

Workforce Information Advisory Council

Summary of Virtual Meeting

December 17, 2020

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM ET

The Workforce Information Advisory Council (WIAC) was convened for a virtual meeting at 1:00 PM on Thursday, December 17, 2020. The Council was convened pursuant to Section 308 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA) (Pub. L. 113-128), which amends section 15 of the Wagner-Peyser Act of 1933 (29 U.S.C. § 491-2) and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended (5 U.S.C. App.) and its implementing regulation at 41 CFR 102-3.

Mr. Steven Rietzke, Chief, Division of National Programs, Tools, and Technical Assistance (DNPTTA), Employment and Training Administration (ETA), U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) and Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the Council, convened the meeting. The entirety of the meeting day was open to the public and concluded at 4:00 PM on Thursday, December 17, 2020.

In Attendance:

Members of the Workforce Information Advisory Council

Bruce Madson, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (Chair)

Alicia Crouch, Kentucky Community and Technical College System

Alexandra Hall Bovee, Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

Adrienne Johnston, Florida Bureau of Workforce Statistics and Economic Research

Dean Jones, Greenville County Workforce Development Board

Chelsea Mason, National Labor Federation

Andrew Reamer, George Washington Institute of Public Policy

Jennifer Zeller, Georgia Power

Members of the Council Not in Attendance

Thomas Anderson, Wellons Land Company and Arkansas Workforce Development Board

Daryl Basset, Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

Debbie Carlson, Texas Workforce Commission

Staff

Steve Rietzke, Chief, DNPTTA, ETA (DFO)

Ken Robertson, BLS

Don Haughton, ETA

Michael Wolf, BLS

Pam Frugoli, ETA

Cynthia Forland, Forland Consulting

Sara Johnson, ETA

Annette Summers, The GA Team

Julie Hatch, BLS

Torrie Nickerson, The GA Team

Rebecca Rust, BLS

Betsy Roberts, The GA Team

Members of the Staff Not in Attendance

Lauren Fairley, ETA

Members of the Public Offering Comments or Called Upon to Address the Council

Keith Bailey, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Research, Center for Economic Studies, U.S. Census Bureau

Jason A. Tyszko, Vice President, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, T3 Innovation Network provided the following video in advance: *Employment and Earnings Records Standards Project. The video was presented during the public comment period.*

Others Attending for All or a Portion of the Meeting

Tom Gallagher, Retired

Tony Glover, Research & Planning, Wyoming Workforce Services

Emma Heth, Western Governors' Association

Lesley Hirsch, NJ Department of Labor & Workforce Development

Christopher Robison, State of Nevada

Teresa Theis, ETA

Anna Thielen, Western Governors' Association

Kim Vitelli, ETA

Proceedings: December 17, 2020 1:00 PM ET

Welcome and Review of Agenda and Goals

MR. RIETZKE convened the meeting of the Workforce Information Advisory Council (WIAC). He provided opening remarks on the agenda and outlined the goals for the final meeting in the December series. **MR. RIETZKE** thanked the Council members for their work and participation throughout the past three weeks.

The Council members who were present at the meeting introduced themselves.

MR. RIETZKE provided a synopsis of the December 10th breakout discussions and the Council's preference to pursue expedited recommendations. In order to draft the expedited recommendations, he outlined the purpose of subcommittee assignments, logistics planning, and content development.

MR. RIETZKE introduced **Council Chair, Bruce Madson**.

MR. MADSON greeted the Council members and commended them on the progress they have made in the month of December. He shared that he is looking forward to an active discussion and solidification of the process ahead.

Large Group Discussion: Expedited Recommendations and Looking Ahead

Former WIAC Chair, Cynthia Forland, Forland Consulting led the Council members through the discussion of how to approach the process of forming expedited recommendations. **MS. FORLAND** walked through a document that outlined selection criteria based upon topics that were discussed during the breakout groups in the previous WIAC meeting. She reminded the members to also consider the 2018 WIAC Recommendations, focusing on which areas have increased urgency due to the global pandemic and/or could be implemented quickly.

In the discussion that followed, the Council members asked questions and provided comments on the scope and delivery of the potential expedited recommendations and the time expectations for the months to come.

The Council members unanimously decided that March 2021 would be the ideal time to submit the expedited recommendations. They also chose to proceed with two phases of recommendations; the expedited recommendations that would focus on two or three time-sensitive-subject-areas and the traditional longer-term recommendations.

MR. MADSON suggested re-affirming existing recommendations that have become more urgent due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He stated that creating new recommendations for the expedited recommendation set would not be compatible with the time limitations they are facing. The Council members agreed unanimously.

The three identified, potential expedited recommendations were as follows:

- Unemployment Insurance (UI) Wage Record Enhancements
- Changing Nature of Work
- Funding for State and Local WLMI Capacity

The three, newly formed subcommittees are as follows:

Subcommittee One: UI Wage Record Enhancement

Dean Jones (Chair)

Alicia Crouch

Jennifer Zeller

Subcommittee Two: Changing Nature of Work (Beyond the BLS Survey)

Andrew Reamer (Chair)

Adrienne Johnston

Bruce Madson

Subcommittee Three: Funding for State and Local WLMI Capacity

Alexandra Hall Bovee (Chair)

Chelsea Mason

**Members not present at the meeting will select their subcommittee through correspondence with MR. RIETZKE following the meeting.*

MS. FORLAND reminded the Council members of the goal for the newly formed subcommittees to meet approximately three or four times prior to the next public WIAC meeting.

Before transitioning into the public comment period of the agenda, **DR. REAMER** shared that he had been in touch with former Deputy Secretary of Labor, Chris Lu, who is on the Biden Administration transition team. **DR. REAMER** indicated that transition team members are not permitted to attend public meetings such as the WIAC. However, he would like to share an informational statement with Mr. Lu, on the WIAC's preliminary priorities for improving the Workforce and Labor Market Information (WLMI) system. It was the opinion of the Council that in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2018 Recommendations they saw most relevant to share were Recommendations 1, 2, 4, & 5.

Public Comment

MR. RIETZKE opened the platform for the public attendees to ask questions and provide comments and feedback.

MR. RIETZKE announced that he had received two requests to address the Council, one of which, Jason Tyszko, Vice President, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation was unable to attend the meeting. **MR. TYSZKO** sent a video presentation in advance. The T3 Innovation Network presentation on the Employment and Earnings Records Standards Project was shown to the Council members.

MR. RIETZKE welcomed public attendee, Keith Bailey, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Research, Center for Economic Studies, U.S. Census Bureau to address the council.

MR. BAILEY thanked the WIAC members for the opportunity to provide an informational update from the US Census Bureau. **MR. BAILEY** highlighted current events, products and recent developments within the US Census Bureau that will ultimately benefit the larger workforce and labor market information community.

The list of activities and initiatives are as follows:

- Development and release of the Household Pulse Survey and the Business Pulse Survey
- Release of the COVID-19 Data dashboard and new update, Data Hub 2.0
- First release of three sets of non-overlapping data series from the American Community Survey
- New release of Non-Employer Business Data (exclusively administrative data)
- Longitudinal Employer Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program
- Post-Secondary Employment Outcomes Data
- Increased use of visualizations by Census to make data more accessible, useful, and understandable
- 2021 Local Employment Dynamics Partnership (virtual event)

MR. RIETZKE thanked **MR. BAILEY** for his comments.

Closing and Next Steps

MR. RIETZKE congratulated and thanked the Council members on their engagement over the course of the three December meetings. He discussed the logistics that will need to take place in the coming weeks in order to produce a set of expedited recommendations by the target date of March 2021. **MR. RIETZKE** informed the Council members that the three newly formed subcommittees will need to hold their first subcommittee meetings by mid-January 2021 and shortly thereafter a steering committee would also meet to ensure the subcommittees are making progress. The steering committee will be comprised of the subcommittee leads, **MR. RIETZKE**, and **MR. MADSON**. In order for the expedited recommendations to be adopted by the Council, they will plan for at least two public WIAC meetings. The first meeting will allow the subcommittees to present their recommendations in detail, receive feedback from the Council members, and make revisions. The second meeting will allow the Council to vote on the recommendations. **MR. RIETZKE** shared the expectation of subcommittees to have the first drafts of their recommendations prepared to present by mid-March 2021.

MR. RIETZKE expressed his appreciation to the Council for their participation.

MR. MADSON commended the Council on their exceptional accomplishments thus far and thanked them for their participation.

The link to the T3 Innovation Network presentation on the Employment and Earnings Records Standards Project is included in the minutes as Appendix A.

The meeting was adjourned.

Appendix A. Link for the *T3 Innovation Network* presentation on the *Employment and Earnings Records Standards Project*

<https://uschamberfoundation.zoom.us/rec/share/0XYKjtFqKe3DTsBpkwuQHWjLLOA3A8R7NzLT8VVm8ILhFvTAvwlm62DB6DsIIHuf.h0-lqDbpBU39Zddr?startTime=1608150952000>