



# SPOKANE WORKFORCE COUNCIL

**MEETING MINUTES  
SPOKANE WORKFORCE COUNCIL  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**December 1, 2023**  
Meeting held via Zoom

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mayor Nadine Woodward  
Kelley Charvet  
Tina Morrison  
Steve MacDonald

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Mark Mattke  
Jeanette Facer  
Kevin Williams

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Prior to the Executive Committee meeting, we were joined in-person by Washington State Treasurer Mike Pellicciotti and board members Diane Quincy and Toby Broemmeling for a discussion of the upcoming Stage Legislative Session. Treasurer Pellicciotti shared three priorities he will be focused on:

- Washington State Future Fund – establishing a new investment vehicle for low-income residents of \$4,000 that will be assigned to them at birth and accrue in value until they turn 18, whereupon it would be available for use in support of costs of attending training, purchasing a home or other long term wealth generating purposes.
- Financial Education – establish a requirement that high school students must receive instruction in financial education in order to graduate. This will better prepare our students for managing their own finances, including credit cards, savings, etc.
- Retirement Accounts for small businesses –create a mechanism – referred to as an “Auto IRA” – that allows smaller employers to offer their employees a payroll withdrawal going into a fund managed by the state and provide retirement income when they are eligible.

The board members and staff also shared workforce development priorities for consideration and advocacy by the Treasurer. Our focus in the short 2024 session will be to preserve and increase the Economic Security for All (EcSA) funding that was approved by proviso in 2023. This has proven effective in helping individuals and families below and above 200% of poverty to get the skills they need to become self-sufficient. The funding has also been key to increasing our local system capacity to improve services to businesses.

*Chair Christina Vigil Gross called the meeting to order at 2:45 P.M.*

**ITEM #1 - REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES**

*Christina Vigil Gross - Board Chair*

Review of October 26th, 2023, Meeting Minutes.

***Action: Motion and second to approve Meeting Minutes from October 26th, 2023.***

***Approved unanimously.***

## **ITEM #2 – GRANTS AND CONTRACTS**

*Mark Mattke, Chief Executive Officer*

### **Washinton Job Initiative**

Spokane Workforce Council has been awarded two grants, one as the primary recipient and another for which we are a subrecipient. The first is for 2 million dollars from Washington State Achievement Council and ESD. This grant is focused on the healthcare sector and efforts to get more workers into the healthcare pipeline. Spokane Workforce Council will subcontract to local partners and provide funding to Workforce Southwest Washington, the local board headquartered in Vancouver, WA. The second grant is construction sector focused and Spokane Workforce Council is partnering with WorkForce Central, the local board from Pierce County. This grant is to increase the number of workers going into the construction and skilled trade sector. Spokane Workforce Council is receiving \$423,000.

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION**

***Action: Motion and second to approve the SWC to accept \$2 million and subcontract up to \$800,000 to Workforce Southwest. Subcontract \$7500.00 and up to \$952,000.00 to Spokane Community College and the Spokane Workforce Consortium, respectively. Approved unanimously.***

***Action: Motion and second to approve the SWC to accept \$423,000 from WorkForce Central for the Washington Jobs Initiative, and subcontract up to \$370,000 to the Spokane Workforce Consortium. Approved Unanimously.***

### **WIOA Consortium Awards PY23 Q3 and Q4**

PY23 WIOA Formula awards were approximately 20% less than last year, and we have been issuing our service provider consortium and operator awards on a quarter-by-quarter basis. With the influx of approximately \$4.8 million of new grants over the prior two months, we are confident in being able to allocate the balance of our available WIOA Formula funds for the remainder of the program year per the table below:

#### **Q3 & Q4 Awards**

One Stop Operator	\$	76,992.00
RCSC Operator	\$	69,380.00
Talent Solutions Operations	\$	60,000.00
WS Service Providers Adult	\$	236,457.00
WS Service Providers DW	\$	252,603.00
Next Generation Zone	\$	423,145.00
<b>Total Award Up To</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,118,577.00</b>

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION**

***Action: Motion and second to approve Authorization to award up to \$1,118,577.00 to the Consortium for the remainder of the year. Approved unanimously.***

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

Addition of \$2,423,000.00 to the operating budget.

## **ITEM #4 – ACTIVITIES AND UPDATES**

*Mark Mattke, Chief Executive Officer*

- Spokane Workforce Council has applied for and was awarded the Spokane Valley Economic Development Fund grant for \$7,123. The Spokane Workforce Council will explore ways to conduct outreach and increase access to services for residents and businesses in Spokane Valley.

*Christina Vigil Gross adjourned the meeting at 3:01 P.M.*