General Membership Meeting
Thursday, June 4, 2026, 2:30– 4pm
Plato Conference Center - 90 W. Plato Blvd, Saint Paul, MN 55108

WIB Members Present	Members Absent	Staff/Guests Present
Tom Aasheim	Ismail Ali	Bekele Adamu, Ramsey County
Matt Bandstra	Ethel Garcia-EA	Pai Her, Hmong American Partnership
Jonathan Banks	Hanna Getachew-Kreusser-EA	Brad Mahr, Workforce Solutions
Sharon Blomgren	Fidelity Goodlaxson	Leah McNamee, Hired
Tami Cybulski-V	Chad Kulas-EA	Rebecca Milbrandt, Workforce Solutions
Becky Degendorfer	Traci Leffner	Kathleen Murphy, Ramsey County
Sara Garbe	John Perlich-EA	Catrice O'Neal, Workforce Solutions
Karen Gerdin	Donna Rapacz-EA	Tim O'Neill, DEED
Jennifer Germain-V	Aalayha Traub	Mary Russell, Executive Committee
Katie Kapaun	Tanya Velishek	Lisa S., Guest
James McClean		Bobbi VanGrinsven, Workforce Solutions
Yolanda McIntosh		
Alex Merritt		
Kelly Miller-V		
Don Mullin-V		
Koami Pedado-V		
Elisa Rasmussen		
Mary Rick		
Sheri Riemers		
Jenni Severson		
Trish Stevens		

Call to Order and Announcements

Chair McIntosh called the meeting to order at 2:34pm and read the following announcements:

- Welcome to the Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County meeting. We especially welcome our partners and guests joining us today.
- On behalf of the WIB and staff, I want to extend a sincere thank you and best wishes to Donna Rapacz and Elisa Rasmussen who are not seeking reappointment for another term on the WIB.
    - Donna was first appointed to the WIB in 2023 and served on the Partnership & Outreach and Policy & Oversight Committees. Donna consistently brought thoughtful perspectives and meaningful insights on how to reduce obstacles for individuals facing barriers to employment.
    - Elisa *was* first appointed to the WIB in 2020. She was elected as the WIB Chair-elect in April 2022, served as WIB Chair 2023-2025 and Immediate Past Chair from 2025-today. She also chaired the WIB's Membership and Executive Committees and served on the Construction-Green Jobs Committee. Elisa has been an exceptional steward of the WIB's mission and a true advocate for workforce development in Ramsey County and the region. She offered her time, expertise, and steady leadership during significant transitions - most notably through the CareerForce relocation and during challenging periods for our community. Her thoughtful guidance, collaborative spirit, and unwavering commitment have strengthened the WIB and made a lasting impact on the people and organizations we serve.
- A reminder that all WIB and committee meetings are open to the public. Agendas and minutes for all meetings are posted on the WIB's webpage. Committee meetings are conducted virtually and instructions on how to join are also posted on the webpage.
- Article 8 of the WIB's Bylaws state that "…members shall not cast a vote on any matter regarding the provision of services by the member or by an entity that the member represents or on any matter that would provide direct or indirect financial benefit to such member or the immediate family of

such member". If you believe you have a conflict on any items on today's agenda, please abstain from discussion and voting.

- I hope you can all make it to the next WIB meeting on Thursday, August 6, 2:30-4pm back at the Ramsey County Environmental Center in Roseville.

Land Acknowledgement
Rasmussen read the land acknowledgement aloud.

Approve Consent Agenda
June Meeting Agenda
April Meeting Minutes
WIB Financial Report
Motion (Aasheim/Banks) to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Labor Market Information Presentation
O'Neal provided information about the process and timeline for Local and Regional Plan updates. She encouraged all members to attend a stakeholder engagement session hosted by the metro workforce area directors virtually tomorrow, June 5, 8:30-10am. She then introduced Tim O'Neill, DEED's Regional Labor Market Analyst for the Twin Cities region. O'Neill provided a labor market presentation. He highlighted the current labor market situation, employment trends, employment statistics across the key industry sections in Ramsey Count, job vacancy data and cost of living statistics. He also provided labor force statistics by generation, race, age and county of origin. Following O'Neill's presentation, members shared their reactions to the data, reflecting on challenges in measuring AI's effects on employment, childcare sector instability, disproportionate healthcare growth, and concerns about the large share of very small employers. There were also suggestions to look at additional resources, such as McKinsey's AI report, and discuss opportunities related to youth employment and youth entrepreneurship. AI was identified as a clear area for continued focus, along with deeper data on specific education occupations. O'Neal noted that DEED and Real-Time Talent continue to support Ramsey County's planning and that current priorities remain aligned with high-growth industries.

Director Updates
In the interest of time, these updates will be sent as a written update in the follow up email.

Other
None.

Adjourn
At the conclusion of the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 4:01pm.

Next Meeting: August 6, 2026, 2:30-4pm – Ramsey County Environmental Center, 1700 Kent St, Roseville