

Meeting Minutes: Apprenticeship Advisory Board

Date: July 17, 2025
Prepared by: Nou Yang
Location: In person at the Minnesota, Department of Labor and Industry

Attendance (Attendees are listed alphabetically order by last name)

Members Present:	DLI Staff Present:	Visitors Present:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mary Berg• Andrew Campeau• Erin Larsen• Norma Miller• Don Mullin• Sarah Paul• Dienna Sabol• Melissa Stachovich	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Naomi Cowan• Byron Millea• Darcus Mitchell• Paul Nikstad• Jeremy Parker• Ruth Taylor• Nou Yang	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dave Dressler• Kim Schrupp• Rick Martagon• Brandon Nelson• Mary DesJarlais• Dallas Nustvold• Wally Kirchoff• Harrell Mathieu• Hailey Anunson

Agenda items:

1. Call to order

- The meeting was called to order by Don Mullin at 1:30 p.m. Roll call was taken by Erin Larsen, and a quorum was declared.

2. Approval of agenda

- A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the Apprenticeship Advisory Board Meeting agenda for July 17, 2025.

3. Approval of drafted meeting minutes

- A motion was made, seconded, and approved for the April 10th, 2025, board meeting minutes.

4. Board member updates

- Board member shared updates on their programs, including information about the annual Building and Construction Trades conference, the expansion of teacher apprenticeship programs, and a partnership with Building Strong Communities.

5. LEAP Grant Spotlight

- Rick Martagon, Executive Director of Building Strong Communities, provided an overview of how the LEAP grant has supported the program and created pathways into registered apprenticeship programs for women, people of color, and Indigenous people.

6. Apprenticeship Outreach

- Naomi Cowan, Outreach and Engagement Coordinator at Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry, provided an update on outreach efforts
 - Outreach Statistics
 - 41 total outreach events from June 2024-July 2025
 - 22 career fairs and classroom presentations
 - Minnesota School Counselors Association annual conference, Anoka County Economic Workforce Summit
- Outreach projects and updates
 - Introduction to registered apprenticeships for educators grant
 - Partner with Construction Careers Foundation to continue “Blueprints to the Trades” series
 - Website updates

7. Outreach Highlight: Construct Tomorrow

- Hailey Anunson, Program Coordinator of Construct Tomorrow, shared an overview of the past year's events and previewed plans for the upcoming school year.

8. Apprenticeship Program Development

- Paul Nikstad, Senior Field Representative, Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry provide an update on program development
 - New Programs
 - Trelleborg Medical Solutions
 - MN Community Health Worker Alliance
 - Grand Casinos
 - Metro Transit – Light Rail Operator

9. Apprenticeship Program Compliance

- Gerri McGimpsey, Senior Field Representative, Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry provided an overview of program compliance activities:
 - Program Reviews
 - 52 reviews completed to date (2025)
 - 67 Programs with no apprentices have been cancelled/transferred to date
 - Evolving US DOL regulation

10. Apprenticeship Minnesota Update

- Erin Larsen, Director of Apprenticeship, Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry provided an update on registered apprenticeship programs:
 - Updated demographics
 - 11,674 active apprentices
 - 28.5% people of color
 - 8.3% women
 - 5% veterans
- Legislative updates:
 - No policy changes
 - \$3.5 million per year for registered teacher apprenticeships (one-time)
 - \$1 million per year for LEAP grant
 - \$1 million cancellation to Clean Economy Occupations grant
 - \$500,000 for ISD 294's career pathways program with Operating Engineers (one-time)
 - \$400,00 per year for Building Strong Communities (one-time)
 - \$238,000 per year for Helmets to Hardhats
- Developing new apprenticeship programs and expanding existing RAPS
 - \$30k maximum incentive for new programs
 - \$30k maximum incentive for expanding existing RAPS

- Clean Economy Grant 2025 Awardees
 - Iron Workers Local 512
- LEAP Grant
 - \$1 million available
 - First round of applications was due June 27th, 2025

11. US DOL National Proposed Rule Making

- Byron Millea, Associate General Counsel, Minnesota Department of Labor and industry presented an update on federal changes
 - Interim non-enforcement of Department's Equal Employment Opportunity in Apprenticeship Regulations at 29 CFR Part 30
 - No action needed
 - Notice of Proposed Rule Making: Prohibiting illegal Discrimination in Registered Apprenticeship Programs
 - Listening sessions scheduled

12. Board Discussion-Approval of Report

- A motion was made, seconded, and approved.

13. Adjourn

- A motion was made, seconded, and meeting was adjourned. The next Apprenticeship Advisory Board meeting will be on October 9th, 2025, at 1:30pm.