



MINUTES

Strategic Programs Committee Meeting

1 pm, Thursday, June 4, 2026

Via Microsoft Teams

Members in Attendance: Chair Josh Kilgas, Mindie Boynton, Robyn Hallet, Ryan Long, Jennifer Marks, Jeff Mikorski, Shannon Schultz, and Craig Wehner

Members/Participants Excused: Brian Pelon

Others in Attendance: Kati Cunningham, Bobbi Miller, Boe Ramsey, and Anthony Snyder – FVWDB; Vickie Patterson, WDA5; and Danielle Zeamer, Brown County Libraries.

Call to Order: Chair Kilgas called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm.

Approval of Consent Agenda (Action Item): A motion was made by Mikorski, seconded by Schultz, to approve the Consent Agenda, which included the 6/4/26 Meeting Agenda; the 5/7/26 Meeting Minutes; Acceptance of Department of Workforce Development Data Validation Audit Closeouts Program Year 25 Q1 and Q2; Acceptance of DWD Rapid Response PY25 Q3 Monitoring and Closeout Letter; Acceptance of Forward Services Corporation Fiscal Monitoring for PY24 and PY25; and Awarding of PY26 Career Services Contract to Forward Services Corporation; motion carried. Marks abstained.

Job Pod Discussion (Action Item):

- Vickie Patterson and Danielle Zeamer explained what a Job Pod is and provided the committee with background on the program and support needed from the WDA team to expand to additional Job Pods in the region if the committee chooses to explore this as an option.
- Discussion with the committee ensued regarding the commitment to explore opening additional Job Pods in the WDA4 region
- Chair Kilgas tabled the conversation to allow the Task Force to further explore this topic for a decision to move forward not to move forward.

Revisit KPI Discussion and WDA4 current performance updates:

- Kilgas reiterated the request for members to volunteer to be involved in the Task Force that plans to meet outside of the regularly scheduled meeting time of the SPC.
 - Members asked to contact Chair Kilgas with interest in inclusion in invites.
- Marks reminded the group that the results are on rolling quarters. Marks further shared that we are waiting for information regarding PINs that may be impacting the results but should not be included in the denominators. Marks shared an update on how Forward Services is working to mitigate risks of missing the target and negotiated rates of performance on key performance indicators of Measurable Skills Gains (MSG) and Credentials Achieved Rate (CAR) for the Program Year 25

ROBUST Grant Project Work Update:

- Cunningham shared an update on the ROBUST grant work being carried out across the state and how the work is embedding Human-Centered Design principles into the work being done by the WDAs to create and enhance their program offerings.
- Ramsey shared the specific work being done in WDA4 to address the gaps in housing, food, etc., for justice-involved individuals upon release.
- The committee was asked to consider those organizations and individuals who may be open and interested in supporting this work as it moves through the Human-Centered Design process.

Community Partners Discussion:

- Chair Kilgas referenced back to Purpose-Driven Board Leadership and how we can be better partners with other organizations in the community.
- Snyder shared how we are exploring opportunities to work together with other organizations, like Goodwill, to provide the greater good.
- Kilgas reiterated the need to collaborate for wider opportunities for funding and impact.

Committee Members Round Robin on Workforce Issues:

- Mikorski provided an update on the business landscape in New London, WI, due to the damage from recent funding. FEMA is monitoring damage and assessing the possibility of opening up funding for support through a disaster declaration. Several businesses are still closed, and many others are recovering. Snyder advised of resources available for Dislocated Workers if needs arise.
- Wehner shared that DVR has started moving participants off of their wait-list to 1,000 or so to be served each month over the next few months, with over 7,000 on their wait-list; of those, per Wehner, approximately 10% of those wait-listed are from WDA4.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 pm.

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