

SPECIAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON WORKFORCE EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT MINUTES

Meeting Date/Location: Monday, November 20, 2023, 10:00 a.m., virtually via Microsoft Teams and Room 10

Members Present: Adam Grinold, Kendal Smith, Rep. Michael Marcotte, Sen. Alison Clarkson, Jay Ramsey

Guests Present: Amanda Wheeler, Michael Harrington, Mel Arsenault, Cameron Wood, Alysia Ordway, Candace Phinney, Tom Cheney, Mary Anne Sheehan, Rowan Hawthorne

Minutes By: Amanda Wheeler

Video Recording: <https://aoa.vermont.gov/content/special-oversight-committee-workforce-expansion-and-development>

- Meeting called to order and introductions from Committee members and guests present.
- Review and approval of agenda, unanimously approved.
- Review and approval of minutes from [October 11 meeting](#).
 - Moved by Adam Grinold, seconded by Senator Clarkson, unanimously approved.
- PCG presented on revisions to their report and the three suggested governance models:
 - Model 1: Discussion regarding the State Workforce Development Board (SWDB) Executive Director including role within the existing system, seniority level, and decision-making authority.
 - Senator Clarkson noted that it is important the Executive Director is coordinating both internally and externally and can report back to both the Governor and legislature who can help make decisions.
 - Chair Marcotte noted that this model and the conversation about model 1 is really focused on making the existing SWDB more functional and empowering them further.
 - Jay Ramsey mentioned that he views the Executive Director as his peer (in his role as VDOLs Director of Workforce Development) that could convene business, partners, state leaders, and working on regional initiatives while the Department of Labor is focused on implementing their sections of the WIOA State Plan.
 - Model 2: PCG noted they are not prescribing who specifically should be on the Commission, it could be determined based on priorities set by the Governor.
 - It was noted that in this model, the SWDB is beyond the WIOA requirements and that there needs to be better articulation of the SWDB composition.

- Kendal Smith noted that for the Commission, that agency/department deputies would be a good fit for this Commission. It would help with capacity, especially when agencies are focused on multiple issues.
- Model 3:
 - Committee agreed that data collection is important and a powerful tool but may not be the strongest governance model. This could be integrated into models as a task or project to be taken on.
 - Chair Marcotte noted that this may be applicable more generally to data governance, not necessarily specifically to workforce. He noted that we need to be thinking in that realm and that data governance could be a part of data security conversations.
- Public Comment
 - N/A
- Next Steps: Committee will reconvene on November 29 virtually.