

MT SWIB

STATE WORKFORCE INNOVATION BOARD

Education, Training, and Upskill Committee Meeting

Friday, January 20, 2023

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Remote – [Click here to join the meeting](#)
[Video](#)

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Adam Gilbertson, Mary Heller (designee for Superintendent Elsie Arntzen), Commissioner Mary Armstrong, Bo Bruinsma, Quinton Queer, Jim Wonnacott, Deb Poteet, and Jacque Treaster

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF: Wesley Feist

PUBLIC PRESENT: Bill Ryan (Dick Anderson Construction), Sarah Swanson (MT DLI), Lisa Newman (CTI), John Fitzgerald, and Gene Dudley

CALL TO ORDER (10:00 A.M.): Chair Gilbertson called the meeting to order.

AGENDA: Chair Gilbertson asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Deb Poteet moved, and Commissioner Mary Armstrong seconded a motion to approve the agenda.

The motion carried.

REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT (10:02 A.M.): Chair Gilbertson asked for public comment.

No public comment was provided.

SEPTEMBER 9, 2022 MEETING MINUTES (10:03 A.M.): Chair Gilbertson asked for a motion to approve the September 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes.

Quinton Queer moved, and Bo Bruinsma seconded a motion to approve the minutes.

The motion carried.

Chair Gilbertson appreciated the last conversation and looks forward to a continued collaboration for discussion.

DICK ANDERSON CONSTRUCTION PRESENTATION (10:05 A.M.):

Bill Ryan provided a presentation about Dick Anderson Construction.

Chair Gilbertson asked for questions.

Chair Gilbertson asked how the ladder base presented could be broadened to additional organizations in Montana. Bill Ryan indicated that all individuals and organizations are welcomed to participate. Mr. Ryan also indicated that DAC is uniquely positioned to lead initiative, as they are in each location where Build Montana exists. Mr. Ryan is proud of DAC's initiative to allow for creative projects and initiatives to create a more sustainable workforce pipeline.

ACTIONABLE OPPORTUNITIES WITH GOALS (10:27 A.M.):

Chair Gilbertson asked committee members to flush out actionable goals.

Wesley Feist described an example of braided funding related to the WIOA youth waivers being requested by the US DOL and how that would compliment the MUS One, Two, Free program. Other examples are possible, depending on eligibility with WIOA and Youth programs.

Lisa Newman also provided examples of braided funding for education or training programs

Chair Gilbertson asked if programs are being used to the full capacity.

Lisa Newman indicated that there are some additional resources available, and more applications are welcomed. Chair Gilbertson asked how an organization can take more advantage of funding capabilities. Lisa Newman indicated that individuals would need to be eligible. If an organization is interested in a training program, service providers like CTI are happy to help determine eligibility and design a training program fit for the organization's needs. YouthBuild is hosting quarterly meetings with organizations to ensure trainings are pertinent and applicable.

Wesley Feist clarified that most WIOA funding is based on individual eligibility and for businesses the employees would need to be eligible for funding sources. Accelerate MT is a good resource for organizations to build individuals

Chair Gilbertson hopes that many of the training programs become more branded and recognized to assist both organizations and individuals.

Mary Heller announced approval by Superintendent Arntzen to hire multiple regional work-based learning career coaches (following WIOA districts) along with plans to move forward with plans to collaborate with Business Engagement and Education specialists throughout the state. OPI and DLI working together to assist with connecting students with applicable career paths and work-based learning. This work will cross school districts, teachers, business and industry, students, parents, and funding opportunities to obtain industry recognized credentials.

Chair Gilbertson asked if a DLI representative could speak to the work DLI is completing to compliment the OPI initiatives.

Sarah Swanson elaborated on the Business Engagement Specialists and mentioned hosting Interim Bureau Chief Mike Williams and Supervisor Deb Krantz to elaborate the Business Engagement & Education Bureau. She also indicated the majority of the team has been hired in the Workforce Services Division at DLI, focusing on Case for Change, presented previously.

Chair Gilbertson asked to add BEE Team to agenda for future meetings, along with Bo Bruinsma to give update of Build Montana. Another request is to invite contractors to discuss the expansion of NCCER Curriculum being built out for rural schools.

Chair Gilbertson indicated that Build Montana has expanded into the Flathead and Missoula area. A signing night in Billings occurred to showcase the students and organizations involved.

Bo Bruinsma requested to bring some of the Build Montana students to next meeting to provide testimonials.

Wesley Feist indicated that he will discuss with Chair Paul Hopfauf to see if Build Montana students could be invited to the May SWIB meeting to provide an update.

Mary Heller provided a link <https://opi.mt.gov/Educators/Teaching-Learning/Career-Technical-Education-CTE> to ensure connections to CTSO teachers. SWIB can reach out to State Directors for opportunities.

PUBLIC COMMENT (10:55 A.M.): Chair Gilbertson asked for public comment.
No public comment was provided.

ADJOURNMENT (10:55 A.M.)

Chair Gilbertson asked for a motion to adjourn

Mary Heller moved, and Deb Poteet seconded a motion to approve the agenda.

The motion carried.