave an update on the Facebook Career Connections initiative. Bobbi Jo called the Board's attention to Handout 2 and provided the Board with an overview of its contents. Bobbi Jo advised the Board of the ongoing efforts at NDOL to convert employee work experience into a permanent placement through the Facebook Career Connections initiative.

Chair Moravec asked how many were being recruited. Bobbi Jo replied that they were recruiting 15 job seekers, and that the program begins on April 3rd.

b. JAG Nebraska Update

Chair Moravec explained to new Board members the history of the Board's involvement with the JAG Nebraska program. He then introduced Shauna Smith, who provided the Board with an update on the JAG Nebraska program. Shauna called the Board's attention to Handouts 3 and 4

and provided the Board with an overview of the program, NDOL's most recent participation and performance outcomes with JAG. She then opened the floor for questions.

Paul Turman referenced Handout 3 and asked the meaning of the asterisk by Monroe and Bryan Middle Schools. Shauna replied that it means Monroe and Bryan Middle Schools just started in January 2021, which means they are still in the development phase. They are getting students enrolled as well as lining up JAG specialists and teachers.

Paul also asked about comparing numbers for performance, and whether those standards the national standards for JAG programs. Also, going on to post-secondary or getting credentials, whether that is because the majority have gone into employment, meaning they are less likely to go on for a credential of some kind. Shauna replied that she would provide that information at a later time.

Don Nordell asked that the schools are doing versus what the students are doing to get involved. Shauna replied that United Way of the Midlands operated JAG Nebraska, and they partner with the schools. JAG helps schools establish the program and they recruit for the JAG specialists. They provide the classroom and integration of the teacher, as well as the school and the program. They also work with school counselors to identify students who could benefit from the program and who are willing to participate.

Lindy Foley asked if there is any demographic information for the students who are participating in JAG. Shauna replied that the information is available, and that she would retrieve that information to share with the Board.

c. Nebraska Department of Labor Update

Chair Moravec introduced Deb Andersen, who provided the Board with an update on recent NDOL activities. Deb called the Board's attention to Handouts 5 through10 and gave an overview of State and local area performance negotiations for Title I programs, the recent Federal review of the State and the Greater Nebraska Workforce Development Area, and the newly established statewide planning region. Deb opened the floor for questions.

Paul Turman asked who negotiations are happening with and where they are taking place. Deb responded that negotiations occur between NDOL's State WIOA Team and local area Chief Elected Officials, local workforce development board representatives, and local area administrative entity staff.

d. Registered Apprenticeship Update

Chair Moravec introduced Elliott Cain, who provided the Board with an update on the Registered Apprenticeship Program. Elliott called the Board's attention to Handout 11 and 12, and gave an overview of the program's core components, NDOL's role and participation, and its benefits and metrics. Elliott opened the floor for questions.

Terri Ritter asked if the list of occupations were on the website. Elliott replied that yes, they were on the website.

Chair Moravec asked if a schedule is provided as to what workers need to be trained on. Elliott responded that NDOL has a schedule because they have worked in certain industries, but the work process comes from the US Department of Labor.

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Allan Hale asked what kind of industry gets the most "bang for its buck." Elliott responded that manufacturing is the leader in Nebraska.

Paul Turman asked about utilization of a rubric that's tied to knowledge-based elements, and whether that is hours-driven or is the mentor responsible for evaluating the rubric in relation not the apprentice. Elliott responded that it depends on the rubrics, the occupation and which one is selected. Paul had a second question, asking how workers transferring to a different state and whether there are inconsistencies because each state has different licensing standards. Elliott answered that it depends on the occupation.

Chair Moravec brought up the academic aspect of Registered Apprenticeship, and Allan Hale asked whether there were educational components inside of the programs. Elliott responded that it depends on the specific occupation and what is required for it. Local community colleges are usually approached because they tend to have what is needed for that employer.

Agenda item 6. New business

a. Subcommittee Appointments

Chair Moravec introduced the first item of new business, subcommittee appointments. He stated that the bylaws were emailed to the Board members on March 3, 2021 and will be posted on the Board's website. Amendment of the bylaws eliminated the Evaluation Review and Subcommittee and reassigned the responsibilities of that subcommittee to the Policy and Oversight Subcommittee and the Strategy and Innovation Subcommittee. The Board decided in March of 2020 to exclude members of the Board's Executive Committee from subcommittee service to ensure that subcommittee meetings comply with Sections 5.9 and 5.10 of the bylaws. After consulting with Vice Chair Bradley Schroeder and the NDOL State WIOA Team, Chair Moravec said he made the appointments to the Policy and Oversight Subcommittee and Strategy and Innovation Subcommittee. He then directed Board Members' attention to Handout 13, rosters for the Subcommittees, and opened the floor for questions. No questions were asked.

b. Subcommittee Reports

Chair Moravec introduced the next item of new business, subcommittee reports. James Hanson, Jr. provided the Policy of Oversight Subcommittee report. James stated that the Policy and Oversight Subcommittee is in the process of scheduling a meeting with State Plan Partners, during which implementation of goals and strategies outlined in the State Plan will be discussed, in addition to the mandatory two-year modification of the State Plan, which must be submitted to US Departments of Education and Labor by April 1, 2022. Chair Moravec opened the floor for questions; no questions were asked.

Chair Moravec presented the Strategy and Innovation Subcommittee report on behalf of Michael Geary. The Strategy and Innovation Subcommittee will be meeting during the next calendar quarter. The Subcommittee will discuss resumption of the project to compile a list of workforce focused groups and initiatives operating across Nebraska. There will also be a discussion on ways the subcommittee can work with the Policy and Oversight Subcommittee and support the State Plan Partners in their implementation of the goals and strategies outlined in the State Plan and the development of the two-year modification of the State Plan. Chair Moravec opened the floor for questions; no questions were asked.

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Agenda item 7. Member Updates

Chair Moravec asked Members of the Board for updates on their respective industries or organizations and updates on local area activities from Board Members who also serve on local workforce development boards. Members of the Board provided updates as requested.

Agenda item 8. Public Comment

Chair Moravec opened the floor for public comment. No public comments were made.

Agenda item 9. Next Meeting – Date and Time

Chair Moravec reminded the Members of the Board that the next meeting of the Board is scheduled for June 11, 2021 from 9a to 12p with location pending. If the date or time of the meeting changes, Members of the Board would be notified by email.

Members of the public may confirm the dates and times of the meetings of the Board by checking the Upcoming Meetings section of the Board's webpage. The Board's webpage is accessible at https://dol.nebraska.gov/ReemploymentServices/Training/WIOA/NWDB.

Agenda item 10. Adjournment

Chair Moravec asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Brian Deakin motioned that the meeting be adjourned, and Becky Stitt seconded the motion. Members of the Board in attendance voted by voice vote on the motion, which carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:40a.

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