

**Employer Connections Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

**August 14, 2024, 9:00 AM**

**Zoom**

*Attendance*

*Present: Kim Wimer, Dennis Kessler, Jennifer Serino, Daron Terfehn, Josh Fischer, Tyler Williams, Julie Savitt, Myra Gayton-Morales, Kevin Considine*

*Absent: Mary Ross-Cunningham, Ed Gallagher, John Castillo, Sandra Tran, Agnes Masnik, Carrie Espinosa*

**I. Meeting Opening**

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment

*The meeting was called to order by Kim Wimer at 9:04 AM.*

*There were no public comments*

**II. Consent Agenda**

1. Approve the January 2024 Employer Connections Meeting Minutes [Attachment A](#)

**III.** *The minutes from the January 2024 meeting were approved with a motion by Member Considine and seconded by Member Kessler The motion passed unanimously.*

**IV. Regular Agenda**

**1. Committee Engagement and Diversification**

- a. Discuss ways to engage current members and diversify industry representation, including brainstorming additional industries and employers to invite.
- b. Involving County Board Members.

*The committee discussed strategies for engaging current members and diversifying industry representation. Suggestions included inviting representatives from underrepresented industries such as healthcare, hospitality, and logistics. Jennifer Serino proposed reaching out to board members to involve them more in the committee's activities.*

*The committee considered the importance of involving County Board members in LCWDB activities to raise awareness and support for Workforce Development initiatives. Chair Wimer suggested organizing a road trip to visit local manufacturers and inviting County Board members.*

## 2. Apprenticeship Program Overviews – Sarah Espeland

*Sarah Espeland provided an update on the Apprenticeship Grant, highlighting the successful registration of four companies with the U.S. Department of Labor. The committee discussed ongoing efforts to expand the program and include more employers and training providers.*

## 3. Business and Educational Program Connections

### a. Manufacturing Month Planning

*The committee brainstormed ideas for promoting Manufacturing Month in October 2024. Antonio confirmed that LCWDB will participate in activities organized by the College of Lake County (CLC) as part of Manufacturing Month.*

### b. What opportunities (training, networking, etc..) can LCWDB develop to support employers?

*Tabled*

## 4. Service Utilization

### a. Review top services used by employers through the LCWD and identify opportunities to expand engagement.

*Tabled due to time*

## 5. Unemployment by Community Discussion

*Tabled due to time*

## v. Upcoming Board & Committee Meetings

Workforce Development Board Meeting – October 16, 2024

Lake County Workforce Development Board Meeting – September 26<sup>th</sup> @ CLCL

Board meeting will be followed by Youth Symposium from 9-1pm

## vi. Adjournment

*The meeting was adjourned by Kim Wimer at 10:05 AM.*