

## Meeting Minutes: Apprenticeship Advisory Board

**Date:** January 9, 2025

**Prepared by:** Nou Yang

**Location:** In person in the Minnesota, Department of Labor and Industry and online via Microsoft Teams

### Attendance

Members Present:	DLI Staff Present:	Visitors Present:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mary Berg</li> <li>• Tom Dicklich</li> <li>• Norma Miller</li> <li>• Don Mullin, Chair</li> <li>• Dienna Sabol</li> <li>• Melissa Stachovich</li> <li>• Sophie Thaden</li> <li>• Erin Larsen</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lyla Brown</li> <li>• Naomi Cowan</li> <li>• LaRohn Latimer</li> <li>• Darcus Mitchell</li> <li>• Paul Nikstad</li> <li>• Grace Ouellette</li> <li>• Jeremy Parker</li> <li>• Leslie Philmon</li> <li>• Meghana Shroff</li> <li>• Nou Yang</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dave Altier</li> <li>• Kari Bailey</li> <li>• Melissa Baker</li> <li>• Nita Bayliss</li> <li>• Lori Blair</li> <li>• Dwayne Benson</li> <li>• David Campana</li> <li>• Matt Campanario</li> <li>• Adam Case</li> <li>• Mary DesJarlais</li> <li>• Michelle Dreier</li> <li>• Dave Dressler</li> <li>• Jennifer Eccles</li> <li>• Megan Fink</li> <li>• Danaya Franke</li> <li>• Tim Garcia</li> <li>• Allison Gilbert</li> <li>• Joel Hanson</li> <li>• Darlene Heiskary</li> <li>• Kristen Hoyles</li> <li>• Evan Jacobsen</li> <li>• Joel Jasmer</li> <li>• Tom Kennedy</li> <li>• Mai Khou Vang</li> <li>• Jordan King</li> <li>• Sherry Kinnibrugh</li> <li>• Nicole Linschied</li> <li>• Rick Martagon</li> <li>• Jeremy McConkey</li> <li>• Joe Palewicz</li> <li>• Asley Salmonson</li> <li>• Ryan SanCartier</li> <li>• Stephanie Simons</li> <li>• Gary Thaden</li> <li>• Lily Winter</li> </ul>

# Agenda items:

## 1. Call to order

- The meeting was called to order by Chair Don Mullin at 1:30 p.m. Roll call was taken by Erin Larsen and a quorum was declared.

## 2. Approval of agenda

- A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the Apprenticeship Advisory Board Meeting agenda on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## 3. Approval of drafted meeting minutes

- A motion was made, seconded, and approved of October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 board minutes.

## 4. Board member updates

- Board member updates
  - Don Mullin expressed a desire to see more apprenticeship opportunities in emerging careers and to expand the influence of the apprenticeship models across other industries.
  - Tom Dicklich announced that a new cohort for Building Strong Communities will be starting soon, with 130 apprentices ready to join the workforce and begin their apprenticeship journey.
  - Sophie Thaden indicated the Minneapolis plumbers JATC will be opening applications in January and are looking forward to a busy season.

## 5. Clean Economy Grant

- Lori Blair, Executive Director of Minnesota Rural Water Association and Joe Jasmer, Apprenticeship Program Coordinator shared their mission for the Clean Economy Grant awarded to their apprenticeship program.
  - Focus on rural areas in Minnesota with population under 10,000.
  - Provide training to apprentices to keep their certification up for specific licenses.
  - Address the nationwide shortage of water and wastewater resources.
- Clean Economy Grant Advantages
  - High Tech equipment for apprentices to learn and gain experience.
  - Rural communities are modernized and updated with the high tech equipment.

## 6. Apprenticeship Program Development

- Paul Nikstad and LaRohn Latimer, both Senior Field Representatives from Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry, provided an update on new programs from the last quarter.
  - Neighborhood Health (Healthcare)
  - Traut Companies (Construction)
  - Patisserie 46 (Hospitality)
- Program Development Highlights
  - Accelerator Meetings (Healthcare, Information Technology and Manufacturing).
  - Additional programs continue to be developed in the semiconductor industry and education.
  - New and expanded Apprenticeship programs grants.
    - Up to 30k per applicant
    - 30 people attended informational webinar

## 7. Apprenticeship Program Compliance

- Jeremy Parker and Meghana Shroff, Senior Field Representatives from Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry, provided an update on program reviews.
  - 166 reviews completed; 32 reviews completed in the last quarter.
  - Continued reduction in overdue apprentices.
  - Successful trial-runs with new RAPIDS program review process.
- RAPIDS Program Review beginning January 2025
  - Senior Field Representative will provide extra technical assistance.
  - Online training series for programs later this spring.
  - Desk audit and follow-up summary.

## 8. Apprenticeship Minnesota Update

- Erin Larsen, Director of Apprenticeship, Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry provided an overview of Apprenticeship Minnesota activities.
- An updated demographics of MN Apprenticeship
  - 10,983 active apprentices
  - 26.9% people of color
  - 8.1% women
  - 5.3% veterans
- Program updates:
  - New Hires; Senior Field Representatives
    - Vicky Castorena –Senior Field Representative
    - Annie Jenkin – Quality Assurance, Senior Field Representative
    - Gerri McGimpsey – Compliance, Senior Field Representative
  - Outreach Activities
    - National Apprenticeship Week
    - Presentations (MN School Counselors Association, MN CTE Summit, and Career Fairs)
    - Registered Teacher Apprenticeship Webinar Series

- Division Priorities
  - Develop registered apprenticeship programs in new industries.
    - 30k maximum
    - Clean Economy grant (one additional awardee; Construction Craft Laborers JATC)
  - Increase diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility.
  - Align to national apprenticeship system, and state education and workforce systems.
- LEAP grant
  - Two additional awardees have been selected: Southside Community Health Services and Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Foundation
- Future Steps
  - Apprenticeship Summits; March 5, 2025 at the Minneapolis Plumbers JATC
  - National Apprenticeship Week

## **9. Board Discussion-Approval of Report**

- A motion was made, seconded, and approved on January 9, 2025.

## **10. Adjourn**

- A motion was made, seconded, and meeting was adjourned. The next Apprenticeship Advisory Board meeting will be on April 10, 2025 at 1:30pm.