

--DRAFT PENDING SUB-COMMITTEE APPROVAL--

**WISCONSIN DAIRY TASK FORCE 2.0
SUB-COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE
MINUTES**

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March 1, 2019

The Education and Workforce sub-committee of the Wisconsin Dairy Task Force 2.0 met on Friday, March 1, 2019 beginning at 9:00 a.m. via teleconference, based at DATCP, 2811 Agriculture Drive, Madison, WI 53708 in Room 456.

Call to Order

Chair Lori Weyers called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Members Present

Members present included: Paul Scharfman, Amy Penterman, John Schmidt, Lori Weyers, Rene Johnson, and Dave Buholzer. Bob Milligan, the sub-committee's resource person, also attended. Dairy Task Force 2.0 Chair Mark Stephenson and DATCP staff Ashley Andre also attended.

Minutes

Approve minutes of last meeting

Chair Weyers asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Amy Penterman made a motion. Dave Buholzer seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Consider recommendations

Chair Weyers introduced recommendation #6 on the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. Chair Stephenson gave an overview of the recommendation. Krista Knigge, Division of Agricultural Development Administrator, had provided most of the information. John Schmidt made a motion to move the recommendation forward. Mr. Buholzer seconded. The group unanimously approved to move the recommendation forward.

Chair Weyers introduced recommendation #17 about Wisconsin's hidden workforce and the barriers to work. Ms. Penterman explained that the recommendation was modeled after work that Paul Scharfman had done in his own area. Chair Stephenson added that Mr. Scharfman had done studies in his area to give him an idea of the size of the untapped workforce and potential barriers. John Schmidt agreed about the importance of getting this quantitative data of what the labor pool is.

Bob Milligan added that he thinks this is the most important recommendation, but there needs to be more specifics of what we are asking to be done and what's the budget. If he was on the full Task Force 2.0, he wouldn't know what to do with this recommendation since it lacks specifics.

Chair Weyers suggested that some more work be done to revise and make additions to this recommendation. Mr. Scharfman offered to help with that effort. He had done his survey through the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Chair Weyers summarized that we have a model with what Mr. Scharfman had done in Dodge County. We need to identify the barriers across the state and work to address those barriers with solutions.

Chair Stephenson and Mr. Scharfman will make edits and bring it to the sub-committee for final revisions and a final vote next week in the teleconference.

Rene Johnson gave an overview of recommendation #24, internships in production agriculture. The recommendation is to develop an internship program that farmers can work with the Wisconsin Technical College System to develop an internship. The recommendation establishes some funding for the technical colleges to do this work and sets goals for how many interns they hope are served.

Chair Weyers clarified that we should use the term technical college instead of technical school. Mr. Milligan asked for the description of the work environment to be productive as well as kind, patient and safe. He also questioned the involvement of UW-Extension in the draft. UW-Extension will be taken out since the Wisconsin Technical College System is the intended partner.

Chair Weyers noted that DWD has been a leader in apprenticeship programs. They may have a role in this. Mr. Milligan asked for clarification on what the funds were to be used for. Ms. Johnson clarified that they are meant to be for the instructors who are taking on the additional work.

Chair Weyers noted that the Wisconsin Technical College System does have many internships and apprenticeships. This could fit in well with their programming. She believes the \$2,000 for marketing the internship program could be an in-kind match from the System's marketing department. The remainder of the requested funds, \$20,000, would need to come from another source.

Mr. Milligan made a note about internships. They are not about finding a labor source; they are about recruiting. And the success very much depends on the quality of the internship program. Chair Weyers agreed that internships depend on a good match and can really enhance a learning experience. Chair Stephenson and Ms. Johnson will make revisions to this recommendation, and the sub-committee will vote on it at next week's teleconference.

Identify next steps

Chair Weyers asked for any additional recommendations or discussion. There was none. The sub-committee will hold another teleconference on Tuesday, March 5 at 2:30 p.m.

Adjournment

The sub-committee adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

Minutes drafted by Ashley Andre.