

**BRAD LITTLE**  
GOVERNOR

**Wendi Secrist**  
Executive Director



**Deni Hoehne**  
Chair

**John Young**  
Vice Chair

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

514 W Jefferson St, Ste 131, Boise, Idaho 83702

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** Thursday, June 13, 2024

**Time:** 2:00 – 3:30 PM

**Council Committee Members:** Deni Hoehne, John Young, Joe Maloney, Kelly Kolb, Sarah Griffin, Scott Bedke

**Guests:**

**Staff:** Wendi Secrist, Denise Hill, Sherawn Reberry, Matthew Thomsen, Amanda Ames, Jenny Hay, Rebecca Watson

**Call to Order at 2:02 PM**

**Welcome**

- Review Agenda

**Deni Hoehne, Chair**

**\*Review May 9, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

**A unanimous consent motion by Ms. Griffin to approve the May 9, 2024 Meeting Minutes as written. Second by Mr. Maloney. Motion carried.**

**\* \*WDTF Grant Requests**

**Matthew Thomsen**

- University of Idaho IKEEP – Innovation Grant

The University of Idaho's Indigenous Knowledge for Effective Education Program (IKEEP) began in 2016. Through their proposal, U of I will expand IKEEP's offerings by strengthening and diversifying the education workforce by developing wraparound career pathways to better serve American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN) students in the region. IKEEP's wrap around career pathways will improve and address current teacher and education leader workforce development gaps in four areas: student engagement, student mentorship in career exploration, educational leadership cohorts, and design and deliver of an Indigenous education teaching and leadership development series (Offered statewide to 200-250 teachers who will receive a professional development credit). Training will be provided at the University of Idaho (Moscow) and distance centers across the state, including Coeur d'Alene, Boise, and Idaho Falls center. Training for professional development will be provided on-site in partnering schools and districts in Idaho, and on-line through virtual webinars and distance training. During the grant period the IKEEP program will serve 350 individuals. This number includes 260 already employed individuals who will receive training during grant.

Amount Requested: \$999,988.21

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- Discussion:
- Reviewed previously by the Grant Committee and Executive Committee, match request reduced, raising funding request from \$972,924.50
- 2-year funding
- One of the few grant requests addressing Native Americans
- Confident in ability to complete project based on SOW and presentation at the December Council meeting

**Motion by Ms. Griffin to approve the University of Idaho IKEEP Innovation Grant for \$999,988.21. Second by Mr. Maloney. Motion carried.**

- College of Western Idaho – Industry Sector Grant

Based on the NFL draft, the CWI Construction Combine is designed to connect high school students with employers in the construction industry. In this two-day education to application event, employers will teach basic skills and students will show off their abilities. The event concludes with hiring opportunities that can directly connect participants to jobs. Students who successfully complete the program will receive a certificate of completion and access to CWI's Work-Based Learning Center where they can receive career counseling and job placement support if desired. Training will be provided in the CWI service area, which includes Ada, Canyon, Gem, Boise, Owyhee, Washington, Payette, Valley, and Elmore Counties. Students participate in the program free of charge. This program is modeled after ISU's successful, existing construction combine.

Amount Requested: \$469,398.60

- Discussion:
- Grant Committee score 72%
- Grant Committee asked for more work on the clarity of the request, listing the schools they would be working with and to connect with JACTs
- Grant Committee also requested a report at the end of the first year on progress and sustainability projections
- Program is adapted to go the High School students directly; other programs are offered outside of High School

**Motion by Ms. Griffin to approve the College of Western Idaho Industry Sector Grant for \$469,398.60. Second by Mr. Maloney. Motion carried.**

- Idaho Veterans Chamber of Commerce – Industry Sector Grant

This project will continue to support and scale the efforts IDVCC began through their Innovation Grant in 2021. This includes a statewide Veteran and Family Employer Network, support for the DoD Skillbridge program, and the ability to expand the employer partnerships that make new training and job opportunities available to Idaho's veterans. The project will also continue to provide job placement assistance, networking

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opportunities, internships, apprenticeships, career counseling, and continued support services after an individual completes their training or starts a new job.

Amount Requested: \$450,000

- Discussion:
- Received 2021 Innovation Grant, this request is to scale the efforts the original grant
- Grant Committee score 68%
- Audit concerns as it was done by a board member, reviewed situation nothing out of line
- Experience with them, appreciate their efforts; impressed with level of engagement
- Any metrics they want to hit? Offer several different pathways based on employer need. Looks too broad but based on feedback they are getting from the veterans they are working with it is on target.
- When DoD stopped approving Skillbridge, they got creative to be the approver as to continue to be successful. Knocked it out of the park.

**Motion by Ms. Griffin to approve the Idaho Veterans Chamber of Commerce Industry Sector Grant for \$450,000.00. Second by Mr. Bedke. Motion carried.**

- Nez Perce Youth Apprenticeship Program – Innovation Grant  
The Nez Perce Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance Office (TERO) worked with Idaho Business for Education to create a Tribal Youth Apprenticeship Program (TYAP) in 2023. This grant will expand the existing TYAP program and add a healthcare program to expand students' opportunities to receive training and learn about careers in construction and healthcare. The program will collaborate with regional employers to identify areas of need and will use this information to develop additional apprenticeships that connect local youth to local employment. TERO is partnering with Baker Technical Institute who host a five-week construction training on site at the Nez Perce Reservation. Training will include OSHA 30, First Aid/CPR & AED, Blood Borne Pathogens, Confined Spaces training, Basic Concrete 40 hrs. The healthcare program will use a virtual reality system called TRANSFER. TRANSFER will be used as a pre-requisite for students to learn about jobs and training before entering a apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship program. The TRANSFER program will also be used for the construction program.

Amount Requested: \$197,000

- Discussion
- Expanding program around health care and construction
- Local union representative unaware of program
- Return and ask to connect with local unions
- Application materials mention Local 238 and contact in April for a June meeting
- Grant Committee score 58%

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**Motion by Mr. Bedke to return the Nez Perce Youth Apprenticeship Program Innovation Grant for \$197,000.00 to the Grant Review Committee for additional information. Second by Ms. Griffin. Motion carried.**

- North Idaho College Mechatronics – Industry Sector Grant  
North Idaho College will develop two educational pathways - a for-credit and a non-credit option - that yield practical skills and credentials in advanced manufacturing. The project will expand the existing mechatronics education and training by increasing the 1-year certificate program from 12 to 20 seats. It will also expand the capacity of the University of Idaho and North Idaho College 2+2 transfer program and expand the outreach and awareness of advanced manufacturing trades and related careers. This project will also feature an outreach component through a one-week summer industry experience cohosted between NIC and Wagstaff, Inc., plus additional recruitments across the five counties in North Idaho.

Amount Requested: \$734,895.76

- Discussion:
- Expanding current program
- Grant Committee score 68%
- Grant Committee concerns around current enrollment decline
- Meets 2 objectives; investment in advance semiconductor, and aligns with the Tech Hub award
- Concern about NIC losing accreditation, program would be assumed should this happen by another entity

**Motion by Mr. Bedke to approve the North Idaho College Mechatronics Industry Sector Grant for \$734,895.76. Second by Mr. Maloney. Motion carried.**

- University of Idaho Cleanroom - Industry Sector Grant  
This grant expands the facilities and equipment that will support two new certificates (semiconductor design and microelectronics fabrication) and the NGeM program. Certificates are only 12 credits each, allowing students in aligned degree tracks to add a certificate without pursuing a new major or minor, and making the certificate more accessible and appealing for students. Recruitment of new students will focus on rural areas, and industry experts will be involved throughout the project to build and refine the course content to most closely align to industry needs. Additionally, industry professionals will participate in the program as guest lecturers to directly connect students to real-world knowledge. Students will obtain credentials including a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering, computer engineering, chemical engineering, mechanical engineering, applied physics, and chemistry, or an undergraduate certificate in semiconductor design and microelectronics fabrication.

Amount Requested: \$1,100,000

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- Discussion:
- Grant Committee score 71%
- Grant Committee concern regarding past performance on former grants addressed in rubric scoring
- ARPA funds

**Motion by Ms. Griffin to approve the University of Idaho Cleanroom Industry Sector Grant for \$1,100,000.00. Second by Mr. Bedke. Motion carried.**

### **\*CEEG FY23 Project Modifications**

***Sarah Griffin***

- Bright Stars
  - Making SOW modification
  - Large community support
  - This is shifting spend categories so request must come to committee
  - Positive request, less cost than originally anticipated
  - Bids came in lower than anticipated
  - Remaining funds to personnel and to some gym upgrades at neighboring church
  - Personnel and fringe categories were not in the original budget
  - Initial concerns about facilities cost, committee was comfortable after explanation
  - Adding additional 10 seats

**Motion by Ms. Griffin to approve the stated project modifications for Bright Stars SOW. Second by Mr. Maloney. Motion carried.**

- Treasure Valley YMCA
  - Changes to space, originally 10K sq ft, now 8K
  - 96 to 85 seats
  - Still under 15K per seat
  - No concerns from Child Care Expansion Grant Committee
  - Impacted by outdoor space requirement
  - Originally asked for facility funds for construction, developer will carry financing and sell to them
  - Construction funding being moved to purchase
  - Initial inspection forced changes

**Motion by Ms. Griffin to approve the stated project modifications for Treasure Valley YMCA. Second by Mr. Bedke. Motion carried.**

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### **Executive Director's Report**

**Wendi Secrist**

- Conducted recent Ed News interview
- Positive JFAC article
- State Board LAUNCH contingent offers presentation
- Public and private 4 & 2 year institutions LAUNCH training today
- Grant Management platform went live yesterday
- 1,500 more contingent offers coming, those that didn't respond to offers in December and March will not get offer this time as they have not acted on two or more
- 1,360 students currently on the waitlist

### **Executive Committee Open Discussion**

**All**

- June meeting feedback
  - Afternoon activities and presentations were great
  - St. Al's did a great job
  - New partners are coming, may need to plan introduction meetings

**A unanimous consent motion to adjourn by Ms. Griffin. No objections.**

**Adjourned 3:06 PM**