



# Northwest Wisconsin Chief Local Elected Official Consortium Workforce Development Area #7

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*The mission of the Consortium is to maintain the integrity of the WIOA funds.*

**Date & Time: Wednesday – January 17, 2024 - 10:30 a.m.**

**Location: CEP, Inc. Office – Ashland, WI & Via Zoom**

## MEETING MINUTES

### **CLEOs/LEOs Present:**

Rollie Thums, Taylor County  
Terry Wedwick, Rusk County  
Charlie Glazman, Douglas County – via Zoom  
Emmett Byrne, Burnett County  
Michael Maestri, Sawyer County – via Zoom  
Joe Pinardi, Iron County  
Patricia Stephan, Price County  
Jocelyn Ford, Washburn County- via Zoom  
Elizabeth Franek, Ashland County – via Zoom

### **Excused:**

Larry Fickbohm, Bayfield County

### **Staff/Guests:**

Jeff Muse, CEP  
Jennifer Decker, CEP  
Mary Zinnecker, CEP  
Bob Kopisch, CEP Board/LEO  
Mari Kay-Nabozny, NWWIB  
Dave Willingham, CEP Board/LEO  
Kat Whitten, CEP

### **Call Meeting to Order**

Charlie Glazman, Consortium Vice Chairman called the meeting to order.

### **Roll Call & Report of Public Meeting Notice**

Roll call was taken, a quorum was present. The public meeting notice was published on the CEP website, social meeting, area library websites and County Government websites.

### **Approval of the 9/27/23 Meeting Minutes**

*Emmett Byrne made a motion to approve the 9/27/23 meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Charlie Glazman. Vote taken, carried unanimously.*

### **Mission Statement**

Joe Pinardi stated that the mission of the Consortium is to maintain the integrity of the WIOA funds by the Chief Local Elected Officials.

### **Action Item: Review/Approve New Native American Tribal Representative & Labor Representative to the NWWIB**

Mari Kay-Nabozny, NWWIB reported that there are two vacancies on the NWWIB. She noted one is in the Tribal sector, with an application from Dr. Russell Swagger from LCO University. The other vacancy is the Labor Sector where Brian Nelson has retired and the Iron Workers nominated Brent Harju. Their applications were distributed for review.

*Joe Pinardi Made a motion to approve the new Tribal Representative, Dr. Russell Swagger to the NWWIB. Seconded by Emmett Byrne. Vote taken, carried.*

Joe Pinardi made a motion to approve Brent Harju as the new Labor Representative on the NWWIB. Seconded by Patricia Stephan. Vote taken, carried.

**DWD Monitoring Report WIOA PY22**

Mari explained that overall, the DWD monitoring went really well. She explained the report regarding findings, strengths, best practices, etc. She explained questionable costs. Charlie asked about local case management review. Mari noted that each CEP Career Planner is responsible and their supervisor selects files once per year and then the WIB reviews a sample of the files. She noted the 35% training requirement should be in a better position which means we have to spend 35% all the DW and Adult on training. There were some minor EEO concerns including the restrooms in Superior, which is resolved. She explained promising practices that other areas could use. The promising practice in our area was social media outreach, the strength was co-enrollment and braiding of funds. She noted we have 45 days to respond to the monitoring report and then the state has 45 days to respond to us.

**NWWIB Regional Program Enrollment Report**

Mari gave an update on the NWWIB's program enrollment report. She explained the handout in the packet which shows the program enrollments for each county.

**H.R.6655 - A Stronger Workforce for America Act**

Mari noted there's a proposed replacement for WIOA called H.R.6655 A Stronger Workforce Act (ASWA). She noted this bill mandates 50% of federal allocation be spent on training and they haven't defined training. Currently, the 35% rate set by the state, includes staffing. If they go to this 50% training, they would need to include case management. Also new in this Act, the Governor would get a larger percent of WIOA money than before but the question is, what will the Governors use it for? Mari noted there is push back from NACO, Conference of Mayors and others on this proposed bill in terms of the 50% training requirement. It does eliminate infrastructure sharing agreements which will clean up WIOA and the administrative burden they create. A question was asked on whether the CEPs were mentioned in H.R. 6655 ASWA. Jeff said they are not specifically noted but we are working with our elected officials and the other CEPs.

**Program Year 2024-2027 Local Plan Development and Timelines**

Every four years the state requires WIBs to update the local plan which must be posted and available for public comment. Mari said the local plan this year requires 36 questions that they will answer. The CLEOs and NWWIB have to approve the plan. Some of the attachments were included in the packet. Mari will make sure to email this out for review at least one week before the scheduled CLEO meeting. It was noted to postpone the February CEP Board and have the Board meet back-to-back with the CLEO Consortium on Wednesday March 20<sup>th</sup> to approve this plan.

**Comments & Announcements**

None

**Next Meeting Date & Location & Adjournment**

Joe Pinardi made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Emmett Byrne. Vote take, carried.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> or at the call of the Chair. The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.