



Interagency Working Group (IWG) Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2020, 1:00 – 3:00 pm
Idaho Transportation Department
Conference Room: Webex
3311 W State Street, Boise, ID 83703

Chair: Amanda Ames
Vice Chair: Craig Shaul

- I. Call to Order (Chair) at 1:03 pm
- II. Roll Call (Chair)

Idaho Workforce Development Council	Amanda Ames
Office of the Governor	Andrew Mitzel
Health & Welfare – Medicaid	Cathy Libby
Health & Welfare	Chris Freeburne
Idaho Department of Labor	Craig Shaul
Idaho Commission on Aging	Erin A. Olsen
Idaho Transportation Department	Ron Duran
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation	Stephanie Bowles
CTAI	Terri Lindenberg
Idaho Department of Commerce	Jerry Miller
Veterans Services	Kevin Wallior
Idaho Transportation Department	Shauna Miller
COMPASS	Kathy Parker

- III. Approval of Minutes (Chair) Vote – Approved
 - Member Lindenberg motioned to approve, Member Olsen seconded
- IV. Public Comment – None
- V. Safety Share (ITD-Miller) – Wildfire Smoke Safety
 - Member Olsen also shares that this month is “Falls Prevention Awareness Month” and a training will be hosted 09/22/20. Falls are the leading cause of injury & death in older adults over the age of 65 in Idaho, and this seminar will teach individuals how to prevent falls.
- VI. PT Office Update (ITD-Duran)
 - FFY coming to an end, 2020 Congressional Grants submitted to FTA
 - Idaho Falls project to reinstate public transportation services.
 - One-Time technology funding opportunity for public transit providers.
 - CARES Update: One of the first several states to execute a CARES grant, in house online-portal, payments in May, service levels did not suffer for normal grant programs, and no additional staff was hired to manage the influx of \$27.3 million. To date, providers have spent \$3,673,047 leaving 79.31% remaining in awarded CARES funds.
- VII. Annual Report Preparation (ITD-Miller)
 - Annual Report Responses due: 10/30/2020



VIII. IWG Goal Review/Updates (Chair) Vote- Approved

- Goal 1: Identify purpose, structure, and direction of the group so it is more conducive to collaboration and information gathering and do an orientation. (Completed)
- Goal 2: Broaden representation for all districts by the end of 2020. Coordination with district 2 has us hopeful that a representative from Nez Perce Tribe will step forward. MaryBeth Frank-Clark.
- Goal 3: Idaho Code 40-514 update/review (legislative if needed)
 - Proposed to move to table until Spring 2021 meeting.
 - Member Olson motioned to approve, Member Shaul seconded

IX. Agency Initiatives/Projects – Informational Only

- **Idaho Workforce Development Council** (A. Ames) – Working on launching newest update of nextsteps.idaho.gov and encourage all members. Awarded US DOL grant for Youth Apprenticeships in July. CARES Act funding to get out of the door before the end of the year.
- **Idaho Department of Labor** (C. Shaul) – Unemployment rates and claims are down. Hired more specialists and other staffing changes to be ready for any more claims. Idaho has been one of the least effected states so far for jobs lost and unemployment. We are now at 5.1% unemployment from 11% from a few months ago.
- **Idaho Department of Health & Welfare (Medicaid)** (C. Libby) –We’ve been working closely with our broker, providers, and stakeholders to make program improvements. Thanked member Olsen for sharing fall prevention information that they were able to forward to statewide long term care team.
- **Idaho Department of Health & Welfare** (C. Freeburne) – Coronavirus website has been update with new features and is more user friendly.
- **Idaho Commission on Aging** (E. Olsen) – ICOA and AAA did not invest a lot of CARES funding into transportation, priority was the nutrition program. Did implement a program where drivers would go and pick up medications, groceries, and food items that were not typically covered by our services. Idaho Falls region did a fantastic job bringing remaining providers on board to help cover the shortfall of services in that area. Idaho Inclusive Emergency Coalition is looking at transportation work to better understand what options are available, how people should be working with it, and the issues/concerns people are having.
- **Divisions of Vocational Rehabilitation** (S. Bowles) – Undertaken a major revision in the treasure valley and divided the are into East, West, and Central based on zip code so we can better serve those individuals. Greater access for customers to transportation.
- **Community Transportation Association of Idaho** (T. Lindenberg) – Statewide technology initiative. RFI went out and received 7-8 responses. Several ITS may serve both small and large systems. We will be released solicitation in October and complete by end of year. Website update finalizing the development and hosting.
- **Idaho Department of Commerce** (J. Miller) – Distributing \$50 million of grant assistance to communities from the CFAC as part of the \$1.25 billion CARES Act relief designated to the state for broadband services. Created 2 distributions pots. One is for delivering broadband services to homes and businesses the second is referred to as the Local Government Public Safety pot which we use to create additional public access wi-fi hot spots in communities as well as help local governments improve their internal broadband capacities. Funded 105 applicants out of 137 requests. Projects must be completed and closed out by 12/31/2020. The Idaho Community Block Grant Program received a separate CARES Act allocation from HUD for projects to help low to moderate low income individuals. Community Development team members will be doing outreach to see where we can deploy those dollars that meets the program objectives. Working with Economic Development Districts with their CARES funding.



Each Economic Development Districts received funds to beef up their lending portfolios to help business recover from the pandemic. Additional funding will be used for disaster and resiliency planning to help make communities more capable of addressing this and any future pandemics. Districts are pooling funding to hire a consultant. Will be working with other agencies such as Office of Emergency Management.

- **Veteran Services** (K. Wallior) – No updated today.

X. Next Meeting Agenda Review (Chair)

XI. New & Future Business (Chair)

XII. Adjourn (Chair)

- Member Lindenberg motioned, Member Freeburne seconded

Action Items:

- R. Duran (ITD) – include C Freeburne on Idaho Falls updates.
- S. Miller (ITD) – draft annual report for December meeting