

**DC Workforce Investment Council Board Meeting  
Department of Employment Services  
4058 Minnesota Ave., Washington DC 20019**

**Wednesday, April 10, 2024, 10:00 a.m.**

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Drew Hubbard, Anita Bonds, Matt Frumin, Antoniette Mitchell, Unique Morris-Hughes, Laura Zeilinger, Kunta Bedney, LaTara Harris, Antwayne Ford, Paul Kihn (left early), Maurice Edington, Glenn Starnes, Angela Franco, and Darryl Wiggins

**MEMBERS ONLINE:** Bernadette Harvey, Sybongile Cook, Unique Morris-Hughes

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Steve Boney, Nicole Hanrahan, D Evans, Liz Debarros, Solomon Keene, Jr., Tony Cancelosi, Thomas Penny, Nathan Smith and Korey Gray

**STAFF PRESENT:** Deborah Russell, Christian Jones, Brittany Silver, Pinkie Murray, and Fern Hawkins

**GUEST PRESENT:** Two (2) Members of the Public on-line

**I. Welcome**

Mr. Ford, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. and welcomed attendees. He thanked the Department of Employment Services (DOES) for hosting the meeting.

**II. Roll Call/Establishment of a Quorum**

Brittany Silver, Program Analyst, reported no quorum and noted one voting item: the WIOA State Plan for 2024-2027. Voting was delayed due to the absence of members needed to establish a quorum. Fourteen board members were present.

**III. Chairman's Comments**

Mr. Ford reminded the board of the June 7th Summit and impromptu Board Meeting at the Kellogg Conference Hotel, where the WIOA State Plan will be reviewed over the upcoming months.

**IV. New Board Member**

Welcomed Glenn Starnes, II – Senior Deputy Chief, SEAD Strategy, District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS).

**V. WIOA State Plan Review**

**Executive Director's Overview:**

Drew Hubbard and Deborah Russell presented the WIOA State Plan for 2024-2027. They discussed the decision to submit a Unified State Plan, which includes the six core programs: Adult, Dislocated Worker, Youth, Wagner-Peyser Act, Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, and Vocational Rehabilitation programs. The document will be referred to as the Unified State Plan, covering the period from 2024 to 2027.

**Public Comment Period:**

The plan was posted for three weeks on the DC Workforce Investment Council website, ending April 8th, with a stakeholder meeting held during this period. Discussions focused on high-demand industries, tracking graduates, creating a pipeline to support foundational skills, and aligning definitions within the workforce system.

**Economic Analysis:**

Highlighted high-growth sectors and federal infrastructure funds, ensuring that residents have access to education and training. Emphasized the importance of addressing demographics, particularly populations with multiple barriers.

**Performance Measures:**

Key measures include reducing unemployment in Wards 5, 7, and 8, increasing participation in "earn and learn" models for immediate employment outcomes, and increasing certification rates by 20%.

**WIOA Discussion State Plan**

**a) Change in Plan Type:**

The shift was prompted by the number of partners supporting the system and the individuals they serve. However, due to timeframe and requirements, a Unified State Plan was chosen for this cycle.

**b) Submitting Multiple Plans:**

The Perkins Plan by OSSE and the WIOA by DC WIC can be submitted simultaneously to better align the system and support goals and outcomes.

**c) Training and Apprenticeships:**

GSA and District contracts are being explored to track dollars and hiring potential.

**d) Federal Job Market:**

Aligning outcomes with federal opportunities to support direct hires, with benchmarks including credentials and quality training providers.

**e) Target Populations:**

Emphasis on supporting women of color, returning citizens, and others facing employment barriers. Specific measures include job readiness, support services, and programs designed to uplift underserved individuals.

**f) Legislation and Pay Equity:**

Advocated for legislative changes to support performance and gender equity, embedded in the plan to ensure focus on equity.

**g) Performance Tracking:**

Utilizing dashboards to track benchmarks and outcomes, focusing on reducing the number of unemployed residents and increasing training and certification rates.

**h) Business Engagement:**

Highlighting the importance of local business engagement and increasing the local talent pool, with a focus on high-growth sectors like hospitality and construction.

**i) System-Wide Improvement:**

Strategies discussed included improving navigation for district residents, especially high school students, and increasing the talent pool for employers.

**j) Economic Prosperity and System Alignment:**

Ensuring alignment with the DC Comeback Plan and Department of Labor guidelines to offer quality jobs and economic prosperity for residents.

## **VI. Voting on WIOA State Plan**

*Quorum established by Chairman Ford with additional board members that joined after the initial roll call.*

*Chairman Ford:*

### **Online Votes:**

1. Steve Boney: Yea
2. Nathan Smith: Yea
3. Korey Gray: Yea
4. Sybongile Cook: Yea
5. Dr. Unique Morris Hughes: Yea

### **In-Person Votes:**

1. Anita Bonds: Yea
2. Matt Frumin: Yea
3. Antoniette Mitchell: Yea
4. Laura Zeilinger: Yea
5. Kunta Bedney: Yea
6. LaTara Harris: Yea
7. Antwayne Ford: Yea
8. Paul Kihn: Yea
9. Maurice Edington: Yea
10. Glenn Starnes: Yea
11. Angela Franco: Yea
12. Darryl Wiggins: Yea

- Result: All board members voted in favor (17 Yea, 0 Opposed).

## **VII. Announcements and Discussion**

- None

## **VIII. Public Comment**

- None offered

## **IX. Adjournment**

- Chairman Ford adjourned the meeting at 12:13 p.m.