



APPRENTICESHIP ADVISORY COUNCIL

1:00 – 2:00 PM

Thursday, January 30, 2020

GoToMeeting®

Helena, MT

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dean Bentley (Chair), Dale Carpenter, Chris Hopkins, Barry Reddick, Margaret McManus, and Brock Tessman

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Tim Newman, Quinton Queer, Jeff Stark, and mark Waldenberg

STAFF: Shannon Lewis and Jay Reardon

GUESTS: Emily Trautman, Senior Economist, Montana Department of Labor & Industry

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Chair Bentley called the meeting to order at 1:00.

ROLL CALL: Shannon Lewis conducted roll call and established a quorum.

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

Mr. Carpenter moved, and Ms. McManus seconded a motion to approve the agenda.

The motion carried.

SEPTEMBER 27, 2019 MEETING MINUTES: Chair Bentley asked for motion to approve the September 27, 2019 meeting minutes.

Mr. Hopkins moved, and Ms. McManus seconded a motion to approve the September 27, 2019 meeting minutes.

The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

INTRODUCTION: TOM LOPACH, COMMISSIONER, MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY:

Commissioner Lopach was unable to attend the meeting; however, Shannon was able to give the council some information on the new Commissioner and reiterate the Commissioner's continued commitment to the growth and expansion of registered apprenticeships throughout the state.

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER UPDATES:

Council members updated the council on current initiatives or work happening within their respective apprenticeship programs. Overall, apprenticeship continues to grow within Montana and there continues to be interest in apprenticeship as a way to meet employer needs throughout the state.

INTRODUCTION: LUKE LAVIN, APPRENTICESHIP LIAISON, FLATHEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

Luke Lavin introduced himself to the council and discussed his role at the college. He continues to meet with employers within the region about their workforce needs and defining the role of higher education in apprenticeship design and curriculum coordination. While his role is new at Flathead Valley Community College, higher education had seen success with the apprenticeship coordinator at Missoula College and saw growth in registered apprenticeship and higher education to meet the needs of Missoula-area employers. The council continues to support coordinated efforts across partners to meet employer needs through apprenticeship.

UPDATE ON STAE APPRENTICESHIP GRANTS AND APPRENTICESHIP TAX CREDIT:

Jay Reardon gave the council an update on the state apprenticeship grants and the apprenticeship tax credit. At this point, there are 20 approved grants and there is still \$72,000 available to fund future grants. This is the second year that employers are able to use the apprenticeship tax credit. In 2019, there were approximately 1,000 employers eligible to use the tax credit, of those 76 were able to use the additional veteran credit.

2020 NASTAD CONFERENCE:

The 2020 NASTAD conference is tentatively scheduled for the last week of September in Richmond, VA. Jay will keep the council updated on the activities of the association and the national conference.

ANNUAL DATA REPORT OF MONTANA'S REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM:

Emily Trautman, a senior economist with Montana's Department of Labor & Industry gave the council an overview of the Annual Data Report of the Registered Apprenticeship Program. Overall, apprenticeship continues to grow throughout the state as more employers are looking to this training model to meet workforce challenges. In addition, there are a number of new apprenticeship programs covering new occupations across Montana.

APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS:

Shannon reminded council members that appointments are currently under review at the Governor's office and asked that council members that wanted to continue serving should send an email to that effect.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Bentley adjourned the meeting at 2:00 PM.