

## State Steamfitting Apprenticeship Advisory Committee Meeting

May 17, 2016

UA Local 400

Kaukauna, WI

### Approved Minutes

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Employer/Organization</b>
Christensen, Paul	H & H Industries
Clark, Roger	UA Local 118
Hayden, Terry	Local 434
Knaus, Jeff	Local 400
Lauer, Joe	EGI Mechanical Inc
Stramowski, Gary	J.M. Brennan
Sturdivant, Mike (Co-Chair)	Tweet-Garot Mechanical

<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>Employer/Organization</b>
Edwards, Doug	Local 601
Weinfurter, Greg	Tweet-Garot Mechanical, Inc
Zielke, Joel	Steamfitter Local 601

<b>Consultants &amp; Guests</b>	<b>Employer/Organization</b>
Cappetta, Darrel	Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards
Ecker, Rob	Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards
Korn, Gary	UA Local 434
Nielsen, Julie	Local 118
Rodencal, Judy	MCA-NC
Smith, Owen	BAS
Wenger, Scott	Local 400

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Terry Hayden, Committee Co-Chair, in conformance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law.
2. A sign-in sheet was circulated. Jeff Knaus welcomed attendees to the Kaukauna training center.
3. The current roster was reviewed by committee members.

#### **4. Old Business**

##### **a. Review the follow-up items from the previous meeting.**

###### i. Approve the minutes

The draft minutes from the previous meeting were approved as written.

ii. Action: established statewide minimum scores and maximum timeframes for ACT, Accuplacer  
Owen summarized that all high school students are required to take the ACT by the state Department of Public Instruction beginning this year. Therefore, the Bureau is encouraging all construction state committees to do three things: adopt the ACT as an additional, optional assessment; continue using its current assessments; and adopt statewide subjects, cut-scores and timeframes for scores between assessments.

Owen polled the group as to the assessments used. All local committees reported that they use the Accuplacer to assess reading, math and algebra for all.

*Action: The committee voted and approved adding the ACT scores to the testing options. The scores will be valid for five years.*

Owen emphasized that the Bureau is discouraging local committees from using two mechanical-spatial assessments, the Minnesota Paper Test and the Bennet Mechanical, because they have been proven to be discriminatory against minorities.

Two local committees reported that they are using the Bennett Mechanical test which may be problematic. The state committee expressed its preference for having all local committees administer mechanical/spatial assessments. The state committee asked the Bureau to identify valid mechanical aptitude tests and to explain its rationale to all local committees via email.

*Action: The committee approved a motion to have a focus group of training directors draft a recommendation on required subjects and cut scores for the Accuplacer and ACT.*

*Action: The committee asked the Bureau to research whether the local committee for Fabricators in the Appleton area would still be part of the state committee.*

##### **b. Veterans in Piping**

Co-Chair Hayden stated that they are in their 5<sup>th</sup> class and will be starting a new class soon. The current class is doing very well. Four of the six apprentices have already been placed. There is one unplaced looking for an employer in the Madison area and the other is looking in the River Falls area. The group is very motivated and thankful for the opportunity. On May 28<sup>th</sup> there will be Veteran recognition at a Brewer game Local 17 is coordinating.

The VIP graduation will be on May 26<sup>th</sup> at 2pm at the Kaukauna training center.

**c. Apprenticeship Completion Award Program**

Darrell Cappetta summarized the most recent statistics from the ACAP program. He stated that the Bureau has paid most requests for reimbursement. He noted, however, that if the apprentices make sure that they have all of their receipts attached, they will have a much smoother experience.

**d. American Apprenticeship Grant**

Owen summarized the American Apprenticeship Grant. He explained that the grant will have the most impact on construction trades by increasing the pool of qualified applicants. The two major categories will be K-12 and under-skilled people.

The committee stated it would really like to see more applicants between the ages of 18-23.

**e. WI Apprenticeship Summit**

Owen updated the committee of the progress on the action plan and then summarized the results of a statewide survey on the attitudes and perceptions towards registered apprenticeship of sponsors, former sponsors, and non-sponsors.

**f. Other**

No additional topics were raised.

**5. New Business**

**a. Proposed revision to CFR 29.30 (AA/EEO requirements).**

Owen summarized the proposed changes to the CFR 29.30. The BAS and Council wrote a response to the revisions. They were concerned that the revisions would be problematic because they borrow too much language and definitions from federal contract requirements that would not work in registered apprenticeship. Public comment period closed in January. The U.S. Department of Labor received several thousand comments. In contrast, revisions to other regulations received several hundred. The Bureau does not know when the final revisions will be released.

**b. Revisions to [www.wisconsinapprenticeship.org](http://www.wisconsinapprenticeship.org)**

Owen summarized the changes to the Wisconsin Apprenticeship Website. He noted that all pages now feature new navigation links on the top and bottom so that any user can access any content from any page within the site. He emphasized that the content did not change, only the navigation.

*Action: The committee requested that the Bureau post meeting material on the state committee website in the order they appear on the agenda, not alphabetically.*

**c. BAS personnel update**

Owen reported that the Bureau hired two additional personnel to implement the WAGE\$ grant: Meredith Alt will manage the entire grant; and Cindy Anderson will manage outreach activities.

**d. Other**

No other items were brought forward.

**6. WTCS Update**

Nancy Nakkoul discussed the WTCS Summary, which is available in full on [www.wisconsinapprenticeship.org](http://www.wisconsinapprenticeship.org). She noted that many trades have adopted statewide curriculum standards models, which are not required but very helpful. If the state committee believes one would be helpful for their paid related instruction, please contact her.

**7. Review of Program Participants**

Participants included 475 apprentices and 107 employers with an active or unassigned contract as of April 10, 2016.

**8.** The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 26, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. at Madison Area Technical College in Madison.

**9.** The meeting adjourned at noon.

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*Submitted by Rob Ecker, Apprenticeship Training Representative,  
and Owen Smith, Policy Analyst,  
Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards*