



Serving Brown, Door, Florence, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano, and Sheboygan counties.

520 N. Broadway, Suite 320  
Green Bay, WI 54303  
920-617-1384  
BayAreaWDB.org

## **BAY AREA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Thursday, November 17, 2022**

**1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.**

**Northeast Wisconsin Technical College**  
2740 W. Mason Street | Green Bay, WI 54307

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**A networking luncheon was held between 12:00 pm – 12:45 pm.**

- Present:** Elizabeth Burns, Amber Collegnon, Kris Chosa, Ron Christensen, Chuck Dallas, Andy Ford, Cheri Galecke, Steve Heller, Meridith Jaeger, Dan Keyzers, Guy Meyerhofer, Mercedes Olson, Matt Rentmeester, Will Robinson, Mike Ruminski, Bruce Russell, Ann Schermetzler, Gerald Schomaker, Jennifer Short, Michael Troyer, Bethany Wilde, Jolene Wilkens; Staff: Jonathan Gutierrez, Mistine Habeck, Sarah Klapper, Nan Macy, Cheryl Neuens, Kate Olson, Vickie Patterson, April Stevenson, Matt Valiquette,
- Absent:** Shirley Aviles, Tim Beno, Jennifer Bscherer, Paul Carlsen, Tara Carr, Marcia Christiansen, Dustin Delsman, Cheryl Detrick, Ed Kelley, Claudia Krepsky, Michelle Lawrie, Heather Paul, Norman Shawanokasic, Nicole Tritt, Myrna Warrington
- Guests:** Alison Kostreva, Natalie Ehrens

**I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL** – The meeting was called to order by Cheri Galecke, Chair, at 1:03 P.M. Roll call confirmed that a quorum was present.

**II. WELCOMING REMARKS & INTRODUCTIONS:**

A. In the spirit of the coming Thanksgiving holiday, Galecke shared the acronym “PIE”.

P for Purposeful about being positive, I for Intentional thankfulness, and E for Empathy to enhance emotional health.

**III. MISSION MOMENT** – Matt Valiquette, Executive Director, introduced a new, standing agenda item to include a success story proving the human aspect of what we do. Board Director Mike Ruminski shared the story of two individuals that received their CDL through the combined assistance of COMSA-WAI, WIOA, and WCP (Worker Connect Program) to cover tuition assistance, wrap-around supportive services, and employment opportunities bringing each an anticipated wage of \$50K+.

A proud partner of the  **americanjobcenter** network

**The Bay Area Workforce Development Board is an Equal Opportunity Service Provider and Employer.**

If you need this information or printed material in an alternate format or in a different language, services are available free of charge by contacting us at 920-617-1384 or [info@bayareawdb.org](mailto:info@bayareawdb.org). Deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired callers can reach us through Wisconsin Relay Service at 7-1-1.

#### IV. BOARD BUSINESS

##### A. Consent Agenda

1. Board Meeting Minutes from October 20, 2022, meeting were unanimously approved with a motion and a second from Michael Troyer and Mike Ruminski, respectively.

##### B. Standing Committee Updates

1. Strategic Leadership – Matt Rentmeester, Chair, reported that the committee met this day to further develop an actionable strategic plan noting that the Board will approve the overarching priorities with Board staff assigned the responsibility of carrying out the tactical measures to accomplish goals.  
The Committee is further working to update the current mission and vision statements to better reflect what we do and prepare a 30-second “elevator” speech to be used as a consistent explanation of the mission and vision statement.
2. Finance & H.R. – The Committee will meet on January 5, 2023.

#### V. PROGRAM, OPERATIONS, AND PERFORMANCE

Matt Valiquette defined the seven funding streams Bay Area WDB currently used as a strategy to braid financial assistance to include training and support services based on individual needs. All services are competitively bid and contracted based on procurement operations. The current seven programs include 1) WIOA-Individualized Career and Training Services; 2) WAI-Worker Advancement Initiative for Digital Literacy; 3) WAI-for Hidden Talent; 4) Independent Living for Foster Youth Transitioning to Adulthood; 5) Windows to Work Returning Citizens (Corrections); 6) H1B Rural Healthcare Collaboration; 7) One Stop Operator Job Center network for the Bay Area.

- A. Re-entry Programming – Vickie Patterson, Program Manager, reported that programs are currently running at the Taycheedah (TCI), Kettle Moraine (KMCI), and Green Bay correctional institutes. The program provides pre-release services via Windows to Work (W2W) facilitated by Family Services and Job Labs in TCI and KMCI facilitated by a Bay Area WDB staff member, Maria Rodriguez.

Maria is doing good work connecting with area employers wanting to employ returning citizens. Recently, Maria facilitated the application and job interview of a program participant, who was hired within 24 hours of release.

Employers interested in learning more about hiring these returning citizens are encouraged to contact Regional Business Manager, Kate Owens, at 920-613-6919, [kowens@bayareawdb.org](mailto:kowens@bayareawdb.org).

- B. Virtual Reality – Sarah Klapper, Youth & Young Adult Program Manager, provided an overview of our new virtual reality job exploration tool. Career Service Specialists (CSS) have been trained in its use with seven headsets currently available. Current modules include various manufacturing, automotive, and construction activities with additional built-in hospitality and soft skills training. The technology can be used as an actual training tool with a certificate of completion for the training and/or the ability to test for a credential. Staff is working to identify other ways the technology can be used and expanded.

A proud partner of the  **americanjobcenter** network

Bay Area WDB is an Equal Opportunity Service Provider and Employer.

Virtual programs can be used for upskilling, bridging a language barrier by providing hands-on demonstration training, and training to those that do not have access to tools or the workplace environment. Board Directors with an interest in seeing how training modules can advance workforce skills are encouraged to contact Regional Business Manager, Kate Owens at 920-613-6919, [kowens@bayareawdb.org](mailto:kowens@bayareawdb.org).

- C. Independent Living – Sarah Klapper invited the Board to “Breaking the Stigma”, a live video screening featuring young adults who have aged out of foster care talking about their experiences as teens in foster care. The event will take place at InitiativeOne, 110 S Adams Street, Green Bay on Wednesday, December 7, 2022, at 10:00 A.M. The event is a collaboration between Bay Area WDB and Foundations Health & Wholeness. The project is a call to action for new foster parents, for greater awareness of the challenges and barriers youth in foster care face, and the positive impact a caring foster parent or family can make as told by former and current foster care youth and young adults. Following the screening event, Foundations will post videos on their website ([www.wearefoundations.org](http://www.wearefoundations.org)) and release portions of the series to YouTube and TikTok.

## VI. BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEWS AND UPDATES

- A. Director Spotlight – Future Board meetings will “spotlight” a current Board director(s) to further connect with each other by sharing our professional experience and expertise, community involvement, and current trends, successes, and challenges within our industry.
- B. Board directors around the room shared individual business updates and activities.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 2:17 P.M. with a motion and a second from Jolene Wilkens and Chuck Dallas, respectively.

**Next meeting: January 19, at NWTC, 1:00 p.m.**

A proud partner of the  **americanjobcenter** network

Bay Area WDB is an Equal Opportunity Service Provider and Employer.