

**Governor's Council on Workforce Investment (CWI)
CWI Full Council Meeting**

Meeting Link: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Join by Phone: 1-608-571-2209

Phone Conference ID: 417 208 2#

Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams Meeting)

Thursday, February 17, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVED – MAY 19, 2022

Members Present: CWI Chair Mark Tyler; DCF Secretary, Emilie Amundson; Rebecca Bartoszek; Dave Brukart; Michele Erikson; Dr. Morna Foy; Ann Franz; Shah Haqqi; Carver Harries; Amanda Hoefling; Sen. André Jacque; Mark Kessenich; Seth Lentz; Terry McGowan; Dan Mella; Delora Newton; BJ Dernbach (on behalf of Sen. Warren Petryk); Sen. Janis Ringhand; Kathi Seifert; Sachin Shivaram; Dr. Rolf Wegenke; Corey Zetts.

Others Present: Sara Baird; Doug Bartz; Michele Carter; Laura Catherman; Aimee Jahnke; Steve Laesch; Patrick Lonergan; Colleen McCabe; Annette Meudt; Melisa Myers; Nancy Nakkoul; Christina Lorge; Bruce Palzkill; Linda Preysz; Carrie Schneider; Jennifer Sereno; Anthony Snyder; Rhonda Suda; Sharon Wendt.

I. Welcome, Opening Remarks – CWI Chair Mark Tyler

Chair Tyler welcomed everyone and thanked them for participating in the meeting.

II. State of the State Update – DWD Communications Director, Jennifer Sereno

DWD Communications Director, Jennifer Sereno briefed the Council members on the workforce development implications of Gov. Tony Evers' State of the State address, which included a call for a special session devoted to many of the same issues identified in the 2022 – 2026 CWI Strategic Plan, such as reducing barriers to employment, investing in education, and providing targeted economic relief to state residents, caregivers and property taxpayers. Ms. Sereno stated that Wisconsin is at a turning point with greater potential than ever before to advance equity and economic opportunity by connecting people with meaningful jobs. The state's record-low unemployment brings a once-in-a-generation chance to expand access to jobs with wages and benefits that support workers, their families and their communities.

Ms. Sereno then walked the Council members through some of the highlights and progress being made with Gov. Evers \$130 million Workforce Solutions Initiative. One of the programs under that initiative is the Workforce Innovation Grants which is a collaboration between the Wisconsin

Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) and the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD). Ms. Sereno informed the Council members that the agencies announced earlier this week the opening of the second round of grants for the remaining \$40 million in funds available under this program. The first round of grants included public-private partnerships to train and attract healthcare workers throughout rural Wisconsin; develop next-generation advanced manufacturing employees in west-central and southeast Wisconsin; expand affordable, high-quality childcare in Door County, Green County, and south-central Wisconsin; create pipelines of young, educated workers in Milwaukee. The grants also are being used to train construction and skilled craft workers throughout the state; foster a culture of entrepreneurship in Kenosha; and enable incarcerated individuals to earn undergraduate degrees from the University of Wisconsin.

Ms. Sereno explained other components of Gov. Evers' plan that were highlighted in the State of the State address including using a portion of the state's \$3.8 billion projected surplus to provide a \$150 surplus refund to every Wisconsin resident, provide targeted relief for childcare and caregiver costs, and invest in education while holding the line on property taxes. Ms. Sereno also provided some specifics of Executive Order #156 relating to Gov. Evers' calling of a special session of the state Legislature to act on LRB-6095, highlights of which include:

- Allocation of \$815.7 million toward a surplus refund of \$150 for each Wisconsin resident.
- Creation of a nonrefundable caregiver tax credit for qualified expenses incurred by a family caregiver to assist a qualified family member.
- Increasing the newly created Wisconsin nonrefundable credit match on the Child and Dependent Care Credit from 50 percent of the federal credit to 100 percent.
- Investing nearly \$611 million in K-12 education.
- A \$172.6 million investment to increase the state's special education aid reimbursement rate in FY23 from an estimated 30 percent to 40 percent.
- \$20 million for out-of-school time grants to support high-quality after-school programs and other out-of-school time programs.
- \$20 million for lead testing and remediation on school grounds and \$250,000 to purchase water bottle filling stations that provide filtered drinking water.
- \$20 million for a new reading professional aid program to help schools employ, hire, or retain reading teachers and reading specialists.
- \$18.3 million for a revamped bilingual-bicultural aid program, which will expand eligibility and support more districts and \$750,000 to help teachers become licensed/certified as bilingual teachers and teachers of English as a second language.
- \$9.9 million toward an Urban Excellence Initiative that will expand summer school grants, enhance early childhood education opportunities, support community engagement to improve academic achievement, and support principals in the state's five largest school districts.
- \$3 million for a driver education aid program for low-income students.
- The plan also would provide \$111 million for the University of Wisconsin System and \$28 million for the Wisconsin Technical College System.

Sachin Shivaram asked if there was a thematic focus for the applications that were awarded the first round of Workforce Innovation Grants and whether there is one for the second round. Ms. Sereno responded that several of the projects awarded first round were in line with the themes of the 2022 – 2026 CWI Strategic Plan and provided examples of projects related to funding child care needs and providing trainings in correctional care institutions. Ms. Sereno added that the "theme" was projects that were reflective of local needs and demonstrated strong regional partnerships. Chair Tyler asked if the Council could be provided a more detailed breakdown of the projects that were funded through

the first round of the Workforce Innovation Grant and Ms. Sereno responded that DWD would prepare a presentation for the next CWI Full Council meeting.

III. CWI By-Laws Review & Revision, Discussion and Vote – **Action Required**

Patrick Lonergan presented the proposed revisions to the CWI By-Laws and noted most of the revisions were minor updates that were technical or administrative in nature. The proposed changes to the by-laws were primarily for updating the specific purpose listed for each of the CWI Working Groups/Committees. The duties and purpose of the CWI Working Groups/Committees currently in the by-laws relate to the priorities in the 2018 – 2022 CWI Strategic Plan, so those areas needed to be modified to reflect the new focus areas and priorities in the next strategic plan.

Kathi Seifert made a motion to approve the proposed revisions to the CWI By-Laws and Mr. Shivaram seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the CWI By-Laws were approved without correction.

IV. Special Topic Presentation

a. WTCS 2019 – 2020 Apprenticeship Completion Report – Nancy Nakkoul, WTCS Education Director – Apprenticeship, Construction, and Architecture

Nancy Nakkoul presented to the Council on the 2019 – 2020 Apprenticeship Completion Report that was recently published by the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS). Highlights of the report include:

- Ninety-seven percent of apprentices were satisfied with their related instruction.
- Ninety-three percent of apprentices were satisfied with their on-the-job training.
- Forty percent of apprentices were considering continuing their education.
- The median annual earnings for all apprentices in 2019 – 2020 was \$80,000.
 - The median annual earnings for construction sector apprentices was \$81,114.
 - The median annual earnings for industrial sector apprentices was \$74,633.
 - The median annual earnings for all other sector apprentices was \$89,100.
- Ninety-six percent of employed apprentices were working in Wisconsin.

Chair Tyler thanked Ms. Nakkoul for her presentation and commented that the apprenticeship outcomes are fantastic and still growing.

V. (Break – 10 min.)

VI. CWI Working Group Breakout Sessions

- a. Employment Training Infrastructure Breakout Session
- b. Growing Workforce Opportunities Breakout Session
- c. WIOA Compliance & Resource Alignment Breakout Session

The CWI Working Groups each convened to their respective breakout sessions.

VII. CWI Working Group Report Outs: Strategic Plan Developments

- a. Employment Training Infrastructure – Ann Franz
- b. Growing Workforce Opportunities – Kathi Seifert
- c. WIOA Compliance & Resource Alignment – Sachin Shivaram

The CWI Full Council reconvened from the breakout sessions at 11:27 a.m. and each of the Working Group chairs provided a brief summary of the discussions that took place during the

breakout sessions and updates on the progress that had been made in their Working Groups towards developing their focus areas of the 2022 – 2026 CWI Strategic Plan.

VIII. Other Business

- a. Next CWI Full Council Meeting – **May 19, 2022 (Tentative)**
- b. Approval of the November 16, 2021 CWI Full Council Meeting Minutes – **Action Required**
Rolf Wegenke moved to approve the November 16, 2021 CWI Full Council meeting minutes and Ann Franz seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously and without correction.
- c. Public Comment
There were no public comments offered.

IX. Closing Remarks

Chair Tyler thanked everyone again for a very productive meeting and stated he was hopeful that the next CWI Full Council meeting would be held in person.

X. Adjournment

Michele Erikson moved to adjourn and Ms. Seifert seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

Meeting materials will be posted on the CWI web site at <http://www.wi-cwi.org/>.

For questions about the agenda, contact Patrick Lonergan, Department of Workforce Development, Division of Employment and Training by phone at (608) 405-4279 or by email at Patrick.Lonergan@dwd.wisconsin.gov. Department of Workforce Development, Division of Employment and Training is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. If you have a disability and need assistance with this information, please call us through Wisconsin Relay Service (7-1-1). To request information in an alternate format, including language assistance or translation of the information, please contact us at (888)-258-9966.