

Draft Meeting Minutes: Apprenticeship Advisory Board

Date: July 23, 2026

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:

- Andrew Campeau
- Erin Larsen
- Norma Miller
- Don Mullin, Chair
- Sophie Thaden

DLI Staff Present:

- Vicky Castorena
- Naomi Cowan
- Des Culpitt
- Kelly Henriksen
- LaRohn Latimer
- Gerri McGimpsey
- Darcus Mitchell
- Paul Nikstad
- Jeremy Parker
- Leslie Philmon
- Meghana Shroff
- Mahdi Surosh
- Ruth Taylor
- Nou Yang

Visitors Present:

- Tom Aasheim
- John Aiken
- Jeff Bemboom
- Dave Dressler
- Lee Estis
- Megan Fink
- Deseria Galloway
- Tom Gibson
- Regla Hernandez
- Sarah Hill
- Nick Judge
- Sherry Kinnibrugh
- Rick Martagon
- Harrell Mathieu
- Steve McNaughton
- Myrika Schenider
- Porcha Shadd
- Dustin Steenblock
- Jill Westfall
- Shawn Weyer
- Kelcey Woods-Nord
- Erik Zercher

Agenda items:

1. Call to order

- The meeting was called to order by Don Mullin at 1:34 p.m. Roll call was taken by Erin Larsen. A quorum was not met.

2. Approval of agenda

- A quorum was not present to approve the agenda.

3. Approval of drafted meeting minutes

- A quorum was not present to approve the April 16, 2026, board meeting minutes.

4. Board member comments

- Don Mullin spoke to a group of high schoolers and requested DLI create a one-pager linking young adults with potential apprenticeship opportunities.
- Andy Campeau spoke about launching another cohort of apprentices and shared Plumbers Local 34 was hosting a tour at their new Eagan location.
- Norma Miller spoke with many individuals interested in registered apprenticeship programs and planned to connect them with training opportunities.
- Sophie Thaden shared feedback from a program compliance review, indicating it was implemented consistently between DLI staff.

5. Apprenticeship Program Spotlight

- Myrika Schenider, Director of Workforce Development, Minnesota Precision Manufacturing Association (MPMA) shared more insight on their experience with developing a manufacturing registered apprenticeship program.
- MPMA was awarded a Multi-Employer Registered Apprenticeship Program Grant
- The program will include two occupations:
 - CNC Machinist
 - Tool and Die Maker

6. Apprenticeship Program Development

- Leslie Philmon, Senior Field Representative, Minnesota Department of labor and industry shared updates on program development.
- New Programs added:
 - Boston Scientific – Manufacturing
- Program Development Highlights

- New and expanded apprenticeship grants have been awarded to 16 program to date
- Apprenticeship Minnesota is increasing outreach to Dual Training Pipeline grantees and healthcare and information technology employer associations
- A program development summit was held in Duluth on July 22, 2026

7. Apprenticeship Program Compliance

- Kelly Henriksen, Senior Field Representative, Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry provided an overview of program compliance.
- 2026 Program Reviews:
 - 50 reviews completed in RAPIDS to date
 - More programs with old standards are updating their standards in Standards Builder
 - Apprenticeship programs are more frequently providing apprentices with regular performance evaluations

8. Apprenticeship Minnesota Update

- Erin Larsen, Director of Apprenticeship, Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry provided an update on registered apprenticeship programs:
- Updated demographics
 - 12,165 active apprentices
 - 28.3% people of color
 - 8.5% women
 - 4.8% veterans
- Federal policy updates:
 - No updates on policy regulations
 - SAEF 4 funding was awarded to MN Apprenticeship (\$2 million)
- Outreach updates:
 - Apprenticeship MN participated in nine external events
 - Apprenticeship MN hosted three events
 - Apprenticeship Sponsor Summit
 - How to Talk to Apprentices about Mental Health, Substance Misuse, and Suicide Prevention webinar
 - Open sessions for workforce development professionals
- Apprenticeship Grants updates:
 - Clean Economy Grant: awarded \$2 million
 - Many Apprenticeship MN Grants are still open on the DLI website: [Apprenticeship funding opportunities | Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry](#).

9. Board Discussion-Approval of Report

- A quorum was not present.

10. Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned.
- The next Apprenticeship Advisory Board meeting will be on October 15, 2026, at 1:30pm.