



MINUTES

EWIB BOARD OF DIRECTORS VIRTUAL MEETING *Tuesday, November 22, 2022* 8:00 a.m.

Members Present: Ray Coombs, Jr.; Susan Hibbard; Thayne Hutchins, Jr.; Chris Jewell; Andrew McKillop; Courtney Murphy; Mike O'Connor; Michael Phelps; Caleb Roseme; Chris Bachant; Jeffrey Beadle; Bill Louis; Patricia Feeney; Deborah Monahan; Mary Ellen Jukoski; Susan Kocaba; Jessica Corneau; Linda Ladas; Paul Whitescarver; & Jim Butler.

Staff Present: Guy Saporito, Carol LaBelle, & Sheila Taurianen.

Others Present: Tim Ackert, Carol Williams, John Glover, Kristin Hempel, Kevin Ryan, Ayanti Grant, Cathy Osten, Peter Nystrom, Stefanie Montejano, Denise Spellman, Cyndi Wells, Tammy Nuccio, Karen Hynick, & Eric Protulis.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jewell called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m. and welcomed to the meeting: Ayanti Grant (*U.S. Rep. Courtney's Office*), Sen. Cathy Osten (*CT 19th Dist.*), Rep. Tim Ackert (*CT 8th Dist.*), Rep. Tammy Nuccio (*CT 53rd Dist.*), Rep. Kevin Ryan (*CT 139th Dist.*), Mayor Peter Nystrom (*Norwich*), & Carol Williams (*Ossen Foundation*).

BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION PREFERENCE POLL

EWIB Board members participated in a one question poll regarding their preference of participating in future EWIB Board of Directors meetings going forward (*in-person, virtual, or hybrid*) in an effort to determine the format of future Board meetings. Preliminary results showed that members prefer to attend meetings in a hybrid fashion. Staff will reach out to members unable to attend today's meeting to obtain their preference as well.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

A **MOTION** was made to accept the minutes of the September 27, 2022 EWIB Board of Directors meeting (*HIBBARD/MONAHAN*). **ACTION:** Unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman Jewell informed the Board that EWIB hosted a press conference with CT Sen. Cathy Osten (*19th Dist.*) & Mayor Peter Nystrom (*Norwich*) at Kelly STEAM Magnet & Global Middle Schools on October 27th to formally announced the pilot expansion of the Youth Manufacturing Pipeline Initiative

(YMPI) into middle & elementary schools (*Kelly STEAM Magnet & Global Middle School, Helen Baldwin Middle School, & Plainfield School District*). The event featured students demonstrating virtual reality headsets which will be used as part of their career exploration.

CETC/Gov's WORKFORCE COUNCIL REPORT

Chairman Jewell reported that the Council will meet again December 8, 2022

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Covered under the Executive Committee Report portion of the agenda.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Executive Committee** – Chairman Jewell reported that the Committee met Nov. 14th where they discussed:
 - **New President/CEO** – The search for EWIB's new President/CEO, which was conducted by Chairman Jewell, Susan Hibbard, and Foster Associates has concluded with an offer being extended & accepted by Michael Nogelo. Mr. Nogelo will start his new role by December 5, 2022.
 - **EAMA Dissolution/EAMA RSP** – The necessary paperwork has been filed for the dissolution of the Eastern Advanced Manufacturing Alliance (*EAMA*) & the organization was officially dissolved Nov. 10, 2022 as a non-profit organization. The EAMA Regional Sector Partnership (*EAMA RSP*) will now become an ad-hoc committee of EWIB. The EAMA dissolution will have no impact on the EAMA RSP or its mission, but rather an administrative change.
 - **Personnel Policies** – Berchem Moses, PC were engaged to review EWIB's personnel policies. Suggested changes include:
 - Enhancing language to existing policy sections including, but not limited to discrimination, harassment, substance free workplace
 - Revising policy & language regarding paid sick leave and insurance premium responsibilities
 - Removing the severance & grievance procedures policy & adding an open door & whistleblower policy
 - Adding a "floating" holiday to the current EWIB holiday schedule
 - **Certificate of Incorporation** – Proposed administrative and membership protocol changes were reviewed
 - **CareerConneCT** – A presentation was provided informing attendees on the new, \$70M CareerConneCT initiative that expands EWIB's MPI statewide & into new sectors, while maintaining MPI's principles. EWIB has compiled a team (*ETI, FutureFitAI, Vervoe, & FutureWorks BI*) to prepare a statewide portal for the program, which will replicate the MPI model. Several highlights of the new site were reviewed with attendees. A soft launch of the site was held earlier this month, with a full launch planned for the near future. EWIB will not migrate off our current MPI portal (*except CareerConneCT enrollees*) right away to ensure minimal disruption.

A **MOTION** was made to approve Michael Nogelo as EWIB President/CEO (*BUTLER/MONAHAN*). **ACTION:** Unanimously approved.

A **MOTION** was made to approve the Executive Committee Report, including accepting the proposed enhancements, revisions, & recommendations to EWIB's personnel policies, including adding a floating holiday to the current EWIB holiday schedule (*JUKOSKI/WHITESCARVER*). **ACTION:** Unanimously approved.

- **Nominating Committee Report** – Committee Chairman Susan Hibbard provided the Nominating Committee Report, which put forth the following slate of Officers:

<u>CHAIRMAN:</u>	Christopher Jewell
<u>VICE-CHAIR:</u>	Thayne Hutchins, Jr.
<u>SECRETARY:</u>	James S. Butler
<u>TREASURER:</u>	Michael Phelps

Jim Butler cast one vote as the member for the proposed slate of officers.

A **MOTION** was made to approve the 2022 EWIB Slate of Officers, as presented (*MONAHAN/CORNEAU*). **ACTION:** Approved, with Jewell, Hutchins, Butler, & Phelps abstaining.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- **Board Member Information & Conflict of Interest Forms** – Board members are asked to complete & return their Conflict-of-Interest Statements to Sheila Taurianen (*taurianens@ewib.org*) by November 30th.

ADJOURNMENT

A **MOTION** was made to adjourn the meeting (*PHELPS/HIBBARD*). **ACTION:** Unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 a.m.

Meeting minutes respectively submitted for Eastern CT Workforce Investment Board Secretary James S. Butler by Executive Assistant Sheila R. Taurianen.