# Western Cooperative Electric Jobs, Wages, and Benefits Study April 2023



**Prepared For** 

**Western Cooperative Electric** 

Prepared By

The Docking Institute of Public Affairs
Fort Hays State University

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### Mission:

To facilitate effective public policy decision-making among governmental and nonprofit entities



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Western Cooperative Electric

### **Acknowledgment:**

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### **Introduction and Methods**

Western Cooperative Electric contracted with the Docking Institute of Public Affairs to gather wage information for four occupations from employers within a 60-mile radius of WaKeeney, Kansas. The four occupations include customer service representative, office manager, purchasing manager, and accountant. Descriptions are provided below.

The Institute contacted 45 employers in 10 counties Northwest Kansas<sup>1</sup>. The employers included energy providers, county offices, city offices, school districts, educational service centers, post-secondary educational institutions, communications companies, and hospitals. Letters were mailed to each employer describing the study, informing each employer that they would soon receive an email with an attached Excel spreadsheet, and offering top-line results to participating employers (See Appendix I) as an incentive to respond. The spreadsheet provided the title of each occupation, space to enter alternative job names, and cells for years employed, hourly wages, annual salaries, and four benefits, for both full-time and part-time positions. Appendix II provides a copy of the spreadsheet.

Letters were mailed the week of March 6-10. Initial follow-up emails with attached spreadsheets were sent March 13-17. Four potential respondents reported that they did not have applicable information to provide, would not provide the requested information, or provided information that was not applicable. Additional follow-up email requests continued through April 7. Appendices IV and V provide copies of the initial letter and follow-up email, respectively.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ellis, Gove, Graham, Ness, Norton, Rooks, Russell, Sheridan, and Trego.

Ten employers returned completed spreadsheets, yielding a cooperation rate of 22.2%. The 10<sup>th</sup> spreadsheet arrived at the Institute on April 10, 2023. Findings are provided on the following pages. Information is provided for the number of employees in each field, years of experience, hourly wage earned, and available benefits (health care insurance, paid time-off, retirement contribution, and education assistance). Employers were asked to provide maximum, minimum, and average (mean) values for the number of employees in each occupation, years of employment in each occupation, and hourly wages (or annual salaries) for each occupation. Yearly salaries were converted to hourly wages for ease of analysis.

### Occupation Titles, Tasks/Duties, and Alternative Titles

The spreadsheet provided the title of each occupation and three or four tasks/duties defining each one. Employers were asked to consider occupations within their organizations assigned to at least 75% of the tasks/duties listed. As noted, employers were provided space in the spreadsheet to add alternative job titles, if applicable. The occupation titles, tasks/duties, and alternative respondent-provided job titles are presented below.

### **Customer Service Representative Tasks/Duties on Survey Spreadsheet**

- Point of contact for clients, customers, members, service recipients, and/or the public.
- Collects and organizes data; ensures client and other information is up to date/accurate.
- Processes payments and fees; reports or makes billing adjustments.

### Alternative Job Titles Provided by Respondents:

Member Service Representative; Customer Service Representative; Account Clerk; City Treasurer; Utility Billing Clerk; Clinic Office Assistant; Admissions Clerk; Admission Supervisor; Admin. Asst. to Superintendent; AP Clerk; Principal Secretary; AD Secretary; B&G Coordinator; IT Assistant; FdSrv Nutrition Coordinator; Treasurer; and Transportation Coordinator.

### Office Manager Tasks/Duties on Survey Spreadsheet

- Supervises/assists customer service representatives, billing clerks, office staff, etc.
- Oversees/improves administrative procedures, practices, and equipment.
- Performs payroll calculations; files payroll forms; helps resolve payroll issues.
- Balances cash receipts; monitors or makes billing adjustment.

### Alternative Job Titles Provided by Respondents:

Customer Information Services Manager (does not include HR/payroll functions); Two positions: Customer Service Lead & Staff Specialist and Customer Research & Design Analyst; City Clerk; Manager; Office Manager; Accounts Receivable; Accounts Payable; Human Resources; Charging/Billing Clerk; Board Clerk and Payroll Clerk; and Treasurer.

### **Purchasing Manager Tasks/Duties on Survey Spreadsheet**

- Facilitates the purchasing of goods and services.
- Maintains inventory; provides quality control.
- Cultivates relationships with vendors and company representatives, monitors supply chain issues.
- Coordinates, directs, and monitors warehouse personnel and activities.

### Alternative Job Titles Provided by Respondents:

Purchasing Clerk (does not supervise warehouse personnel); Purchasing Manager; City Administrator; Accounts Payable Clerk; Buyer; Materials Management; and Finance Director/Treasurer.

### **Accountant Tasks/Duties on Survey Spreadsheet**

- Prepares, records, and posts fixed journal entries; Maintains general ledger.
- Reconciles subsidiary records, accounts, ledgers, etc.
- Compiles and presents information at board meetings and other meetings/purposes.
- Receives, organizes, and codes invoices; makes adjustments; prepares vendor/other payments.

### **Alternative Job Titles Provided by Respondents:**

Senior Accountant, Plant Accountant and Accountant; Accounting Specialist; City Clerk & City Treasure; City Clerk; Chief Financial Officer; Finance Director/Treasurer; and Accounting Coordinator.

### **Summary of Findings**

This report provides information collected from 10 employers within a 60-mile radius of WaKeeney, Kansas. The employers include two energy providers, three cities, two medical centers, two K-12 school districts, and one institute of higher learning. All the employers provided information for full-time employees, while three also provided information for part-time employees. All three employers provided information about part-time customer service representatives (see Appendix III). No employers reported employing part-time office managers, purchasing managers, nor accountants.

As noted previously (and shown in Appendix II), employers were asked to provide maximum, minimum, and average (mean) values for the number of employees, years of employment, and hourly wages (or annual salaries) for each occupation. The following tables show the highest maximum values, lowest minimum values, and average (mean) values for each item. The average values provided are the mean of the average figures reported by employers.

The lowest wage paid by one of the two energy providers is \$18.39 per hour for customer service representatives. The highest wage paid by one of the two energy providers is \$42.45 per hour for office managers. The lowest wage paid by the other eight employers is \$12 per hour for customer service representatives, while the highest wage paid by the other eight employers is \$61.89 per hour for accountants.

Both energy providers offer all four benefits (health care insurance, paid time-off, retirement contribution, and education assistance) to purchasing managers and accountants. Both energy providers offer three benefits (health care insurance, paid time-off, and retirement contribution) to customer service representatives and office managers. One energy provider offers educational assistance to customer service representatives and office managers, while one does not.

All eight of the other employers offer three benefits (health care insurance, paid time-off, and retirement contribution) to employees in all four occupations (customer service representatives, office managers, purchasing managers, and accountants). More than half (57%) of the other employers offer educational assistance to customer service representatives, 63% offer educational assistance to office managers, 67% offer educational assistance to purchasing managers, and 71% offer educational assistance to accountants.

The highest maximum hourly wages and lowest minimum hourly wages reported by the two energy providers exceed those offered by other employers for three of the four occupations: customer services representatives, office managers, and purchasing managers.

Findings show that lower maximum hourly wages and lower minimum hourly wages are reported for accountants of the two energy providers, while other employers report higher maximum and minimum hourly wages for accountants. For example, accountants working for the energy providers earn a maximum of \$38.46 per hour, while accountants working for the other employers earn a maximum of \$61.89 per hour. Similarly, energy company accountants earn a minimum of \$18.06 per hour, while

other accountants earn a minimum of \$20 per hour. The average (mean) hourly wage for energy company accountants is \$33.21, while the average (mean) hourly wage for accountants in other organizations is \$33.41.

Considering the \$61.89 per hour pay as an outlier (and set aside temporarily), the figures for the remaining (other employer) accountants decrease to a high of \$36.06, a low of \$19.53, and an average of \$29.80. These figures compare to those in the energy provider group, while the lowest minimum hourly wage among energy company accountants is still lower than the lowest minimum hourly wage for other accountants (\$18.06 per hour and \$19.53 per hour, respectively).

In conclusion, the information gathered from energy providers and other employers within a 60-mile radius of WaKeeney, Kansas, suggest that wages of about \$20 per hour for customer service representatives, about \$40 per hour for office managers, about \$45 for purchasing managers, and \$30 per hour for accountants should provide Western Cooperative Electric with competitive wages (with all other considerations being equal).

Furthermore, all the employers responding to the survey provide health care insurance benefits, paid time-off, and contribute to a retirement fund. Most, but not all, employers provide some form of education assistance. If not offered to employees, Western Cooperative Electric might consider offering these benefits to maintain their workforce.

### **Data from Energy Providers and Other Employers**

Table 1: Number of Employees, Years of Experience, Hourly Wage, and Benefits: Customer Service Representatives and Office Managers of Energy Providers and Other Employers

# Energy Providers (n=2)

# Other Employers (n=8)

Cus	tomer Service	Representativ	es	Customer Service Representatives			
	Number of	Years of	Hourly		Number of	Years of	Hourly
	Employees	Experience	Wage		<b>Employees</b>	Experience	Wage
Maximum	16	27	\$28.58	Maximum	35	28	\$23.22
Average (Mean)	10.5	6	\$22.54	Average (Mean)	8.43	9.32	\$17.75
Minimum	5	1	\$18.39	Minimum	1	1	\$12.00
-	Available (	Benefits			Available	Benefits	
Health Care Insuran	ce	100%		Health Care Insuran	ice	100%	
Paid Time-Off		100%		Paid Time-Off		100%	
Retirement Contrib	ution	100%		Retirement Contrib	ution	100%	
Education Assistance	e	50%		Education Assistance	e	57%	
	Office M	anagers			Office M	anagers	
	Office M Number of	anagers Years of	Hourly		Office M Number of	anagers Years of	Hourly
			Hourly Wage				Hourly Wage
Maximum	Number of	Years of	•	Maximum	Number of	Years of	•
Maximum Average (Mean)	Number of Employees	Years of Experience	Wage	Maximum Average (Mean)	Number of Employees	Years of Experience	Wage
	Number of Employees 2	Years of Experience	Wage \$42.45		Number of Employees 61	Years of Experience	Wage \$39.07
Average (Mean)	Number of Employees 2 1.5	Years of Experience 20 17.75 16	Wage \$42.45 \$41.81	Average (Mean)	Number of Employees 61 11.38	Years of Experience 43 14.82	Wage \$39.07 \$25.30
Average (Mean)	Number of Employees  2 1.5 1 Available I	Years of Experience 20 17.75 16	Wage \$42.45 \$41.81	Average (Mean)	Number of Employees 61 11.38 1 Available	Years of Experience 43 14.82	Wage \$39.07 \$25.30
Average (Mean) Minimum	Number of Employees  2 1.5 1 Available I	Years of Experience 20 17.75 16 Benefits	Wage \$42.45 \$41.81	Average (Mean) Minimum	Number of Employees 61 11.38 1 Available	Years of Experience 43 14.82 1 Benefits	Wage \$39.07 \$25.30
Average (Mean) Minimum  Health Care Insuran	Number of Employees  2 1.5 1 Available 6	Years of Experience 20 17.75 16 Benefits 100%	Wage \$42.45 \$41.81	Average (Mean) Minimum  Health Care Insuran	Number of Employees 61 11.38 1 Available	Years of Experience  43  14.82  1  Benefits  100%	Wage \$39.07 \$25.30

Table 2: Number of Employees, Years of Experience, Hourly Wage, and Benefits: Purchasing Managers and Accountants of Energy Providers and Other Employers

# Energy Providers (n=2)

# Other Employers (n=8)

	Purchasing M	1anagers		Purchasing Managers			
	Number of Employees	Years of Experience	Hourly Wage		Number of Employees	Years of Experience	Hourly Wage
Maximum	1	36	\$51.75	Maximum	3	26	\$36.06
Average (Mean)	1	18.75	\$46.43	Average (Mean)	1.33	7.83	\$25.58
Minimum	1	2	\$38.46	Minimum	1	0.2	\$16.32
	Available B	enefits			Available	Benefits	
Health Care Insurance 100%			Health Care Insura	nce	100%		
Paid Time-Off	Paid Time-Off 100%		Paid Time-Off 100%				
Retirement Contributi	Retirement Contribution 100%		Retirement Contrib	oution	100%		
Education Assistance		100%		Education Assistan	ce	67%	

	Account	ants			Accoun	tants	
	Number of Employees	Years of Experience	Hourly Wage		Number of Employees	Years of Experience	Hourly Wage
Maximum	3	23	\$38.46	Maximum	2	48	\$61.89
Average (Mean)	2	4	\$33.21	Average (Mean)	1.29	13.27	\$33.41
Minimum	1	1	\$18.06	Minimum	1	0.2	\$20.00
	Available B	enefits			Available I	Benefits	
Health Care Insurance 100%		Health Care Insura	nce	100%			
Paid Time-Off	Paid Time-Off 100%		Paid Time-Off		100%		
Retirement Contribu	Retirement Contribution 100%		Retirement Contrib	oution	100%		
Education Assistance		100%		Education Assistan	ce	71%	

# **Appendix I: Top-Line Findings**

# Wages by Occupation from 10 Responding Organizations

	Customer Represei		Office Manager	Purchasing Manager	Accountant	
	Hourly Wage (Full-Time)	Hourly Wage (Part-Time)	Hourly Wage (Full-Time)	Hourly Wage (Full-Time)	Hourly Wage (Full-Time)	
Maximum	\$28.58	\$22.34	\$42.45	\$51.75	\$61.89	
Average (Mean)	\$18.82	\$17.72	\$28.60	\$31.53	\$33.36	
Minimum	\$12.00	\$12.25	\$14.00	\$17.36	\$19.53	

# **Appendix II: Spreadsheet Survey**

### Portion A: Customer Service Representative and Office Manager

JOB DESCRIP	RIPTION FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES						
Job Title Employees perform at least 75% of the following tasks/duties.	My organization's title for this job:	Number of FULL-TIME Employees Performing this Job (30 or more hours per week)	Years of Experience of FULL-TIME Employees	FULL-TIME <u>Hourly Wage</u> Employees (Use Hourly Wage if most common to your organization)	FULL-TIME <u>Annual Salaried</u> Employees (Use Annual Salary if most common to your organization)	Benefits Offered to Employees (Please enter Yes or No)	
Customer Service			Maximum Number of Years:	Maximum FULL-TIME Hourly Wage:	Maximum FULL-TIME Annual Salary:	Health Care Insurance:	
Representative			Average (Mean) Number of Years:	Average (Mean) FULL-TIME Hourly Wage:	Average (Mean) FULL-TIME Annual Salary:	Paid Time-Off:	
			Minimum Number of Years:	Starting/Minimum FULL-TIME Hourly Wage:	Starting/Minimum FULL-TIME Annual Salary:	Retirement Contribution:	
Point of contact for clients, customers, members, service		(If none, please enter () above)				Education Assistance:	
recipients, and/or the public				PART-TIME EMPLOYEES			
Collects and organizes data; ensures client, etc., information is up to date/accurate		Number of PART-TIME Employees Performing this Job (Fewer than 30 hours per week)	Years of Experience of PART-TIME Employees	PART-TIME <u>Hourly Wage</u> Employees (Use Hourly Wage if most common to your organization)	PART-TIME <u>Annual Salaried</u> Employees (Use Annual Salary if most common to your organization)	Benefits Offered to Employees (Please enter Yes or No)	
up to date/accurate			Maximum Number of Years:	Maximum PART-TIME Hourly Wage:	Maximum PART-TIME Annual Salary:	Health Care Insurance:	
Processes payments and fees;			Average (Mean) Number of Years:	Average (Mean) PART-TIME Hourly Wage:	Average (Mean) PART-TIME Annual Salary:	Paid Time-Off:	
reports or makes billing adjustments		Minimum Number of Years:	Starting/Minimum PART-TIME Hourly Wage:	Starting/Minimum PART-TIME Annual Salary:	Retirement Contribution:		
adjustinens		(If none, please enter 0 above)				Education Assistance:	
JOB DESCRIP	TION			FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES			
Job Title Employees perform at least 75% of the following tasks/duties.	My organization's title for this job:	Number of FULL-TIME Employees Performing this Job (30 or more hours per week)	Years of Experience of FULL-TIME Employees	FULL-TIME <u>Hourly Wage</u> Employees (Use Hourly Wage if most common to your organization)	FULL-TIME <u>Annual Salaried</u> Employees (Use Annual Salary if most common to your organization)	Benefits Offered to Employees (Please enter Yes or No)	
000			Maximum Number of Years:	Maximum FULL-TIME Hourly Wage:	Maximum FULL-TIME Annual Salary:	Health Care Insurance:	
Office Manager			Average (Mean) Number of Years:	Average (Mean) FULL-TIME Hourly Wage:	Average (Mean) FULL-TIME Annual Salary:	Paid Time-Off:	
Supervises/assists customer service			Minimum Number of Years:	Starting/Minimum FULL-TIME Hourly Wage:	Starting/Minimum FULL-TIME Annual Salary:	Retirement Contribution:	
representatives, billing clerks, office staff, etc.		(If none, please enter () above)				Education Assistance:	
0				PART-TIME EMPLOYEES			
Oversees/improves administrative procedures, practices, and		Number of PART-TIME Employees Performing this Job	Years of Experience of	PART-TIME <u>Hourly Wage</u> Employees	PART-TIME <u>Annual Salaried</u> Employees (Use Annual Salary if most common to your organization)	Benefits Offered to Employees (Please enter Yes or No)	
equipment		(Fewer than 30 hours per week)	PART-TIME Employees	(Use Hourly Wage if most common to your organization)	(OSE ANNUAL SAIATY IT MOST COMMON TO YOUR ORGANIZATION)	(, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
equipment  Performs payroll calculations; files			PART-TIME Employees  Maximum Number of Years:	(Use Hourly Wage If most common to your organization)  Maximum PART-TIME Hourly Wage:	Maximum PART-TIME Annual Salary:	Health Care Insurance:	
equipment							
equipment  Performs payroll calculations; files payroll forms; helps resolve payroll			Maximum Number of Years:	Maximum PART-TIME Hourly Wage:	Maximum PART-TIME Annual Salary:	Health Care Insurance:	

## Portion B: Purchasing Manager and Accountant

JOB DESCRIP	JOB DESCRIPTION FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES							
Job Title Employees perform at least 75% of the following tasks/duties.	My organization's title for this job:	Number of FULL-TIME Employees Performing this Job (30 or more hours per week)	Years of Experience of FULL-TIME Employees	FULL-TIME <u>Hourly Wage</u> Employees (Use Hourly Wage if most common to your organization)	FULL-TIME <u>Annual Salaried</u> Employees (Use Annual Salary if most common to your organization)	Benefits Offered to Employees (Please enter Yes or No)		
Purchasing Manager			Maximum Number of Years:	Maximum FULL-TIME Hourly Wage:	Maximum FULL-TIME Annual Salary:	Health Care Insurance:		
Furchasing ivianager			Average (Mean) Number of Years:	Average (Mean) FULL-TIME Hourly Wage:	Average (Mean) FULL-TIME Annual Salary:	Paid Time-Off:		
F11(a-aab			Minimum Number of Years:	Starting/Minimum FULL-TIME Hourly Wage:	Starting/Minimum FULL-TIME Annual Salary:	Retirement Contribution:		
Facilitates the purchasing of goods and services		(If none, please enter () above)				Education Assistance:		
Maintains inventory: provides				PART-TIME EMPLOYEES				
quality control  Cultivates relationships with		Number of PART-TIME Employees Performing this Job (Fewer than 30 hours per week)	Years of Experience of PART-TIME Employees	PART-TIME <u>Hourly Wage</u> Employees (Use Hourly Wage if most common to your organization)	PART-TIME <u>Annual Salaried</u> Employees (Use Annual Salary if most common to your organization)	Benefits Offered to Employees (Please enter Yes or No)		
vendors and company reps; Monitors supply chain issues			Maximum Number of Years:	Maximum PART-TIME Hourly Wage:	Maximum PART-TIME Annual Salary:	Health Care Insurance:		
Montors supply chain issues			Average (Mean) Number of Years:	Average (Mean) PART-TIME Hourly Wage:	Average (Mean) PART-TIME Annual Salary:	Paid Time-Off:		
Coordinates, directs, and monitors warehouse personnel and activities			Minimum Number of Years:	Starting/Minimum PART-TIME Hourly Wage:	Starting/Minimum PART-TIME Annual Salary:	Retirement Contribution:		
warenouse personner and activities		(If none, please enter () above)				Education Assistance:		
JOB DESCRIP	PTION	FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES						
Job Title Employees perform at least 75% of the following tasks/duties.	My organization's title for this job:	Number of FULL-TIME Employees Performing this Job (30 or more hours per week)	Years of Experience of FULL-TIME Employees	FULL-TIME <u>Hourly Wage</u> Employees (Use Hourly Wage if most common to your organization)	FULL-TIME <u>Annual Salaried</u> Employees (Use Annual Salary if most common to your organization)	Benefits Offered to Employees (Please enter Yes or No)		
A			Maximum Number of Years:	Maximum FULL-TIME Hourly Wage:	Maximum FULL-TIME Annual Salary:	Health Care Insurance:		
Accountant			Average (Mean) Number of Years:	Average (Mean) FULL-TIME Hourly Wage:	Average (Mean) FULL-TIME Annual Salary:	Paid Time-Off:		
Prepares, records, and posts fixed			Minimum Number of Years:	Starting/Minimum FULL-TIME Hourly Wage:	Starting/Minimum FULL-TIME Annual Salary:	Retirement Contribution:		
journal entries; Maintains general ledger		(If none, please enter (I above)				Education Assistance:		
Reconciles subsidiary records,				PART-TIME EMPLOYEES				
accounts, ledgers, etc.  Compiles and presents information		Number of PART-TIME Employees Performing this Job (Fewer than 30 hours per week)	Years of Experience of PART-TIME Employees	PART-TIME <u>Hourly Wage</u> Employees (Use Hourly Wage if most common to your organization)	PART-TIME <u>Annual Salaried</u> Employees (Use Annual Salary if most common to your organization)	Benefits Offered to Employees (Please enter Yes or No)		
			Maximum Number of Years:	Maximum PART-TIME Hourly Wage:	Maximum PART-TIME Annual Salary:	Health Care Insurance:		
at board meetings and other								
at board meetings and other meetings/purposes			Average (Mean) Number of Years:	Average (Mean) PART-TIME Hourly Wage:	Average (Mean) PART-TIME Annual Salary:	Paid Time-Off:		
_			Average (Mean) Number of Years: Minimum Number of Years:	Average (Mean) PART-TIME Hourly Wage: Starting/Minimum PART-TIME Hourly Wage:	Average (Mean) PART-TIME Annual Salary: Starting/Minimum PART-TIME Annual Salary:	Paid Time-Off: Retirement Contribution:		

### **Appendix III: Part-Time Customer Service Representatives**

Table 3: Number of Employees, Years of Experience, Hourly Wage, and Benefits: Part-Time Customer Service Representatives of Energy Providers and Other Employers

Energy Providers (n=2)

Other Employers (n=8)

Customer S	Service Repres	sentative (Part-	Time)	Custome	er Service Repres	sentative (Part-T	ime)
	Number of Employees	Years of Experience	Hourly Wage		Number of Employees	Years of Experience	Hourly Wage
Maximum	1	10	\$22.34	Maximum	6	7.87	\$18.64
Average (Mean)	1	10	\$21.03	Average (Mean)	3.5	5.49	\$16.07
Minimum	1	10	\$18.39	Minimum	1	1	\$12.25
	Available B	enefits			Available E	Benefits	
Health Care Insurance		0%		Health Care Insurance	ce	50%	
Paid Time-Off		0%		Paid Time-Off		50%	
Retirement Contribution	on	0%		Retirement Contribu	ıtion	50%	
<b>Education Assistance</b>		0%		Education Assistance	9	50%	

The table above shows that one of the energy providers has one part-time customer service representative on staff. One other employer has one part-time customer service representative on staff, while another employs six. The energy provider does not offer benefits to the part-time worker. One of the two other employers provides all four benefits to part-time workers.

### **Appendix IV: Initial Letter to Employers**



Forward thinking. World ready.

March 6, 2023

THE DOCKING INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

{Employer}

Dear {Name},

We are reaching out to you as part of a wage survey that the Docking Institute of Public Affairs is conducting for a local organization. That organization is seeking area wage ranges for these four job types in their organization:

Customer service representative Office manager Purchasing manager Accountant

We would like to gather wage data directly from you or your head of HR for any of these four job types in your organization. Docking Institute will be sharing top-line findings (minimum wage, maximum wage, and median/average wage) directly with each organization that responds to the wage survey. We will keep all survey data confidential. In reporting top-line and full results, at no time will the Docking Institute disclose any wage survey information in an identifiable way.

We will follow up this letter with an email that includes a simple to fill-in Excel spreadsheet. If we cannot locate an email on your organization's website, we will follow up with a phone call to request a preferred email address. We hope your organization will participate and thank you for your time and consideration! Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Brett Zollinger, Ph.D. Director

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### **Appendix V: Follow-Up Email**

Subject: Job, Wages, Benefits (very short) Survey

Hello X,

You should have received a letter recently describing a wage survey that we are conducting. This is the follow-up email described in that letter. The attached spreadsheet is the survey.

The spreadsheet lists four jobs: customer service representative, office manager, purchasing manager, and accountant. Key tasks/duties are shown with each job title. Your organization may have alternative job titles for the tasks/duties described. There is space to add alternative job titles.

The spreadsheet has columns for the number of employees performing each job, years of experience, compensation (hourly wage or annual salary), and whether specific benefits are offered to employees. There are rows for full-time employees and part-time employees.

Please report information for employees performing AT LEAST 75% of the tasks/duties described for each applicable job. Employees may perform additional tasks/duties, but they are to perform at least 75% of the tasks/duties shown.

When providing compensation data for each job, please use either the wage column or the salary column, whichever is most common to your organization.

As noted in the letter, the Docking Institute will share top-line findings (minimum wage, maximum wage, and average wage) directly with each organization that responds to the survey. We will keep all survey data confidential. In reporting top-line and full results, at no time will the Docking Institute disclose any wage survey information in an identifiable way.

Please feel free to forward this email and attachment to others in your organization if necessary. If I may assist by emailing directly to others, I will be more than happy to do so.

After the spreadsheet is filled out, please save it, and email it to Mike Walker at mswalker@fhsu.edu.

Thank you for your time,

Mike
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