



**Nebraska Workforce Development Board
Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2018
Lincoln Marriott Cornhusker Hotel
333 South 13th Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508**

Agenda Item 1: Call to Order

Chair Mark Moravec called the meeting of Nebraska Workforce Development Board (the Board) to order on March 9, 2018 at approximately 9:30a at the Lincoln Marriott Cornhusker Hotel, 333 South 13th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Agenda Item 2: Roll Call

Lindsey Sullivan, Administrative Assistant called the roll. It was determined that a quorum was established.

Members present (14)

John Albin	Susan Martin	Bradley Schroeder
Amara Meyer sub for	Mark Moravec	Jennifer Sedlacek
Senator Joni Albrecht	Don Nordell	Becky Stitt
Matthew Blomstedt	Courtney Phillips	Carol Swigart
Jason Feldhaus	Terri Ridder	
James Hanson, Jr.	Dave Rippe	

Members Absent (7)

Senator Joni Albrecht	Michael Geary	Lisa Wilson
Bradley Bird	Allan Hale	
Brian Deakin	Governor Pete Ricketts	

Nebraska Department of Labor (NDOL) Staff in Attendance

Stan Odenthal, Director, Office of Employment & Training
 Deb Andersen, WIOA Policy Coordinator, Office of Employment & Training
 Danna Bacon, Job Training Program Coordinator, Office of Employment & Training
 Lindsey Sullivan, Administrative Assistant, Office of Employment & Training
 Thomas Ukinski, Attorney III, Office of the General Counsel
 David Branch, Employment Services Program Specialist, Office of the General Counsel
 Angela Hansen-Kruse, Office of Employment & Training
 Lorena Hernandez, Office of Employment & Training

Guests in Attendance

Phil Baker, Office of Labor Market Information, Nebraska Department of Labor

Tate Lauer, NDE

Linda Black, DED

Valentina Obafunwa, DED

Spencer Hartman, DED

Madhavi Bhadbhade, DHHS

Mark Shultz, VR

Michelle Olson, Lincoln WIOA

Carlos Serván, NCBVI

Dylan Wren, Greater Nebraska

Wendy Sieler, Staff Assistant, Office of Employment & Training, Nebraska Department of Labor

Jan Norlander-Jensen, City of Lincoln, Greater Lincoln Workforce Development Area

Erin Porterfield, Heartland Workforce Solutions, Greater Omaha Workforce Development Area

Alejandra Sinecio, Heartland Workforce Solutions, Greater Omaha Workforce Development

Agenda Item 3: Notice of Publication

Lindsey Sullivan announced that the Notice of Public Meeting was published in the Beatrice Daily Sun, Grand Island Independent, Lincoln Journal Star, North Platte Telegraph, Omaha World Herald, and Scottsbluff Star-Herald and on the State of Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

Agenda Item 4: Approval of Minutes

Mark Moravec asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2017 meeting (Handout 1). James Hanson, Jr. motioned to approve the minutes. Jason Feldhaus seconded the motion. All Members present voted by voice vote to approve the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mark Moravec announced that meeting agendas, minutes, and handouts for meetings of the full board and standing committees are available on the NDOL website at www.dol.nebraska.gov under the heading *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act* on the *Nebraska Workforce Development Board* tab.

Agenda Item 5: Combined State Plan Modification (draft)

Mark Moravec introduced agenda item number 5, the draft modification of Nebraska's Combined State Plan, indicating that the plan partners published the draft modification on January 26, 2018 and provided a 30-day public comment period, as required under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. Mark directed the board to Handout 2, a summary of public comments received and stated that the summary is also available online at dol.nebraska.gov on the *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act* page, under the *Manuals, Plans, and Reports* tab. Mark also directed Board Members to Handout 3, a list of plan partner programs and their administering agencies.

Mark Moravec announced that Stan Odenthal, Becky Stitt, and the plan partners would present to the Board regarding the modification:

- Stan Odenthal presented on the Strategic and Operational Planning Elements, WIOA Title I waivers, and modifications to the sections specific to programs authorized by WIOA Titles I and III and the Jobs for Veterans State Grant program.
- Becky Stitt presented, on behalf of the Board's System Alignment Committee, in relation to a particular section of the modification regarding the mandatory annual assessment of core programs and one-stop partner programs. Becky directed Board Members to Handout 5, which outlines proposed assessment criteria and methods.
- Plan partners presented on their programs or modifications to sections of the Combined State Plan specific to their programs.

Mark Moravec asked Members of the Board for comments and questions on the draft modification. Matthew Blomstedt asked whether the discussed changes were already reflected and included in the draft modification. Plan partners advised that many of the changes were already included in the draft published for public comment and that additional changes in response to public comments may be incorporated.

Hearing no additional comments or questions, Mark Moravec called for a motion to approve the draft modification of the Combined State Plan for submission. Bradley Schroeder motioned to approve. Carol Swigart seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 6: NDOL Update

Mark Moravec introduced Stan Odenthal to provide updates to the Board on Nebraska Department of Labor (NDOL) activities, including:

- opening of a new office in Sidney, Nebraska;
- Rapid Response activities in response to recent events regarding Cabela's/Bass Pro Shop in Sidney, Nebraska; and
- NDOL's receipt of a Technical Assistance Training grant from the US Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration, which will fund a workforce conference focusing best practices for serving individuals with disabilities, youth, and dislocated workers.

Agenda Item 7: Next Generation Industry Partnerships

Mark Moravec introduced Linda Black. Linda presented to the Board, on behalf of the Board's Strategic Direction Committee, regarding the ongoing *Next Generation Industry Partnerships* initiative and related activities in the central, northeast, and southeast regions as well as the Lincoln and Omaha metropolitan areas.

Agenda Item 8: Improving Future State Board Meetings

Mark Moravec introduced Stan Odenthal to lead a roundtable discussion on strategies for improving future state board meetings based on location, frequency, duration, and focus of meetings. Discussion was heard among Members of the Board, during which Members agreed that (i) an earlier start time of 9:00a would be preferable; (ii) holding meetings at other

locations, including and other cities, would be preferable; and (iii) strategic retreats focused on the Board's purpose, mission, and goals would be beneficial and provide an opportunity for trainings and networking.

When asked to describe a successful meeting of the Board:

- Courtney Phillips indicated she would like more information on Nebraska's workforce needs, training opportunities, and plans and goals for the Nebraska's workforce development system. John Albin and Matthew Blomstedt concurred with Courtney.
- James Hansen, Jr. stated that he would like to have more frequent updates from the local workforce development areas, to increase understanding of local workforce needs.
- Plan partner Tate Lauer (WIOA Title II) asked how the state's success is measured. John Albin answered, through performance metrics negotiated with Federal partners.

Stan Odenthal reminded the Board of vacancies in the business representative category of the Board, inviting the Members of the Board to make recommendations on potential members, giving consideration to industry sectors not currently represented on the Board. Dave Rippe recommended looking at labor studies to support identification of candidates in in-demand industry sectors and occupations. Carol Swigart and Matthew Blomstedt agreed and suggested making connections with the Board of Trustees for the state college system.

Stan Odenthal concluded the agenda topic, suggesting the Board continue to have similar discussions, looking toward improvement and commitment to excellence.

Agenda Item 9: Member Updates

Mark Moravec asked Members of the Board for updates on their respective industries or organizations and local workforce development area activities for the Members who also serve on local workforce development boards. Members of the Board provided updates as asked.

Agenda Item 10: Public Comment

Mark Moravec opened the floor for public comment and questions. None were made or asked.

Agenda Item 11: Adjournment

Mark Moravec asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jason Feldhaus motioned to adjourn the meeting. Dave Rippe seconded the motion. All Members present voted by voice vote to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:45a.