



# Governor's Council on Workforce Investment

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## **Executive Committee Conference Call Friday, July 11, 2014 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

### ***DRAFT Minutes, Pending Committee Approval***

**Members Present:** Chair Mary Isbister, Secretary Reggie Newson, Jeffrey Clark, Superintendent Tony Evers, David Mitchell, Dawn Pratt and Howard Teeter.

**Others Present:** Scott Jansen and Mary Foy, Department of Workforce Development.

#### **I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chair Isbister called the meeting to order, thanking Council on Workforce Investment (CWI) Executive Committee members for their attendance. A silent roll call was taken.

#### **II. Approve Minutes from June 23, 2014 Executive Committee meeting**

The minutes from the June 23, 2014, Executive Committee meeting were approved.

#### **III. Update on Strategic Plan Framework and Process**

Chair Isbister stated that the purpose of the meeting was to get a sense of how the subcommittees are progressing. She stated that by the end of July or very beginning of August, each subcommittee will need to submit their recommendation for their strategies, so they can be incorporated into the larger document. She explained that this Executive Committee meeting was called to get a sense of how the Executive Committee members can help each other, recognizing that there is more work to be done before the September 1 strategic plan deadline.

#### **IV. Subcommittee Identification of Deliverables and Discussion of Project Timeline and Critical Path**

Chair Isbister requested updates from the subcommittees on their strategic planning work.

Alignment of Workforce Programs Subcommittee: Ms. Pratt stated that she was working on bullet points to share with the subcommittee members. Mr. Teeter noted that at the last meeting, the subcommittee did come to a consensus about strategies, worrying not about content but organization and structure. He stated that the subcommittee had a lot of ideas about what that might ultimately look like and that he was working on a visual. Ms. Pratt stated that she and Mr. Teeter would finish work on the bullet points and visual and would share with the subcommittee for validation on Wednesday.

Education for Workforce and Talent Development Subcommittee: Superintendent Evers and Mr. Clark stated that the subcommittee was fortunate to have all subcommittee members attend a meeting on July 2. At that time, strategies were refined, and the Co-Chairs feel confident that they can meet the deadlines. Superintendent Evers noted that while the subcommittee has detailed strategies, the current wording may not be the final wording.

Chair Isbister stated that trying to get the wording specific is not an efficient use of the subcommittees' time at this point. The subcommittees should make sure that implications of strategies, such as funding, staff or other resources required, and other procedural implications, are identified – wordsmithing can take place later. Ms. Pratt thanked Chair Isbister for that clarification.

Development of Sustainable Partnerships Subcommittee: Ms. Foy noted that the Co-Chairs were unable to attend the Executive Committee meeting but have scheduled an additional subcommittee meeting for Tuesday, July 15, to continue working on their strategies.

Dislocated Worker Committee: Mr. Mitchell stated that the Dislocated Worker Committee was not initially tasked with adding to the final strategic plan, although some of that committee's work will help enhance the current workforce development system. Chair Isbister agreed, stating that the performance dashboard that the Dislocated Worker Committee is working on is a great tool. She noted the dashboard could serve as an early warning system, in the sense that if things are not going well in a program, it can be identified. She further stated the importance of measuring and quickly assessing the performance of programs funded by the Department of Labor, so that the impacts of the workforce programs are managed. Mr. Mitchell stated that the Dislocated Worker Committee will be meeting at the end of July.

Chair Isbister summarized the subcommittee reports, stating that the goal by the next full council meeting is to wrap up the primary strategies, providing a written summary by early August. While the written summaries do not have to be perfectly wordsmithed documents, it's very important that they include an overview of the strategy, outcomes and implications for policy, procedures and legislation. A report from Mr. Mitchell on the dashboard being developed by the Dislocated Worker Committee would be helpful, as it can be used as a performance management system across any number of programs.

Secretary Newson thanked the Executive Committee for their work. He noted that the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) had passed both sides of Congress and was awaiting the President's signature. He felt that the legislation, if passed, could be positive for Wisconsin, noting that there could be impacts to the state workforce investment board and state plan.

Mr. Jansen stated that he would brief the Council on WIOA in September or October, after the strategic plan writing is complete. He noted there are some third-party analyses available of the legislation, but that because the President has not signed WIOA yet, the legislation is not final. The most succinct analysis he had seen of the 811 page legislation was a 59 page review, but he stated the first three pages were a basic synopsis. Mr. Jansen stated that what he has seen reinforces a lot of the work that the Council has focused on, including career pathways, integrating systems, maintaining partnerships and sector strategies.

Chair Isbister stated that Mr. Jansen had sent a very helpful email explaining some of the potential impacts to her, and she thought it would be worthwhile for the Council to hear some of those. She suggested that reviewing the first three pages as a separate document for ten to fifteen minutes at the next meeting would benefit the Council.

Secretary Newson stated that he recently met with Mr. Dan Ariens, Vice Chair of the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) Board of Directors and Chairman of Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce (WMC). Secretary Newson shared that Mr. Ariens was immensely complimentary of the CWI's work and of the joint WEDC/CWI meeting and had stated his hopes that the CWI's strategic plan will play a significant role in the work that will go forth from Future Wisconsin. Secretary Newson stated that the information the CWI continues to seek from the WEDC on driver industries is particularly important as the two organizations work together on workforce and economic development. He also expressed the positive comments Mr. Ariens had for Chair Isbister and the entire CWI Executive Committee.

Chair Isbister stated she was very happy to hear that, and that she is continually impressed with the CWI's Executive Committee. She noted that she had reached out to Mr. Kurt Bauer and that she hoped there might be an opportunity in the future for a joint meeting in which the WEDC Board of Directors could join a CWI meeting.

Secretary Newson agreed with that idea, stating that he was aware of interest in such a meeting and that he was pleased to see the organizations working so hard to stay on the same page.

Chair Isbister summarized the action items from the meeting as follows:

- Mr. Jansen would provide the CWI with a document that summarizes changes from WIA to WIOA and would do a short presentation at the next CWI meeting, teeing up a more in-depth discussion at the following meeting.
- Each subcommittee will move forward on their strategy recommendations for the strategic plan.

Secretary Newson stated he thought it would be valuable for Chair Isbister to reiterate to the Council her comments about continuing to align with economic development.

Mr. Jansen noted that there would be a pre-meeting primer prior to the next CWI meeting on Burning Glass. Superintendent Evers noted that labor market information is extremely important for academic and career plans.

## **V. Adjourn**

Chair Isbister thanked members for their participation, particularly on a Friday afternoon, and wished them a great weekend.