

SkillSource Regional Workforce Board
Board Meeting Minutes
June 24, 2025
Via Zoom

Zach Williams, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:36 pm.

March 14, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

Michelle Price moved, and Irasema Ortiz-Elizalde seconded, to approve the minutes for the March 14, 2025 Board Meeting. Motion passed.

Director's Report

Lisa summarized advocacy efforts to blunt proposed funding cuts to workforce development programs at the national level. The State Workforce Board has extended SkillSource's direct delivery approval through June 30, 2026 while work on new policy continues. Last year's state monitoring results report no findings or disallowed costs; they will visit again in November. Lisa reported that SkillSource is meeting or exceeding all federal performance targets through 3rd quarter of the program year. Lisa, Pablo, Tad and Susan attended the National Association of Workforce Boards Forum in March; Tad said it was a great experience to meet so many people from around the state and the country, and Pablo reported that the overall tenor of the Forum was "doing more with less". Lisa will discuss board vacancies with the forum of commissioners this week and reminded the board members to check out news and success stories on the website, and where to find board and committee packets. She concluded by summarizing the business and community outreach report, including Department of Commerce director Joe Nguyen's visit to SkillSource Othello.

Executive Committee Meeting Report

Lisa reported that at the Executive Committee meeting, the overall preliminary budget was presented. Next program year may see up to a 38% total drop in funding; the finalized budget will be presented in September. The executive budget will be reduced by 14% by removing miscellaneous costs and Community reinvestment service delivery subcontracts. Roni asked about approving budgets before contracts are signed. Lisa said that it is needed to operate through the first quarter. Zach voiced his appreciation for the staff and the board's decision to preserve staff raises. The Executive Committee recommended approval of the executive budget with the proviso that merit increases for staff would be preserved by using agency funds.

Pablo Villarreal moved, and Sara Thompson Tweedy seconded, to approve the 2025-2026 Executive Budget. Motion passed.

Committee Reports and Service Delivery Budgets

Lisa reported on the subarea committee meetings. All three committees' meetings focused on their respective service delivery budgets, and each committee recommended approval of those budgets and the Memorandum of Understanding. Okanogan's revenue will decrease by 29% and 1.28 FTE;

Grant/Adams will decrease by 30% and 4.1 FTE (3 of which will be achieved by not filling vacancies); Chelan/Douglas will decrease by 29% and 3.75 FTE. The budgets presented to the board today reflect the restored 3% merit increases.

Sara Thompson Tweedy moved, and Irasema Ortiz-Elizalde seconded, to approve the 2025-2026 preliminary service delivery budgets for Okanogan, Chelan/Douglas, and Grant/Adams as recommended by the Committees. Motion passed.

Memorandum of Understanding & Infrastructure Funding Agreement

Lisa briefly summarized the MOU and IFA as presented to the committees at their meetings. The MOU and IFA are required to be updated and approved every three years. The only changes were cost changes on the IFA. All three committees recommended approval of this document through June 30, 2028.

Augustine Gallegos moved, and Tad Hildebrand seconded, to approve the 2025-2028 MOU and IFA. Motion passed.

Board Retreat Reflection Activity

The board separated into three activity groups to focus on six key topics which surfaced through activities from the board retreat. The summaries of board members' ideas are presented on the following page. The board members said that the format of the activity was very well structured and participative, and Tad suggested it could be used in the future to bore down on specific topics.

Labor Market and Economic Update

Aaron briefly summarized labor market information for North Central as well as the state and the nation, and the near-term effects of trade policies and changes on the economy. This summary will be shared with the board.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.

In Attendance:

Ryan Beebout
Augustine Gallegos
Tad Hildebrand
Roni Holder-Diefenbach
Irasema Ortiz-Elizalde
Michelle Price
Sara Thompson Tweedy
Pablo Villareal
Zach Williams
Todd Wurl

Not In Attendance:

Randy Curry
Crystal Gage
Julie Helligso
Faimous Harrison
Annette Herrup
Ken Johnson
Nate Mack
Brant Mayo
Kyle Niehenke
Anthony Popelier

Staff in Attendance:

Lisa Romine
Susan Adams
Laura Leavitt
Aaron Parrott
Christy Mataya
Kelli Martinelli
Toby Haberlock
Heidi Lamers
Alicia Wallace
Juan Martinez
Lisa Bauer
Mayra Eaton-Garcia