

Ad Hoc Committee on Migrant Labor

Monday, April 11, 2022

10:30 am

Meeting minutes recorded by Katie Mueller

- I. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Meeting called to order at 10:33AM by ESB
 - b. Roll call of Current Committee Members – Katie Mueller
 - i. Erica Sweitzer-Beckman - Present
 - ii. John Bauknecht - Present
 - iii. Erica Kunze - present
 - iv. Aimee Jo Castleberry - Present
 - v. Kate Lambert - Present
 - vi. Laura Waldvogel – not present
 - c. Intro of Other Council members present
 - i. None
 - d. Introductions of other community members
 - i. Katie Mueller – DWD Liaison to Governor's Council Migrant labor
 - ii. Caitlin Madden – Deputy Legal Counsel
 - iii. Jennifer Wakerhauser – DWD Legal Counsel
 1. Caitlin will be the legal counsel assigned from DWD to the Council replacing Jennifer
- II. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Motion to approve agenda made by John B
 - b. Seconded by AJC
 - c. Motion passes
- III. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - a. December 8, 2021, Meeting Minutes
 - i. No proposed change from committee members
 - ii. Erica Kunze moves to approve minutes
 - iii. Kate Lambert seconds
 - iv. Motion passes unanimously
 - b. January 13, 2022, Meeting Minutes
 - i. No proposed changes
 - ii. Kate Lambert motions to approve meeting minutes
 - iii. Erica Kunze seconds
 - iv. Motion passes unanimously
- IV. Old Business
 - a. General Update/Recap of Recommendations Sent to Council and DWD

ESB: Committee submitted the recommendations that they developed in the Dec 8, 2021, and Jan 13, 2022, meetings to the Council and then to DWD. Will anyone from DWD UI be presenting at next council meeting on the recommendations in the report.

KM: Yes, the UI Division Administrator Jim Chiolino from UI will be attending and speaking to the recommendations.

ESB: Any updates since the recommendations made?

ESB: Legal Action of Wisconsin has seen an increase in barriers with workers filing their application over the phone. UI has been trying to steer the worker to file online which for those with lack of computer access is a barrier and leads to the use of "notarios" or others who are not experts in UI assist with filing.

EK: No recommendations at this time but as workers start to come to work, that is when they share information with their experiences and challenges with UI. Workers will be arriving on the next few months so I will have more information then.

ESB: One of the things we asked for in the recommendations to DWD was a UI liaison trained in the challenges MSFWs face to assist in answering MSFWs specific questions who could help you, help the workers. We can ask Mr. Chiolino about that recommendation at the council meeting.

V. New Business

- a. DWD Application for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Unemployment Insurance (UI) Navigator Program Grant – Katie Mueller
 - i. **KM:** DWD applied for a grant offered through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). This grant funds the Department to train UI navigators from a Community Organization to provide outreach and training to populations that have less access to UI services and assistance. DWD partnered with UMOS to be the community organization that will provide the outreach. The focus is to reach migrant and seasonal farmworker populations and other underserved populations to provide outreach and information on applying to UI.

DWD has not heard yet if they have been awarded the grant.

- b. **ESB:** We will hear from UI Division at the next meeting of the Governor's Council on Migrant Labor on April 20, 2022

VI. Announcements/ Future Items

- a. Update on Emergency Rule and Permanent Rule Processes (Katie Mueller, DWD)

KM: EmR2204 went into effect on March 1, 2022, and is set to expire on July 28, 2022, with the option to be extended. There is a public hearing

on the statement of scope for the permanent rule changes tomorrow (April 12, 2022). After the hearing, DWD can begin working on drafting changes to Chapter DWD 301. DWD has until July of 2024 to submit changes to the legislature.

ESB: Does everyone on the know how to access the statement of scope? Go to <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/admin-rules/> to see the schedule or to submit comments

b. The next meeting of the Governor's Council on Migrant Labor is April 20, 2022, at 10:00 am

c. Other announcements by committee members

JB: Retired as corporate attorney from UMOS. Is still engaged as a consultant. Intends to stay on the Council and involved in migrant and seasonal farmworker issues

ESB: Congratulations on your retirement and thank you for your advocacy and service

JB: Was not aware of the grant DWD grant with UMOS for UI navigators but council needs to discuss addressing the structural issues with UI and not just outreach. Looking forward to learning more at the council meeting.

Motion to adjourn made by John B

Seconded by Kate Lambert

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM