



SPOKANE WORKFORCE COUNCIL

**MEETING MINUTES
SPOKANE WORKFORCE COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

October 26, 2023
Meeting held via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Christina Vigil Gross
Kimberly Watkins
Kelley Charvet
Robert Duron
Derek Tyree
Diana Wilhite
Commissioner Josh Kerns
Tina Morrison
Ron Valencia

Steve MacDonald

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mayor Nadine Woodward

STAFF PRESENT:

Mark Mattke
Jeanette Facer
Jessica Clayton
Kevin Williams

Chair Christina Vigil Gross called the meeting to order at 12:01 P.M.

ITEM #1 - REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES

Christina Vigil Gross - Board Chair

Review of September 21, 2023, Meeting Minutes.

Action: Motion and second to approve Meeting Minutes from September 21, 2023.

Approved unanimously.

ITEM #2 – GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Jessica Clayton, Division Executive - Programs & Development

Community Reinvestment Funds

Spokane Workforce Council has been awarded \$1,345,027 from Employment Security Department to provide incentive payments, business services, and training through Washington State Department of Commerce's Community Reinvestment Funding. These funds will help low-income families move out of poverty with a focus on BIPOC individuals, families, and businesses being served, and will supplement our current Economic Security for All funding streams on the WorkSource campus.

This funding is being received by all twelve local workforce development boards and is a vote of confidence in our proven ability to co-lead with voices of lived experience, design new innovations with an equity lens, deploy large amounts of funding into communities, meet challenging performance targets, combine multiple benefits via strong community partnership, and help people move from poverty into new lives with self-sufficiency wages. The funding period is currently November 1, 2023 – June 30, 2025.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION

Action: Motion and second to approve the SWC to accept \$1,345,027 in Community Reinvestment Funds and subcontract up to \$1,252,351 to the Spokane Workforce Consortium. Approved unanimously.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Addition of \$1,345,027.00 to the operating budget.

REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION

None.

ITEM #4 – ACTIVITIES AND UPDATES

Mark Mattke, Chief Executive Officer

- Board Retreat Summary – a draft report of the outcomes of the retreat was shared. This will help inform our next discussion with the board and stakeholders as we work to develop the new 2024-2028 Local Strategic Workforce Development Plan.
- State Talent and Prosperity Plan – the SWC will host members and consultants from the State Workforce Board later today who will meet with area stakeholders to obtain input on the 2024-2028 State Strategic Workforce Development Plan.
- Tech Hub – a Spokane regional consortium has been designated by the U.S. Department of Commerce as one of 31 Tech Hubs across the country. This was the result of a broad partnership of over 50 area educational institutions, businesses, and other partners – including the Spokane Workforce Council – who collaborated to craft and submit an application. The focus is upon advanced materials manufacturing and the aerospace industry, and the next steps will be to further develop our proposal and submit it by 2/29/24 in order to compete for \$45-\$70 million awards to implement our concept. This is an extraordinary opportunity for our area to develop competencies and capabilities and become a global leader in these technologies.

Christina Vigil Gross adjourned the meeting at 12:26 P.M.