

NEW Manufacturing Alliance Board of Directors Meeting

January 7, 2026

8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.

Great Northern Corp. - Laminations

Minutes

Attendees: Jeff Anderson, Scott Bean, Jeff Berg, Amy Bertram, Steve Cahoon, Tad Campana, Brian Conrad, Josh Delforge, John Dennis, Brian Geurts, Kevin Ignacio, Aaron Janichek, Bryan Peters, Mike Schulze, and Ann Franz

Topic 1: Introduction to new Board members

In 2026, there are 4 new board members: Kiley Eck Hayon, president at Eck Industries, Kevin Ignacio, president at Marian Body Works, Bryan Peters, president at Lindquist Machine Company (he served on the Board before in his role at Fox Valley Metal-Tech) and Amy Bertram, CEO at Fiberglass Solutions.

The chair of the organization is Brandon Beard and vice chair is Tad Campana.

Topic 2: Review 2025: achievements, membership total and financials

There are a total of **403 members: 241 manufacturers, 87 Associate members and 75 Affiliate members.**

Some of the highlights:

- \$65,000 grant to upskill member employees in industrial maintenance
- Safety taskforce Audit team formation
- Future of Work: Succession Planning Summit & Aging Workforce study
- Meetings with college presidents and deans/faculty
- Special promotions for NFL Draft from coasters in bars to special publication with full page ad given to visitors
- Door County 'What is Made & Careers' videos
- Ready, Set, Work: Pro tips for your first 90 days on the job video
- All time record for Pres Cup - \$61k - \$50k
- All time record \$68k for scholarships
- NEW Manufacturing Insights podcast reached 100 episodes in November
- Continued investment from Microsoft
- Manufacturing First held its 15 anniversary, still highly attended
- Internship Draft Day had over 200 college students
- Transition to UW Green Bay
- Met with statewide manufacturing alliances

The greatest challenge was the uncertainty with NWTC from May through October. Staffing the organization was paused in hiring Pam's replacement. In October, when it was clear the organization was moving to UWGB, it caused the 13 year administrative assistant to retire.

Jeff Anderson, NEWMA treasurer reviewed the financials. The organization is very financially healthy. There was a record setting revenue that came in for membership dues and President Cup Scholarship Golf Outing sponsorships.

Topic 3: UW Green Bay partnership

The transition to UW Green Bay is done. Ann's new office is at N282 Stoney Brook Road, Appleton. The donation from Matchback for 2 fully equipped office furniture, conference table, 8 chairs and 3 file cabinets met our needs. The computer migration so far is going okay with a few glitches. The mailing address for NEWMA is the same, due to renting a virtual space at the Startup Hub.

Topic 4: 2026 planning and budget

Jeff Anderson discuss the proposed 2026 budget. A motion was made to approve the budget by Jeff Anderson and second by John Dennis, the budget was unanimously approved. The organization will most likely spend more than it

takes in, due to circumstances related to the move. This should be rectified in 2027 and the amount taken from savings is minimal to what is in savings.

The 20th anniversary of NEWMA will be in June. There was discussion on ideas for the 20 year anniversary event which will be the Alliance’s Quarterly Membership meeting. The goal of the event is to focus on the next 20 years with input from Alliance members.

Key dates for 2026:

- January 28 & 29: NWTC’s STEM Expo (we are a major sponsor) with 2,500 middle school students
- February 19 & 20: Mind Trekkers (we are a major sponsor) with 2,000 middle school students at Fox Valley Tech
- March 7: SeaPerch at Ashwaubenon Community Pool from 8 am – noon
- March 21: 2026 All Stars are recognized on the field of the Green Bay Blizzard game
- April 14: Future of Work Summit: Employee Retention at Fox Valley Tech from 8 a.m. – noon
- June 3: President’s Cup Scholarship Golf Scramble at Blackwolf Run’s River course
- October 27: Excellence in Mfg./K-12 Partnerships Awards dinner at the Resch Expo
- October 28: Manufacturing First Expo & Conference at the Resch Expo
- November 4: Internship Draft Day

Other programs with a date not set yet:

- NEW Manufacturing Alliance’s 20 year anniversary celebration most likely the June 16, 17 or 18 or 23
- We will be having a new event that will be an Awards dinner for the 2026 All Stars and 2026 Youth Apprenticeship Awards date will be in May.
- Most likely either October 1 or October 2 will be a live recording on NEW Manufacturing Insights podcast to kick off Manufacturing Month.

Topic 5: President’s Cup Scholarship Golf Outing on June 3, 2026 (last year’s teams listed below)

Team 1	Pat Koleske, Senior VP, Schreiber Foods	<i>Bryan Peters, Lindquist Machine Co.</i>
Team 2	Tim Riebau, Valley Packaging Industries	Aaron Janichek, CMD Corp.
Team 3	Kim Bassett, Bassett Mechanical	Louie Gentine, Sargento
Team 4	Todd Louthain, COEX 3D	Dave McIlheran, Cherry Optical
Team 5	Jeff Anderson, Precision Paper Converters	Nick Murray, Redline Plastics
Team 6	Chris Fuss, Titledown Manufacturing	Kevin Marrick, ZETA Group
Team 7	Paul Konopa, NEW Hydraulics	Jeff Hebbard, TIDI Products
Team 8	<i>Rick Recktenwald, Walker Forge</i>	Ann Franz, NEWMA
Team 9	Terry Brei, Sure Controls	Matt Szymanski, Green Bay Packaging
Team 10	Brandon Beard, Duxxbak	Brian Tetzlaff, Fox Valley Tool & Die
Team 11	John Dennis, Gardan	John Nundahl, Georgia Pacific
Team 12	Brian Mannering, La Force	Scott Bean, BW Converting
Team 13	Paul Adamski, Velocity Machine	Amy Bertram, Fiberglass Solutions
Team 14	Tad Campana, Services Plus	Jordan Schroeder, Scott's Industrial Coatings
Team 15	Rob Crossman, Voith	Jeff Berg, VP of Operations, Voith
Team 16	Paul Rauscher, Machines Plus/Fab Ex.	Brian Conrad, Great Northern Corp.
Team 17	Jeff Frank, Fincantieri Bayshipbuilding	Craig Wiedemeier, Werner Electric Supply
Team 18	Ben Bertram, Fiberglass Solutions	Pete Augustine, Johnston Bakery
Team 19	Joe Terrien, ITAD Logic	Brian Geurts, EMT International
Team 20	Lynie Vincent, NEW Plastics	Will Vincent
Team 21	Mike Rader, Kadant GranTek	James Williams, U.S. Lubricants
Team 22	<i>Bob Schulz, Pierce Manufacturing</i>	Jamie Spitzer, Precision Machine Inc.

Board members should inform Ann, if they would like to play.

Topic 6: Membership Recruitment & Associate Member approval

Tad encouraged Board members to recruit new members. Membership information can be found on the website.

The Board unanimously approved Vivanze as a new Associate member.

Topic 7: MIT presentation on new technologist training grant

MIT, has a defense grant to upskill incumbent workers in becoming a technologist with some of the training provided by a community colleges. NWTC is working with MIT to determine interest in their program. Julie Diop with MIT presented to the Board. After the presentation, the Board was very interested having their employees participate in the training. Ann will continue to work with MIT in hopefully securing the training in our region.

Topic 8: Next steps and next meeting - February 4 at 8:30 a.m. at Services Plus in Green Bay

Ann met with the new dean of the engineering department for UW Madison. He has interest in speaking to the Board and having Board members come to Madison. The Board expressed interest and Ann will coordinate.