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**July 14, 2021**

**Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams Meeting)**

**9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

**Join By Phone: 1-608-571-2209**

**Phone Conference ID: 866 227 463#**

**Growing Workforce Opportunities Working Group Virtual Meeting**

9:00 a.m.	Working Group Meeting
10:30 a.m.	Working Group Meeting Adjourns

All full Council, Working Group meeting materials will be available on the CWI webpage at <http://www.wi-cwi.org>

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**Enclosed Meeting Packet Contents**

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**Governor's Council on Workforce Investment (CWI)  
Growing Workforce Opportunities Working Group Meeting  
Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams Meeting)  
Join By Phone: 1-608-571-2209  
Phone Conference ID: 866 227 463#  
Wednesday, July 14, 2021  
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

**AGENDA**

- I. Welcome, Opening Remarks – Kathi Seifert
- II. CWI Strategic Planning/Business Climate Survey – Bruce Palzkill
- III. 2022 – 2026 Strategic Plan Priorities, Discussion
- IV. Other Business
  - a. Approval of the April 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes – **Action Required**
  - b. Next Meeting – TBD
  - c. Public Comment
  - d. Closing Remarks
- V. Adjournment

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](mailto: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.

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**Governor's Council on Workforce Investment (CWI)  
Growing Workforce Opportunities Working Group Meeting  
Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams Meeting)  
Join By Phone: 1-608-571-2209  
Phone Conference ID: 704 795 166#  
Tuesday, April 27, 2021  
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

***DRAFT MEETING MINUTES, PENDING OFFICIAL APPROVAL***

**Members Present:** Kathi Seifert, Margaret McMahon (for DFI Secretary Emilie Amundson), Betsey Harries, Saul Newton, Missy Hughes, Rep. Katrina Shankland, Citlali Mendieta-Ramos, Corey Zetts

**Others Present:** Bruce Palzkill, Dennis Winters, Becky Kikkert, Patrick Lonergan, Carrie Schneider

I. Welcome, Opening Remarks – Kathi Seifert

Working Group Chair Kathi Seifert thanked members for attending, opened the meeting, and turned it over to Bruce Palzkill to provide an update on the efforts for the upskilling pilot project and the results of the telecommuting survey that was sent to Workforce Board Directors, Job Service Directors, and Vocational Rehabilitation Directors in Wisconsin.

II. Upskilling Pilot Project / Telecommuting Survey Results – Bruce Palzkill

Mr. Palzkill refreshed the Working Group on the concept for the pilot program to connect unemployment insurance claimants and/or underemployed individuals to upskill training opportunities for individuals to not only learn the hard skills required to perform the duties for a new specific position, but also the soft skills critical to working remotely. As a preliminary step for the pilot project, a survey was conducted to gather information on regional employers' experiences having their staff work remotely and gauge potential interest in a pilot project of this nature. Mr. Palzkill shared the survey results and discussed suggested next steps with the Working Group. Mr. Palzkill brought up the potential for collaboration with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) and asked if they had conducted, or were aware of, any surveys of this nature on a broader scale. Missy Hughes replied that UW-Oshkosh was conducting a survey of businesses statewide to determine the economic impact of COVID-19 to businesses in Wisconsin and she would look into it further to see if the survey results or any of the data collected would be pertinent to this pilot project.

Ms. Seifert mentioned the need to collaborate with the Wisconsin Technical College System for the actual upskilling aspect of the pilot project and that it would be valuable to have the business advisors from the technical colleges as partners for this effort. She also noted that some employers are now

providing upskill training to their current employees to fill higher skilled positions within the company. Companies that are paying their employees' wages for their regular duties as well as for trainings are doing well to address a possible barrier for individuals who are unable to take time away from work to participate in trainings. Dennis Winters asked how these companies are filling the pipeline of workers if they are upskilling in-house (i.e., how are they finding workers to fill the lower skilled job once an employee is trained to perform the higher job duties). Mr. Winters added there is a need to utilize every available worker as possible and a lot of industries experience worker shortages include occupations that cannot be performed remotely. Ms. Seifert referenced other upskilling initiatives that are taking place in Wisconsin and were recently highlighted on Good Morning America and other news outlets.

Ms. Kikkert and Mr. Palzkill discussed DWD's collaboration with the Wisconsin Dept. of Corrections to provide Job Center services in correctional institutions in the state. They shared recent successes stories of the initiatives and said the goal is to have 10 correctional job centers by the end of 2021.

Margaret McMahon offered perspective from the Dept. of Children and Families on what needs they are seeing related to the workforce. Ms. McMahon said that filling the pipeline is an issue and that DCF is hearing the current UI benefits are paying better than many entry-level jobs. She added that access to childcare is still a large barrier for people to re-enter the workforce and/or participate in trainings.

### III. Out of State Recruiting Update – Kathi Seifert

Ms. Seifert stated there is still a continuing need to recruit workers to Wisconsin, however many companies are starting to see people returning to their home state to be closer to family post-COVID. Ms. Hughes commented that WEDC has pivoted its efforts recently from trying to recruit from out-of-state to exploring ways to be more tactical and granular with talent attraction. One example was exploring "trade missions" to out of state schools to find ways to attract graduates back to Wisconsin. Ms. Hughes noted that regardless of any talent attraction efforts, employers need to be ready to be competitive with the compensation they are offering.

### IV. Other Business

#### a. Approval of the October 13, 2020 Meeting Minutes – **Action Required**

Ms. Seifert noted a spelling correction that was needed in the Oct. 13, 2020 minutes. Saul Newton moved to approve the minutes as corrected and Corey Zetts seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously as corrected.

#### b. Next Meeting – TBD

#### c. Public Comment

There were no public comments offered.

#### d. Closing Remarks

Mr. Palzkill shared updates on a couple of discussion topics that will be covered at the May 18, 2021 CWI Full Council meeting and how they are intended to increase Council member engagement.

### V. Adjournment

Ms. Hughes moved to adjourn, and Ms. Zetts seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.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](mailto: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

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