

STATE OF NEVADA
GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Full Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 13, 2023 - 2:00 p.m.

Vegas: Grant Sawyer Building
Attorney General's Conference Room
555 E. Washington Ave. #4500
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Reno: Desert Research Institute
Stout Conference Room
2215 Raggio Pkwy.
Reno, NV 89512

Carson City: Department of Employment, Training, and Rehabilitation
SAO Conference Room
500 E. Third St.
Carson City, NV 89713

Teleconference Line
1-669-900-6833
Meeting ID: 846 6250 0838
Passcode: 139370

MINUTES OF MEETING

Present: Hugh Anderson (Chair), Kenneth Evans (Vice Chair), Scott Black, Scott Hammond, Jerrie Merritt, Maureen Schafer, Edward Estipona, Irene Bustamante Adams, George Gault, Leslie Mujica, Kevin Landry, Michael Bolognini, Robert Benner, Evelyn Thompson-Hilbert, Nancy Olsen, Kristine Nelson, David Dreibelbis, Ken Goodrich, Susan Brager

Absent: Crystal Slaughter, Brittany Brown, Lori Calderon, Daniele Monroe-Moreno, Sherri Mantanona, Ryan Woodward, Drazen Elez, Roberta Lange, Lawrence Montrose, Gina Bongiovi, Tommy White, Derrick Gyamfi, Robert Thompson

Also present: Katie Gilbertson, Janiese Clyne, Kara Abe, Ben Daseler, Milt Stewart, Michael Yoder, Brett Miller, Arianna Florence, Ken Pierson, Erica Brown, Kristen Dwyer, Fred Steinmann

1. **CALL TO ORDER - OPENING REMARKS AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
Chair Anderson called the meeting to order, welcomed participants, and led the participants in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **ROLL CALL - CONFIRMATION OF A QUORUM**
Per direction from Chair Anderson, **Katie Gilbertson** took roll call and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

3. **VERIFICATION OF PUBLIC NOTICE POSTING**

Katie Gilbertson affirmed that the agenda and notice of the Governor's Workforce Development Board (GWDB) meeting on December 13, 2023, was posted pursuant to Nevada's Open Meeting Law, NRS 241.020.

4. **FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT(S) NOTICE**

Chair Anderson expressed gratitude towards program administrators, elected officials, volunteers, and board members for their dedication to a common goal. The goal is believed to be assisting those who are unemployed, underemployed, or career insecure. The emphasis is on working together in partnership to provide opportunities for all Nevadans, irrespective of their background, ensuring a better future for themselves and their families. Chair Anderson appreciates everyone's hard work and looks forward to harnessing collective passion for serving the community.

Chair Anderson invited comments. There were none.

5. ***DISCUSSION/INFORMATIONAL ONLY - Remarks from new GOWINN Executive Director.**

Scott Hammond expressed excitement and gratitude for the opportunity to serve as the new Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation. Mr. Hammond highlighted his experience in the private sector and education, emphasizing a passion for this type of work. Mr. Hammond acknowledged the accomplishments of the board members and expressed a commitment to learning from them. Overall, he conveyed enthusiasm for collaborating with the board and achieving shared goals.

Maureen Schafer expressed familiarity with Scott Hammond, having worked with him in various sessions in the contractor world. Ms. Schafer commended Senator Hammond as an excellent choice for the leadership role and expressed eagerness to work with him.

6. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – Approval for October 18, 2023 Minutes.**

Chair Anderson called for comments/changes to October 18, 2023 meeting minutes. **It was moved by Leslie Mujica and seconded by Kevin Landry to approve the October 18, 2023 minutes.**

7. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – Revisions to GWDB bylaws.**

Chair Anderson introduced revisions to the GWDB bylaws, outlining three main changes. First, under Section 3.2 regarding attendance, the proposed provisions emphasize the board's commitment to strong attendance, requiring all absences to be submitted in writing one week prior to the scheduled meeting. Emergency absences are exempt from this notice requirement. Chair Anderson further explained Vice Chair Evans can approve or deny absences in the chair's unavailability. Second and third changes, found on page 10 under Section 4.3, involve modifying the non-GWDB subcommittee membership cap to three seats (nominal cap) and adding a clause allowing nonvoting members in subcommittees to facilitate participation without voting power. The goal is to enhance subcommittee operations and ease reaching quorum.

Kristine Nelson asked for clarification on the notification of attendance process, specifically asking if it is through the office of OWINN. Ms. Nelson suggested clarifying the attendance notification process in the draft to explicitly mention that it should be through the office of OWINN.

Chair Anderson agreed to incorporate this clarification into the draft.

Scott Hammond raised a question regarding whether elected officials are exempt from the attendance notification requirements outlined in the revisions.

Chair Anderson agreed that they should be exempt from the attendance notification requirement.

Chair Anderson called for a motion pending the mentioned revisions. It was moved by Maureen Schafer and seconded by Michael Bolognini to approve the GWDB bylaws.

8. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – Approval for 2024 meeting calendar.**

Chair Anderson presented the 2024 Governor's Workforce Development board meeting calendar. All meetings will start at 2 p.m., and the format will remain consistent until further notice for everyone's convenience.

Leslie Mujica asked if there will always be a zoom option.

Chair Anderson responded yes. He stated in-person is preferable as it encourages better engagement.

Evelyn Thompson-Hilbert asked if all meetings will be held in-person with a zoom option.

Katie Gilbertson clarified that Ms. Thompson-Hilbert is referring to the Subcommittee meetings.

Chair Anderson replied Subcommittee meetings will continue to be held online.

Chair Anderson called for comments/changes to the 2024 meeting calendar. **It was moved by Michael Bolognini and seconded by Kevin Landry to approve 2024 meeting calendar.**

9. **DISCUSSION/INFORMATIONAL ONLY – Title program reports and discussion.**

Chair Anderson acknowledged the core WIOA partners to present their title report updates, with a discussion period following for board members. In response to feedback from the past year, a new template was distributed to core partners, aiming to make program data more understandable for non-government partners. The presentation layout is being changed to facilitate better-informed questions from board members. Each presenter will have a five-minute slot to discuss recent activities and performance metrics using the new reporting template. After all six partners present, the floor will be open for discussion on improving the reporting template.

Brett Miller, Workforce Connections, provided an update on Southern Nevada's Industry Sector Partnerships, highlighting over 185 regional employers, 50 collective actions, and 14 industry convenings. He shared an infographic outlining goals, employer benefits, and industries of focus. Mr. Miller discussed enrollment and employment metrics for Title One adult DW and youth programs, emphasizing the challenges participants face. Reporting timelines are explained, explaining the data are not available in real time. Mr. Miller went on to share the data for Title I Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth and explained each metric on the template. Title I Adult metrics include a 41% decrease in enrollments due to post-pandemic funding changes, a 33% increase in exits, a 17% increase in employment, and a 22% rise in median quarterly wages. Expenditures are 15% of the planned budget. Title I Dislocated Workers face similar trends, with a 74% decline in enrollments due to fuller employment and reduced mass layoffs.

Michael Bolognini expressed confusion about the top chart and sought clarification on the reference to "quarterly last year actual." Mr. Bolognini requested more clarity, specifically asking if the numbers pertain to the second quarter of 2022.

Brett Miller acknowledged the confusion and explained Quarterly Last Year Actual represents the first quarter of program year 2022, which is July-September. Quarterly This Year Actual represents the first quarter of program year 2023. He mentioned they are using consistent time periods.

Michael Bolognini thanked Mr. Miller for the clarification.

Brett Miller continued with funding for DW employment had a 15% decrease in expenses. Title I Youth exhibits similar trends as Title I Adult, with decreased funding leading to a drop in enrollments. However, employed in the second quarter is up 9%, and the median quarterly wage exceeds the federal goal by 33%. Expenditures are 22% of the planned budget.

Evelyn Thompson Hilbert asked how the quarterly current target was determined in the report.

Brett Miller explained the quarterly current target for enrolled is determined by the contracts with subrecipients. Mr. Miller said each subrecipient has a specified enrollment target based on contractual obligations, representing the expected number of enrollments within a quarter.

Evelyn Thompson Hilbert asked if these targets are determined only off subrecipients or Workforce Connections in general.

Brett Miller stated that for Title I enrollments are only done through subrecipients because participant services are not determined by the board.

Michael Bolognini asked about the direct correlation between the decrease in funding and the decline in numbers. He sought clarification on whether the decrease in numbers is solely attributed to the funding reduction or if other factors contribute to the enrollment decline.

Brett Miller clarified that while funding is the largest driver, there are other factors contributing to the enrollment numbers. He mentioned negotiating targets based on funding and note that, in some cases, the actual enrollments surpass the targets, suggesting the targets may be conservative. Mr. Miller explained that factors such as ongoing work with individuals from prior program years and resource allocation for training and support services can influence enrollments. Timing of enrollments in a prior year also affects year-over-year comparisons.

Michael Bolognini raised a question about the relationship between target setting and funding. Mr. Bolognini noted a significant difference between the current target and actual achievements, suggesting nearly a 100% improvement. Mr. Bolognini sought clarification on how the targets are set, their realism, and whether they align with expectations from partners.

Brett Miller responded the targets are primarily set based on two factors: 1) funding and a cost-per-individual metric and 2) the number of individuals carrying over from a previous program year. Mr. Miller acknowledged that, especially in the case of adults, the targets may seem a bit low. He anticipated a potential slowdown in enrollment later in the year as the program approaches capacity based on budget allocations.

Michael Bolognini asked if the 241 mentioned in the quarterly current target represents carryovers as opposed to new enrollments.

Brett Miller replied the 241 figure represents all new enrollments. He clarified this report does not reflect the number of individuals carried over.

Michael Bolognini asked about how the current targets are decided if the determinants are funding and the number of individuals that carry over.

Brett Miller stated those are the targets for enrollments.

Michael Bolognini questioned what number of carryovers are included in the 241.

Brett Miller responded 241 is strictly the enrollment target. That is strictly the number of new enrollments that are targeted per quarter.

Scott Hammond rephrased Mr. Bolognini's question and asked how many individuals were carried over in this report.

Brett Miller replied he did not know that number off the top of his head, but it is not reflected in this report since the template did not ask for it.

Kristine Nelson clarified that performance targets are negotiated by the State with the Department of Labor (DOL) every two years. The DOL provides a statistical modeling mechanism based on WIOA Title One and Wagner-Peyser data, outlining achievements, funding, and other factors. The negotiation process involves input from the state regarding the validity of targets, but ultimately, the DOL determines the targets. Ms. Nelson emphasized the complexity of the modeling process and clarified that the State is informed about the targets rather than having significant influence over their establishment.

Milt Stewart, Nevadaworks presented an update on the Employ NV Hubs, indicating expansion to serve all hubs in Northern Nevada, including a new location in Fernley. The Board is discussing continuous improvement and defining metrics for assessing progress. Nevadaworks is implementing a referral network for warm handoffs to partners and piloting it in the Reno Hub. Mr. Stewart also discussed the Good Jobs Northern Nevada grant, transitioning to phase three for implementation. The grant focuses on training and involves contracts with community colleges. Over 400 individuals have expressed interest, and the program aims to turn this interest into enrollments. Nevadaworks is developing an RFP based on the Hub model for service delivery. Transitioning to the data report, Mr. Stewart highlighted fluctuations in enrollments across quarters and the division of targets by four to maintain consistency. He shared in general enrollments are up, but exited, employed, and wages will need to be apart of an ongoing conversation since they fluctuate.

Nancy Olsen, Adult Education, presented an update on adult education, indicating a significant increase in enrollment compared to the same period last year, with a goal to reach pre-pandemic levels by the end of the program year. The program participates in professional development activities, including federal opportunities and state contracts. They continue to deliver in-person and distance education, emphasizing career pathway development and participation in the Good Jobs Challenge. Ms. Olson presented an Excel document showing data for Title II Adult Education and shared Title II does not report federally on a quarterly basis and there are no targets for enrollment. Thus, her presentation includes data from last year to the current year. Ms. Olsen noted that participants may remain in their program for multiple years due to deficiencies in basic skills, and she also mentioned that exited refers to not attending the service for more than 90 days, which is a common definition amongst all the Titles. Exited does not necessarily mean completed. Targets are set through negotiation with the US Department of Education, and the presentation emphasized the need for data matches for more accurate information. For median wages, Ms. Olsen noted that the individual might not have been employed for the entire quarter, rather that data captures if they were employed at any point in that quarter, no matter the duration. Her program is right on track for expenses within the first quarter.

Kara Abe, DETR Employment Security Division explained the Title III report provides quarterly data for the EmployNV Business Hub, with details on the 37 events held in the South and 21 events in the North, employers served, and individuals attending. The report includes performance measures, including the 3,232 job seekers, which was lower than the planned goal of 4,800. Ms. Abe shared job listings were 1,839 which was up from the goal of 1,565. Initiatives like the Grow with Google pilot online training program that expires on December 31, ROADS Pilot Project with Western Nevada College that ended on October 31, and Early Childhood Education highlighted the number of enrollees at the four community colleges. Moving on to the data report, there is not a planned enrollment number as it is negotiated with the DOL. 5,053 participants completed or exited the program, with a 69.2% employment rate and an average median wage of \$7,151.

Nancy Olsen followed up additional context for the Title II report, emphasizing that the term "exited" is used instead of "completed" due to individuals leaving without finishing or completing specific levels that meet their needs. Ms. Olsen clarified that median wages are based on any work during the quarter, and it may not reflect a full-time position. Regarding measurable skill gains, she explains the instructional time requirement for post-testing and mentions that mid-year numbers can be misleading due to new students yet to reach the required hours. Ms. Olsen noted that Title II does not report on a quarterly basis federally and mentions being on track for WIOA funding expenses at around 26%.

Ken Pierson, DETR Vocational Rehabilitation, introduced himself and noted that he and Ms. Brown would be presenting on behalf of Drazen Elez and Mechelle Merrill.

Erica Brown, DETR Vocational Rehabilitation, reported the numbers for the Vocational Rehabilitation program for program year 2022 and the first quarter of 2023. Ms. Brown shared that for 2022, 3,586 participants were enrolled in the first quarter and 1,424 completed for the first quarter. For first quarter 2023, 2,798 participants were enrolled and 545 participants have completed. For 2022, 855 participants were employed second quarter after exit and for 2023 541 participants were employed second quarter after exit. Average quarterly earnings from 2022 were \$6,008 and they did not have earnings data yet for 2023.

Michael Yoder, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, delineated the differences between the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) Workforce Development unit and other similar entities. DWSS operates under Title IV and receives funding through the TANF block grant, serving TANF and SNAP participants statewide. However, they only have one location in Clark County and are expanding services to the north. Despite not having specific enrollment targets, they aim to serve all TANF and SNAP participants and conduct outreach to individuals at the poverty level. Funding for vocational training comes through TANF NEON Support Services, and DWSS must co-fund with WIOA partners for paid training programs. Mr. Yoder shared they have limited resources and rely on referrals and partnerships for enrollment. The workforce unit comprises three full-time case managers and management liaisons with the WIOA system. They face funding constraints, with a maximum expenditure of \$5,000 per client for tuition-only vocational training. Due to decreased funding in 2023, there was a gap in vocational training contracts. However, by June 2024, DWSS projects a 55% increase in completions, a 133% increase in average wages post-graduation, and an 18% increase in spending, driven by planned train-to-hire cohorts within budgetary limits.

Leslie Mujica opened the questioning period and directed her first remarks to Mr. Pierson and Ms. Brown with Vocational Rehabilitation. She restated their metrics for last year and shared that this format and the one that was just shared were the closest to what they are looking for. Ms. Mujica sought clarification on with \$23 million, they enrolled 2,800 people, and of that group 1,424 completed the program and 855 received a job.

Erica Brown stated that is correct. She reminded everyone that the clients they serve require much more assistance and supportive services than the general population.

Leslie Mujica turned her question to Mr. Yoder with DWSS. She stated that his report was also close to what they are looking for. She restated that with \$397,000, 71 people were enrolled in, 31 completed, 12 are still attending, and 38 were employed.

Michael Yoder clarified that was from July 2022 through June 2023.

Leslie Mujica shared that she is not trying to pick on anyone, but asked if the State requires \$397,000 to employ 38 people.

Michael Yoder shared that including WIOA funding, \$221,000 of that money was leveraged partnered funding.

Leslie Mujica rephrased her question and asked for \$36,000, 38 people were employed.

Michael Yoder stated that was correct.

Leslie Mujica said that she is not sure if they will need to contact the Governor's office to receive the numbers they need, but there is a need for a uniform report format across all six providers. She emphasized the key data points required: the number of people targeted, reached, enrolled, exited,

and completed. Ms. Mujica highlighted the importance of understanding how many individuals were placed or employed relative to the funding received. Ms. Mujica emphasized the simplicity of the required information, suggesting a report with five columns to streamline the data presentation. She concluded by stating that they do not want five minutes of circular conversation but rather the actual figures.

Michael Bolognini expressed concern about the 60% drop in enrollment in the Vocational Rehabilitation program. Mr. Bolognini emphasized the importance of identifying factors such as transportation issues or program-related challenges that may have contributed to the significant drop. He appreciated the transparency in the report and encouraged a detailed analysis to address potential obstacles. Mr. Bolognini also emphasized that the goal is to help improve the programs and remove barriers to increase completion rates.

Erica Brown stated that she did not have the precise indicators related to the decrease in enrollment but she will ask her administrator if a more detailed explanation can be provided in the future.

Michael Bolognini thanked Ms. Brown and shared while there is a reasonable amount of slippage, 60 percent raises a flag. He emphasized the need to identify and address specific issues causing challenges in the program. For instance, if there is a transportation problem hindering participants from completing the program, efforts should be directed toward resolving that issue. The goal is to find solutions to obstacles that prevent people from completing the program and securing employment. Mr. Bolognini appreciated the clarity of the presented numbers and highlights the intention to provide support rather than just seeking more reports. The focus is on obtaining basic reports to understand and overcome obstacles, ultimately aiming to increase the number of program completions and successful job placements.

Erica Brown agreed and shared that they would like to be transparent and provide those reasons.

Nancy Olsen requested training for board members on individual Titles, emphasizing that understanding the complexities of each program is crucial. Ms. Olsen acknowledged that reporting requirements may not be straightforward and suggests providing training to enhance the Board's understanding of the various Titles.

Michael Bolognini expressed the need for clarity on goals and expectations set by the federal government. He emphasized the importance of understanding the federal goals and suggests that if the Department of Labor sets the goals, it would be helpful for the Board to be informed about those goals. He hypothesized that the federal government would probably want to know about the number of people entering the program with the expectation that with a certain amount of money a certain number of people are expected to be completed. Mr. Bolognini also questions the reporting of "NA" in reports. He points out that while programs, such as education, only report to the federal government annually, they must track themselves throughout the year to make sure they're on target with the end of the year goal. He sought clarification on how goals are tracked within the education program.

Nancy Olsen clarified that where she had reported "NA" on her report, it genuinely means "not applicable" as there are no enrollment targets for Title II. She explained that the number exited is based on individuals not attending for 90 days or more. Ms. Olsen emphasized that specific targets do exist, but certain metrics are reported annually, and the data match for employment is currently done once a year. She also mentioned that the focus is on individuals who exited more than six months ago when reporting employed second quarter after exit.

Michael Bolognini understood her explanation but asked about the potentially reporting more frequently than the annual requirement from the federal government. He expressed an interest in exploring whether more frequent assessments could provide a better understanding of positive outcomes and help identify and address obstacles. The idea is to assess the program's performance more regularly to allow the Board to help.

Nancy Olsen explained that for the "employed second quarter after exit" measure, they can look at it quarterly, but it still involves participants who have left the program at least six months before. However, for "measurable skill gains," they can provide that information on a weekly basis or as frequently as needed. The distinction is made between the employment measure, which has a longer timeframe, and measurable skill gains, which can be assessed more frequently.

Evelyn Thompson-Hilbert suggested that although tracking employment data from education programs is challenging, it's crucial to find a consistent way to report information for better comparison and understanding. Ms. Thompson-Hilbert proposed creating a consensus of expectations or forming a committee to work on clearer reporting standards, ensuring alignment with business perspectives and focusing on Return on Investment (ROI). The goal is to advocate for effective workforce development aligned with the increasing demand in various sectors.

Kenneth Goodrich emphasized the importance of evaluating program effectiveness based on dollars per job. While acknowledging variations in program costs, he proposed ranking different organizations by assessing the dollars invested per job across each one. This approach aims to provide a consistent metric for benchmarking and comparing the efficiency of different programs.

Evelyn Thompson-Hilbert acknowledged the theoretical validity of evaluating programs based on dollars per job but highlights the challenges in practical implementation. Ms. Thompson-Hilbert expressed understanding and empathy for frustration, emphasizing the need to develop a clear and consistent reporting approach. Ms. Thompson-Hilbert suggested working on language and reporting standards to provide clarity in assessing program effectiveness.

Kevin Landry emphasized the importance of considering the factors contributing to the cost per job, highlighting that the \$16,000 per participant may be justified given the challenges faced by the programs. Mr. Landry addressed the issue of terminology, noting that measuring job success based on specific training silos may not accurately reflect the impact of the training.

Irene Bustamante Adams acknowledged the progress made in achieving closer alignment on reporting standards and highlighted the nuances involved in capturing data accurately. Ms. Bustamante Adams emphasized the importance of considering the unique challenges faced by individuals with barriers and the need to carry over individuals to the next fiscal year.

Vice Chair Evans also agreed that the group is getting closer. His understanding of WIOA is to pay attention monthly, quarterly, and yearly with the goal to complete the program with hard and soft skills to help long term employment. He stated while there are nuances that affect the efficiency of various programs, the bottom line is the system is supposed to train individuals to have long term employment.

Maureen Schafer agreed the group is getting closer, acknowledging the differences between government and private sector. She posed instead of trying to have the reports fit a private sector model, the Board should ask the agencies what their goals are for the year with the money they receive. This is the most standardized reports that the Board has seen, but there needs to be a question on each programs goals to assess whether they're achieved or not. She emphasized that more money needs to be sought after by state and federal dollars and that these reports can help demonstrate why.

Chair Anderson expressed Derrick Gyamfi was unable to make it but read a letter submitted with his remarks on the agenda item. Chair Anderson read a letter from Mr. Gyamfi that stated regret for not being able to join the meeting and emphasizes the need for a standardized reporting framework for title reports. He assured providers that the goal is to simplify processes and boost efficiency while addressing the inconsistency in current data reporting. Mr. Gyamfi suggests nominating representatives from each Title program to provide insights and foster open dialogue. He highlighted the urgency for meaningful change and the dedication of the working group to improve data consistency and transparency for effective decision-making.

Edward Estipona expressed frustration and emphasized the need for collaboration and understanding among Board members. Mr. Estipona highlighted challenges in communication, differences in language, and the importance of productive discussions. He suggested spending more time addressing concerns and seeking solutions collaboratively rather than demanding standardized numbers. Mr. Estipona also acknowledged the complexity of various programs and the need for mutual understanding. Furthermore, Mr. Estipona also mentioned technology issues and expressed a desire for a more constructive and understanding approach to discussions.

Chair Anderson thanked Mr. Estipona for his comments, agreeing with Ms. Schafer that the conversation was robust. Chair Anderson assured Mr. Estipona there was no yelling and civility is always mandatory. The dialogue is focused on finding a common solution for all concerned.

10. DISCUSSION/INFORMATIONAL ONLY – Presentation of WIOA Title I and III data dashboard in NPWR.

Kristen Dwyer provided an update on the WIOA Title Dashboard, mentioning that it will be hosted on the website in the first quarter of the new year. The dashboard is based on an initial report shared by David Schmidt and includes Title I and Title III data. Ms. Dwyer shared screenshots of the dashboard, emphasizing that it's a snapshot of the initial report and will be continuously updated on the NPWR website. The Board is encouraged to provide feedback for improvements.

Chair Anderson shared that Mr. Schmidt's original dashboard provided data that was the impetus for creating some of the Board's subcommittees, such as the Barriers and Underserved Populations Subcommittee, since they could drill down data by zip code.

11. DISCUSSION/INFORMATIONAL ONLY – NPWR Forums Recap.

Kristen Dwyer provided a recap of the NPWR research forums, highlighting projects funded by the Governor's Reserve for researchers to utilize the NPWR system. The research covered workforce, economic development, and education, with two doctoral students completing their projects. The NPWR Strategic Plan was introduced, focusing on updating the structure, modernization, and securing funding. Ms. Dwyer emphasized the need for more analysts and a data integration specialist to enhance the system's capabilities. The goal is to make the NPWR system a useful tool for researchers, legislators, and the public, addressing data challenges and facilitating better understanding. The Strategic Plan aims to evolve the system, integrate new data sources, and secure additional funding for continued improvement.

Chair Anderson discussed the potential positive impact of incorporating Title II program data into NPWR and asked questions about system improvements.

Kristen Dwyer replied bringing on more analysts and a data integration specialist will be able to help to track individuals for the Title programs.

Vice Chair Evans asked if the NPWR system aims to incorporate data from all the Titles.

Kristen Dwyer agreed and said they are currently working on securing data from all the Titles along with external agencies. The goal is to create a comprehensive and integrated system that allows different titles to contribute data for a more holistic approach to understanding workforce and education outcomes.

Vice Chair Evans asked if NPWR will be able to host data from the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL).

Kristen Dwyer answered NPWR system is open to discussions with various partners, including service providers on the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL). The goal is to explore ways to incorporate their data into the system as appropriate, allowing them to interact with the system and contribute valuable information. Conversations have been ongoing with different partners, and the

system is not limited in its scope, aiming to enhance collaboration and data sharing for the benefit of all stakeholders.

Vice Chair Evans commended the data integration specialist and circled back to previous remarks from other Board members requesting more resources once the data are better tracked.

Kristen Dwyer replied that their office is piloting a project to track participant outcomes from Project SANDI, a \$13 million dollar grant that was funded by CARES Act funding and aims to equip participants with short-term certificates. She replied while these items are not a quick win, it's more important to have the long term in mind.

Irene Bustamante Adams asked about rescheduling the Las Vegas NPWR forum and asked about which data sharing partners have been asked to provide data into NPWR that have not agreed yet. Ms. Bustamante Adams wanted to know which agencies Ms. Dwyer would like to receive data from.

Kristen Dwyer replied that the Las Vegas NPWR forum, initially canceled due to a tragic event, will be rescheduled. She also shared that the amount of funding for the research grants more than doubled from last years' amount and the agency received 17 applications for the research grants, demonstrating interest in bringing on more data to the system. Ms. Dwyer shared the system is actively working on incorporating data from various partners, including DHHS, housing division, B&I, NDOC, and DMV. There is ongoing collaboration to bring DHHS information into the system, providing valuable insights for researchers.

Fred Steinmann, UNR Center for Economic Development, thanked GOWINN for hosting the NPWR Research Forum at the University on December 5 and welcomed future partnerships with their office on workforce development efforts.

12. DISCUSSION/INFORMATIONAL ONLY – End of year recap and new business from Full Board members.

Chair Anderson acknowledged and expressed gratitude for the hard work and dedication of the board members throughout 2023. Ms. Gilbertson provided an end-of-the-year overview summarizing the achievements of the board.

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS NOTICE (SECOND)

Chair Anderson invited comments. There were none.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The December 13, 2023 meeting was adjourned.

Notice of this meeting was posted on or before 9 a.m. on the third day prior to the meeting on the Internet at:

<https://gowinn.nv.gov/boards-commissions/gwdb/> and
[Nevada's Public Notice website at https://notice.nv.gov/](https://notice.nv.gov/), as required by NRS 232.2175.

Supporting public material provided to Committee members for this meeting is posted on GOWINN's Website at <https://gowinn.nv.gov/boards-commissions/gwdb/> may be requested from the Executive Director's Office at 555 E. Washington Ave. Ste. 4900, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101; or call (702) 486-8080.