

## **WEIAOB Meeting Minutes**

January 4, 2024  
10:00 a.m.

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

### **Members Attending (alphabetical by last name):**

Jane Broom, Ruben Flores, Paul Francis, Charles Knutson, William Lyne, Eleni Papadakis, Mark Riker, and Jeff Vincent.

### **Staff attending (alphabetical by last name):**

Joel Anderson, Heather Hudson, and Michael Meotti.

### **Meeting called to order at 10:05 a.m.**

### **Introductory Comments**

**Presenter:** Jane Broom

- Meeting dates for the remainder of 2024 have been set as follows:
  - Thursday, April 25, 1:00–3:00 p.m.
  - Thursday, June 20, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
  - Wednesday, September 18, 9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.
- Minutes from the previous Board meeting on September 27, 2023, were posted on WSAC's website in October but not sent out prior to today's meeting. Board members and staff can reach out to Joel Anderson with questions or feedback about the minutes.

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### **Presentation: 2023 WEIAOB Legislative Report**

**Presenter:** Joel Anderson

**Material:** [2023 WEIAOB Legislative Report](#)

- The report is due annually by September 1, but the Board requested an extension until December 31, 2023. WSAC shared the report with the Board for review prior to submitting it to the legislature.
- The report includes information about current Board members, the transition of Board staffing responsibilities to WSAC, guiding principles, performance accountability metrics, how WEIA expenditures were made in the legislature's 2023–25 biennial operating budget (by sector, agency/institution, and issue area), and the Board's full 2023–24 meeting timeline with goals for each meeting.

### **Comments & Questions:**

- Can you provide more detail on what issue areas were funded by WEIA and categorized as "Other" in the report?

- The “Other” category encompasses various costs that range from smaller administrative tasks to larger sums that the legislature allocated for enrollment, student supports, and other relevant uses. This question provides an opportunity for the Board to consider how WEIA expenditures should be further disaggregated to better understand the use of funds.
  - Board members expressed additional interest in seeing more detailed breakdowns of WEIA expenditures in the future.
  - **Can apprenticeship students serve on the Board?**
    - Yes, an apprenticeship student may serve on the Board as a student representative.
    - Board members also requested additional outreach to community and technical college students regarding current student vacancies on the Board.
  - **Board members made other comments about report content that they wanted to see modified or added in the future, including:**
    - Links to WSAC’s Board webpage, which houses meeting announcements, materials, and Board publications.
    - Links to other legislative reports about the use of WEIA funds by higher education sectors, institutions, and partners.
      - Additional conversation between Board members and staff led to an agreement that these reports could be published on WSAC’s Board webpage for future reference.
    - A more detailed analysis of how the Board’s guiding principles and performance accountability metrics align (or do not align) with ongoing WEIA expenditures.
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## **Presentation: WEIA Fund Summary and Gov. Inslee’s Proposed 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget**

**Presenter:** Michael Meotti, Joel Anderson

**Material:** [WEIA Fund Summary](#), [Meeting Slides](#)

- Mike began the presentation by reviewing the WEIA Fund Summary.
    - WEIA was launched in Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 and incurred a negative balance of more than -\$35 million. This balance was recouped by the end of FY 2021 and the fund is now in a strong financial position. WEIA is expected to bring in more than \$840 million in revenue during the 2023–25 biennium.
    - After collaborating with OFM, WSAC learned that \$36 million in WEIA has been reserved as working capital and cannot be spent by the legislature. This amount is not considered to represent available resources but remains in the fund.
    - Prior to the enactment of a 2024 supplemental operating budget, WEIA is expected to have a surplus of more than \$190 million at the end of the 2023–25 biennium. However, Gov. Inslee’s proposed budget—which will be covered later in the presentation—spends down a notable portion of this balance.
  - Joel continued the presentation by reviewing Gov. Inslee’s proposed 2024 supplemental operating budget and what expenditures it makes out of WEIA.
    - The proposal increases total operating expenditures by \$5.59 billion and WEIA expenditures by \$85.94 million. If the proposal was enacted as written, WEIA would have a \$140.33 million surplus at the end of FY 2025.
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- Proposed increases in WEIA expenditures by sector are \$55.91 million for higher education, \$20.32 million for public schools, \$7.24 million for other human services, and \$2.47 million for other costs.
- The largest proposed increases in WEIA expenditures within the higher education sector are \$36.38 million for the Washington College Grant caseload adjustment, \$8 million for the University of Washington’s Behavioral Health Teaching Facility, \$3.75 million for Career Launch program enrollment at community and technical colleges, and \$2.4 million for Early Achievers scholarships at community and technical colleges.
- Other notable higher education investments—both from WEIA and other state accounts—include \$12 million (General Fund-State) for the University of Washington’s Behavioral Health Teaching Facility, \$1 million (WEIA) for refugee education at community and technical colleges, \$950,000 (other account) for integrating climate solutions at community and technical colleges, and \$500,000 (WEIA) for the Washington Award for Vocational Excellence (WAVE) scholarship program.

#### Comments & Questions:

- **How was the working capital amount of \$36 million determined by OFM? Is this common?**
  - It is common practice to reserve some amount of money in a fund for emergency use. The working capital amount of \$36 million in WEIA is not unusual.
- **Do numbers included in the WEIA Fund Summary reflect updated caseload forecasts for programs like the Washington College Grant?**
  - Yes, the numbers discussed during today’s meeting are inclusive of the most recent caseload forecast for the Washington College Grant.
  - Board members expressed interest in better understanding how fluctuations in postsecondary enrollment impact Washington College Grant participation.
- **Is the Washington College Grant funded solely out of WEIA?**
  - No, the Washington College Grant is partially funded out of multiple state accounts, including WEIA. The amount of money coming from each of these accounts is not predetermined and depends on the legislature’s final budget.
- **Can you provide a more detailed breakdown of WEIA expenditures for public schools?**
  - This analysis is not immediately available, but OFM provides [agency detail reports](#) that can show how WEIA funds are being spent by public schools. To produce this report, visit the link above and select both “Agency: Public Schools” and “Fund: Workforce Ed Invest - State (24J-1)” to filter the data appropriately.
- **Board members clarified that some higher education programs and initiatives are funded by other accounts in addition to WEIA.**

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#### Discussion: Recommendations to Legislature for 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget

Presenter: Jane Broom, Heather Hudson

**Material:** [Meeting Slides](#), [2024 Supplemental Operating Budget Recommendations](#)

- Jane reiterated the Board’s guiding principles and performance accountability metrics.
- Heather briefly introduced the Board’s summary of 2024 supplemental operating budget recommendations.
  - The budget and policy proposals included in this document were discussed during the Board’s previous meeting on September 27, 2023, and deemed to be in alignment with its guiding principles and performance accountability metrics. The document also noted whether each proposal was funded in Gov. Inslee’s budget proposal.
  - One of the State Board for Community and Technical College (SBCTC)’s requests—\$600,000 for ProfTech open educational resources—was removed from Board consideration because SBCTC received a \$2 million federal grant to pay for these resources through Sen. Patty Murray’s office.
- Board members reaffirmed their interest in supporting the production of high-demand degrees—specifically in computer science—to respond to ongoing workforce needs.
- Board members noted that Gov. Inslee’s proposed 2024 supplemental operating budget underfunded College in the High School based on the funding formula in statute. Board members also explained that the legislature will need to appropriate additional funds to make up for this funding difference in FY 2025.

**Comments & Questions:**

- **Can the Board consider endorsing investments made in Gov. Inslee’s proposed 2024 supplemental operating budget that were not presented or discussed during the previous Board meeting on September 27, 2023?**
  - The mechanism for endorsing investments that are proposed outside of Board meetings will be considered for future budget cycles. This is the first time that WSAC has supported the Board in approving any budget recommendations to the legislature. Both WSAC and the Board will learn from this experience in the future.
  - The Board does not have a strong interest in adding recommendations to the original list of 2024 supplemental operating budget recommendations.

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**Action: Approving 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget Recommendations**

Motion made to approve the Board’s 2024 supplemental operating budget recommendations as written.

Motion seconded.

Motion carried.

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**Closing**

**Presenter:** Jane Broom

- Jane concluded the meeting by thanking Board members and staff for their support in approving 2024 supplemental operating budget recommendations.

See Appendix

**Meeting Adjourned:** 11:34 a.m.

## Appendix A

### [TVW meeting recording 1-4-2024](#)

## Appendix B

- 10:11:52 From Jolenta Coleman-Bush to Everyone:  
Good Morning, Jolenta Coleman-Bush, Microsoft.
- 10:11:52 From Maud Daudon to Everyone:  
Maud Daudon, Career Connect Washington
- 10:11:53 From Mike Burgess to Everyone:  
Mike Burgess - lobbyist for ICW
- 10:11:56 From Kate Henry to Everyone:  
Kate Henry, Office of Program Research
- 10:12:21 From Michele Alishahi to Everyone:  
Michele Alishahi, Senate Committee Services
- 10:12:48 From Fernando Mejia Ledesma to Everyone:  
Fernando Mejia Ledesma, Communities for Our Colleges.
- 10:14:25 From Shea Hamilton to Everyone:  
Good morning!  
Shea Hamilton, Office of Financial Management (OFM)
- 10:15:57 From Mark Riker to Everyone:  
Would an Apprentice be eligible for the "Student" seat?
- 10:16:59 From Jane Broom to Everyone:  
Replying to "Would an Apprentice ..."
- very good question. we will look into that.
- 10:19:15 From Michael Meotti to Everyone:  
Replying to "Would an Apprentice ..."
- pretty confident that the answer would be yes but can confirm
- 10:23:33 From Paul Francis to Everyone:  
<https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=28B.77.310>
- 10:24:06 From Mark Riker to Everyone:  
Thank You
- 10:25:02 From Ruben Flores to Everyone:  
We are finalizing our report, this week
- 10:26:29 From Heather Hudson to Everyone:  
Reacted to "We are finalizing ou..." with 👍
- 10:27:15 From Executive Office to Everyone:  
Reacted to "We are finalizing ou..." with 👍
- 10:45:28 From Executive Office to Everyone:  
There's also a WA Grant caseload adjustment in Gov. Inslee's 2024 supplemental operating budget that will be on our slides in a few minutes.
- 10:47:17 From eleni papadakis to Everyone:  
Great question Ruben.
- 10:57:54 From Maud Daudon to Everyone:

Here is a link to the CCW legislative report from October, 2023:

<https://w9pea4.p3cdn1.secureserver.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/CCW-Legislative-Handout-11.17.23-Digital.pdf>

10:58:42 From Maud Daudon to Everyone:

Thanks Paul for pointing that out!

11:04:39 From Executive Office to Everyone:

The updated document being shared was distributed yesterday via email and is on our WEIAOB webpage.

11:16:10 From Maud Daudon to Everyone:

Just realized I sent you a link to our legislative request for this session rather than the legislative report. Here is the link to the legislative report:

11:16:19 From Maud Daudon to Everyone:

<https://w9pea4.p3cdn1.secureserver.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/FINAL-2023-CCW-ANNUAL-REPORT.pdf>

11:17:58 From Executive Office to Everyone:

Replying to "https://w9pea4.p3cdn..."

Thank you!