

Governor's Council on Migrant Labor Minutes  
Sunday, August 5, 2018  
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
UMOS/Montello Center  
Montello, WI

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Call to order: 11:15 a.m.

Roll Call

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Lupe Martinez, Guadalupe "Wally" Rendon, John Bauknecht, Kevin Magee

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Senator Jerry Petrowski, Representative Bob Kulp, Representative JoCasta Zamarripa, Senator Bob Wirch, Melissa Cuevas, Jeanine McCain, Erica Kunze, Steve Ziobro, Teresa Tellez-Giron.

**DWD STAFF PRESENT:**

Naul Segovia (DWD/Job Service), Rosa Ortega (DWD/Job Service), Angelica Vasquez (DWD/Job Service), Pedro Albiter (DWD/Job Service), BJ Dernbach (Assistant Deputy Secretary).

**GUESTS:**

Rod Ritcherson (UMOS), Maria Ronda Wiesmen (UMOS), Janie Velasquez (UMOS), Mariah Hennen (Legal Action of WI), Erika Delgadillo-Coca (UMOS), Mariah Hennen (Legal Action of WI), Maria E. Watts (UMOS), Juan Jose Lopez (UMOS), Jose Martinez (UMOS), Ema Luna (UMOS), San Juana Aguinaga (UMOS), Arnoldo Medina (Mexican Consulate), Juan Villanueva (Mexican Consulate), Sergio Carlos Nute (DPI/CESA5), Eva C. Martinez (UMOS), Lisia Rendon, Patricia Martinez, Lieah Wilder (Family Health/La Clinica), Velkis Silva (UMOS), Jan Banicki (UMOS), San Juana Caballero (UMOS-Montello), Ana Ortiz (UMOS-MKE) and Shirley Aviles (UMOS)

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call:**

Lupe Martinez called the meeting to order. Quorum was not established.

**2. Approval of Agenda:**

- Approval of Agenda for August 5, 2018

### **3. Approval of Minutes:**

- Approval of Minutes for April 25, 2018.

### **4. Legislative Updates:** None were presented

### **5. UMOs Staff:**

**Janie Velasquez** – Provided information on the schedule of events for the UMOs Farmworker Appreciation Day Picnic. Thanked the vendors which were present to provide information and services to migrant families and migrant seasonal farmworkers and promoted the baskets that had been donated and that would be available for raffle.

**Lupe Martinez** – Handed a proclamation to Janie Velasquez on behalf of Marquette County.

**Janie Velasquez** – Read proclamation from Marquette County regarding the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual MSFW Appreciation Day Picnic. Mr. Miller this day as an official MSFW Day!

**Lupe Martinez:** Called for any announcements, there were none.

**Lupe Martinez** – Moved to public hearing. Began by first giving the purpose and brief description of the history of how the Council came about. Noted that Council members are appointed by the Governor and represent employers, farmworker advocates, and Senators and Representatives from both caucuses.

**Emma Luna** - Parent Montello Center – This is my first speaking (using translator) and in my opinion I just want to comment that UMOs has assisted me with my children. I know this program is seasonal, but I wish it was year-round. Would like to see services expanded to cover children ages 9-11 years old.

**Lupe Martinez** – Emphasized how important the Daycare/Head start program to keep children out of the fields.

**San Juana Aguinaga** – I represent the Plymouth Center. I'm happy with the program and in my own experiences, the program has helped my children. There are other families that also need help but don't qualify because they work year-round. Thank you for the support and education you provide to our kids. Thank you for all that you do.

**Lupe Martinez** – Said there is a need for services to year-round workers.

**Jose Martinez** – Through grants, there are opportunities to serve seasonal families. 50 for grantees and 60 for non-grantees. There is flexibility to serve dairy and pushing for

more areas. With a good economy, it's difficult to find trained employees for migrant seasonal programs. I would like to have same staff from year to year but it's difficult because staff move to more permanent work. Also, regarding serving families, once slots are maxed, can ask office of Labor for waiver.

**Monica Serrato** – Parent Montello Center – All my kids have attended the Montello Center and I would like to emphasize the great work the Center has done to prepare my children.

**Jose Martinez** – emphasized parent involvement. Head Start always involves the parents and has not changed on basis of mission and involvement. Parent engagement is a crucial component to Head Start Program. Parents are the primary educators and should have a voice in the program. Parents give feedback on the days, hours, and times of operation for centers, through a Policy Council. We got funded for Early Headstart and the Council helps with budget planning. Amor y Passion (Love and Passion), to serve our families, is seen from how families regard our staff. There's a lot of restrictions with program. Focus on technology and more use of it to be involved with meetings. Our program is short, June-September, so we try to maximize our time and resources during the season.

**Lupe Martinez** – asked if there were others that wanted to speak? There were none.

**Kevin Magee** – spoke about the issue of Unemployment Insurance and the challenge for those from small rural areas in Texas to look for four job searches. This year his agency had difficulty getting camp addresses from the State. They need to make the request through the State open records process.

**Uri Camarillo** – Parent Montello Center - emphasized how well her children are served and helped to learn at the center. Teachers are wonderful and kind with us and our children.

**Marcella Sanchez** - Parent Montello Center – My children attend this center, are thought well and learn a lot. I thank them for always treating us and our kids nicely.

**Shirley Aviles** – Oversees CCR & WIOA 167 program – I want to address H2A workers and Contractors. There are injustices to H2A workers, like not getting paid, no drinking water and no shade. Would like a better way to coordinate and address issues. How can I better advocate for these workers, they are foreign in a foreign country? How can we best help them?

**Lupe Martinez** – asked Shirley to send an email to him regarding issues.

**John Bauknecht** – Asked Shirley about wage disputes, housing and human trafficking?

**Shirley Aviles**– I'm not well versed on human trafficking and look to Maria on that issue. But there are issues on all the above mentioned.

**Angelica Vasquez** – said the Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division has enforcement authority over any H-2A worker employment issues.

**Lupe Martinez** – asked Angelica to invite the Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division to next meeting.

**Elvia Paz** – Parent Montello Center – Thank you for inviting us, I've been coming from Florida for 9 years. Thank you to all those who service, take care and teach our kids. This means a lot to us the parents. It's important that are children are ready for Kindergarten. Thank you to the center Director and all the staff.

**David Serrano** – Parent Montello Center – Thank you everyone, and the center staff. I'm happy with the center here and everywhere I go. Maybe it's a different name but the concept and services are the same. I'm also grateful there's attention to their well being and I feel my children are school ready. Thank you for allowing me to speak.

**Lupe Martinez** – Asked if there were any more speakers?

#### **6. Old Business:**

There was no old business discussed.

#### **7. New Business:**

There was no new business discussed.

#### **8. Announcements:**

There were none

#### **11. Adjournment:**

The Council adjourned at 12:06 p.m.