

NEW Manufacturing Alliance
Board of Directors Meeting
November 1, 2023
8:30 a.m. – 9 a.m.
Microsoft Teams
Minutes

Attendees: Brandon Beard, Jeff Berg, Josh Delforge, Mark Kaiser, Jeff Michels, John Nundahl, Rick Recktenwald, Mark Weber, John West, Barb LaMue and Ann Franz

Topic 1: 2024 Board members and vice chair

Brandon Beard has agreed to be vice chair for 2024. New members replacing Board members currently serving are Jeff Michels will be replaced Brian Conrad both from Great Northern. Mike Sandry from Rockwell Automation will be replaced by Michael Schulze. Confirm that there are no other Board members stepping down in 2024. Tad Campana with Services Plus is also interested in joining the Board for 2024. A motion was made to accept Tad to the Board by Brandon Beard and second Rick Recktenwald. Motion was approved.

Topic 2: October is Manufacturing Month recap

- October 3 – Get Real Math / Science Premiere at the Meyer Theatre – 177 registered attendees featuring Alliance Laundry Systems, KI and EMT International. The event also debuted the “How to be successful in the workplace.” Employability skills video featuring 10 member companies.
- October 6 – Manufacturing First pre-event ‘Manufacturing Month Kickoff and NEW Manufacturing Insights podcast kickoff’ at Oshkosh Corp. with 86 registered participants.
- October 12 - Aspiro Open House.
- October 20 – Tours for industry at Ripon and Laconia High Schools
- October 24 – ACP Partnerships Meeting at the Resch Expo – 83 people registered.
- October 25 – Excellence Awards Dinner at the Resch Expo – 262 people registered, \$25,000 was netted, a record dollar amount for the NEW Manufacturing Alliance’s Scholarship Fund.
- October 26 – Manufacturing First Expo & Conference at the Resch Expo – Over 1,150 people attended plus 292 high school students and over 218 exhibitors.
- October 29 – NEWMA partnered with The Village Companies for a Packers-Vikings tailgate giving can Koozies with a link back to the NEWMA website featuring careers opportunities.
- Month of October – NEWMA sponsored 100s of students throughout the region to tour companies from Fond du Lac, Marinette, Oconto, Calumet, Sheboygan counties.
- November 2 – Internship Draft Day at Lambeau Field – 51 employers and over 100 students.

Topic 3: Discuss Bank of America/Merrill Lynch’s Multiple Employer Aggregation Program for members

The Board discussed working with Bank of America/Merrill Lynch on a Multiple Employer Aggregation Program with Bank of America/Merrill Lynch. This is a group 401(k) program designed for and made available by an organization to their members. The program is designed to gather the plan’s important administrative, recordkeeping and fiduciary services to be overseen by a 3rd party. It is especially helpful for small manufacturers to help them with buying power being part of a group collaborative. Motion was made to offer this program to the membership by Rick and second by Jeff Michels. Motion carried.

Topic 4: Upcoming NEWMA events, training programs and initiatives

November 7th – Start date for the 8th cohort of the Data Analytics training with 43 participants.
November 16th – Taps + Tours at Lambeau Field sponsored by WIN Technologies
December 13th – Quarterly Membership meeting at FVTC from 8 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Topic 5: Microsoft grant

Microsoft has once again has given a \$30,000 grant to NEWMA for 2024. The grant will be used to pay for the Industry 4.0 study with St. Norbert College. It will offset costs of hosting college faculty to hear the results of the study in May 2024. Ann will be attending a nonprofit conference at Microsoft in January 2024. She was also appointed by Governor Evers for a taskforce on AI Workforce.

Topic 6: Hot topics

None discussed.

Topic 7: Associate Member approval

Productive Resources a research and engineering firm doing work for the Department of Defense has submitted a membership application. Motion made by Mark Kaiser to approve with second from Jeff Michels. Motion carried. As of today's meeting there are 47 new members to the organization.

Topic 8: Next meeting date January 3, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. via Microsoft Teams