



Meeting Minutes  
**February 7, 2007**  
Concourse Hotel & Governor's Club  
Madison, WI

**Association members present:** Colleen Bates, Dick Best, Bob Borremans, Sally Cutler, James Ehrsam, LeRoy Forslund, Jim Golembeski, Brad Grant, Jerry Hanoski, John Heyer, Erhard Huettl, Don Madelung, Charles Most, Jr., Beth Norris, Charmaine Prewitt, Dan Racette, Pat Schramm, Scott Stocker, Steve Terry, Cheryl Welch, Howard Zellmer

**Also present:** Gary Denis, Mari Kay-Nabozny, Mark Hilliker, Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf, Roberta Gassman, Teresa Barch

Bob Borremans called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**1. Opening remarks**

Anne Olson, Director of the Minnesota Workforce Council Association gave a brief overview of MWCA via conference call. Members viewed MWCA web pages and received a handout depicting the organization's structure. Ms. Olson described the Minnesota Workforce Council Association's annual legislative event, "MWCA Day at the Capitol," and offered to serve as a resource to WWDA in the future.

**2. Approval of the minutes of the October 4, 2006 meeting**

The minutes of the October 4, 2006 meeting were approved (motion – Dan Racette; second – LeRoy Forslund)

**3. Election of officers**

The following members were elected to officer positions for 2007:

- Chair: John Heyer, Chair  
Waukesha-Ozaukee-Washington Workforce Development Board
- Vice Chair: Don Madelung, Chair  
Workforce Development Board of South Central Wisconsin, Inc.
- Secretary: Charmaine Prewitt, Chair  
North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board, Inc.
- Treasurer: Dick Best, Executive Director  
Workforce Resource, Inc. (West Central Workforce Development Area)

**4. Development of 2007 action plan**

Mark Hilliker from the University of Wisconsin-Extension, Portage County, facilitated a brief action planning session. Four key strategies were identified and framed in the form of the following draft questions:

1. How can we develop a talent pool valued in today's global economy?
2. How can we develop mutually beneficial partnerships?
3. How can we develop a statewide financial strategy for funding workforce development efforts?
4. How can we work with federal, state and local legislative representatives, as well as other stakeholders, to advance an understanding of, and increase resources for, workforce and economic development throughout the state of Wisconsin?

Members worked in four groups to discuss specific activities that might be undertaken for each strategy.

#### **5. Next steps**

Members agreed to meet again on April 4, 2007 to continue the action planning process.

#### **6. Other business**

Members voted to support, "A Workforce Development System for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century," a position paper dated January 19, 2007 that was developed by the Great Lakes Employment and Training Association (GLETA) (motion – Dick Best; second – Colleen Bates).

#### **7. Closing remarks**

Roberta Gassman, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, stated that the department is focusing on using metrics to measure workforce development outcomes and will continue to emphasize high-wage training. The Governor's proposed budget includes streamlining services for children and families through the creation of a new, unified Wisconsin Department of Children and Families. In addition, Governor Doyle announced a comprehensive strategy called "Growing Milwaukee for Wisconsin's Future," to address areas such as quality education, reducing crime, public infrastructure, workforce development, and economic development in the state's largest metropolitan area. Gassman said that workforce issues represent a powerful, pivotal opportunity for decisions that will impact the future and that she looks forward to working with the Wisconsin Workforce Development Association on creative approaches to replacing diminishing federal resources.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Submitted by *Teresa Barch*, WAJTE/WWDA Coordinator