

**Oregon Workforce Alliance Business Meeting**  
**April 20, 2007**  
**Homestead Building—Room 1**  
**8:30 am - 12:00 pm**  
**Sunriver Oregon**

**OWA Members**

Larry Blount	Lyle Burmeister	Susan Cederholm	Diana Corder
Bob Craft	Pat Davis	Norm Gershon	Fernando Gutierrez
Barb Higinbotham	Art Hill	Oscar Johnson	Kenny Kent
Marce Knight	Scott Koch	JJ McLeod	Wes Melo
Tom Moore	Robin Popp	Tara Pritchard	Sheila Semling
Craig Schmidt	Bob Schroth	Teri Simonis	Randy Scruggs
Darrel Wilson			

**TOC Board Members**

Commissioner Rita Bernhard	Commissioner Barbara Briggs
Commissioner Bill Brown	Commissioner Jeff Hazen
Commissioner Nellie Hibbert	Judge Dan Joyce
Commissioner Joe Laurance	Commissioner Bill Lennox
Commissioner Dan Shoun	Judge Gary Thompson

**TOC Staff**

Jackie Cray	Jeff Dickason	Kris Latimer	Melissa Metz
Elisha Schilling			

**Youth Council Members**

Kevin Bradley(Staff)	Nikkol Nagle	Leonard Norris
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**Guests**

Tara Bishop	Cindy Ferner	Chad Freeman	Julie Gassner
Deborah Hayward	Mike McCoy	Evelyn Roth	Kayleen Warner
Susie Yeiter			

**MEETING SUMMARY**

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

Bob Schroth, President, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and introductions were made.

Bob congratulated and welcomed the new OWA and TOC board members:

OWA—Diana Corder, Art Hill, Tara Pritchard, Teri Simonis and Kenny Kent.

*TOC Board*—Commissioner Jeff Hazen, Commissioner Barbara Briggs, Commissioner Bill Lennox, Commissioner Joe Laurance and Commissioner Nellie Hibbert.

**II. Consent Agenda**

- a. Minutes from January 2007
- b. Treasurer's Report
- c. Eligible Training Provider List
- d. Region 6—Dislocated Worker to Adult Funds Transfer Request.

**MOTION:** Larry Blount moved, seconded by Sheila Semling to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

**III. Youth Council Report**

Larry Blount reported on the Youth Council's activities and introduced its newest members, Nikkol Nagle and Kenny Kent.

Larry announced that the Youth Council approved and adopted the staff recommendations for WIA 1B Youth service providers for regions 1, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 and authorizes staff to negotiate and enter into contract with each provider.

Survivors 2007 will be held August 12-17 at OSU campus. VIP activities will be held August 16<sup>th</sup>. Members are encouraged to visit camp on VIP day or another day, it's a very worthwhile experience.

Larry finalized his report by thanking members of the Youth RFP review committee, which consisted of himself, Michael McCoy, CCWD Program Coordinator for TOC/OWA; Chesta Bauer, Program Coordinator for the Enterprise for Education and Employment; and Tanarae Greenman, Program Director for Community Services Consortium.

**IV. RWIB Chairs Meeting Review**

Craig Schmidt provided an update from the RWIB chairs meeting. Craig explained that an OWA visioning committee/taskforce was being formed and that 3-4 private sector volunteers were requested to participate. Members of the committee will be building upon the excellent work that has gone into the Unifying Strategic Plan and will have a first report at the July Quarterly meetings. Kris shared that Diana Corder has volunteered to help facilitate the process.

The floor was opened for additional volunteers to serve on the committee. Norm Gershon, Barb Higinbotham and Pat Davis were among those who volunteered from the public/at-large side.

### OWA/RWIB Membership Policy

Kris explained that it has become evident that a policy related to the specific membership requirements of the Oregon Workforce Alliance and the Regional Workforce Investment Board would be helpful. Until now, membership related information has been dispersed across a variety of documents, state policy and the Workforce Investment Act.

The TOC/OWA Administrative office is being expected at an increasingly significant level to monitor RWIBs for compliance with policy and to assure a variety of standards in state policy are maintained. The policy provides a vehicle for TOC and the OWA to strive for consistency in membership and function across the area, allowing us to more expediently fulfill these expectations.

A copy of the draft OWA/RWIB membership policy was provided in the meeting packet and was reviewed by the group.

This is the first reading of the policy and questions, answers and recommendations will be posted to the TOC/OWA website. A second and final reading of the policy will be presented at the July quarterly meetings. The policy will be posted on the website and comments should be forwarded via email to Kris.

### Area Strategic Plan

Jeff Dickason provided background on the strategic plan and a matrix of strategies and goals was distributed.

**MOTION:** Tom Moore moved, seconded by JJ McLeod to adopt the Unifying Workforce Strategic Plan for the two-year period July 1, 2007-June 30, 2009. Motion passed unanimously.

## **V. Executive Committee Report**

Commissioner Rita Bernhard provided the Executive Committee report on behalf of Judge Steve Grasty.

Commissioner Bernhard explained that the appeal of the Organization of Forgotten Americans (OFA) was considered by The Oregon Consortium Executive Committee and after review was found to be without merit. Concluding extensive discussion, the appeal was denied.

The TOC Executive Committee approved and adopted the staff recommendation for WIA 1B Youth, Adult and Dislocated Worker service providers for regions 1, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 and authorize staff to negotiate and enter into contracts with each provider.

**MOTION:** Jerry Fletcher moved, seconded by Larry Blount to accept the decisions made by the TOC board.

Because it was unclear that the motion was to accept the decision of the appeal and the approval of the service providers, Jerry rescinded his motion. Additionally, Larry Blount withdrew his second because he was specifically name in the appeal, and therefore declaring a conflict of interest.

**MOTION:** Jerry Fletcher moved, seconded by Darrel Wilson to accept the decision made by the TOC board to deny the appeal presented by OFA.

Larry Blount, J.J. McLeod and Tom Moore declared a potential conflict of interest and abstained from voting. Motion passed.

**MOTION:** Randy Scruggs moved to approve the decision of the TOC Board to adopt the staff recommendation for WIA 1B Youth, Adult and Dislocated Worker service providers for regions 1, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 and authorize staff to negotiate and enter into contracts with each provider. The motion was seconded by Sheila Semling.

JJ McLeod, Tom Moore, Wes Melo, Norm Gershon, Teri Simonis and Larry Blount all abstained due to a potential conflict of interest. Motion passed.

Leonard Norris stated, for the record, that he does not agree with decision of the appeal.

## **VI. Legislative Committee Report**

Scott Koch shared an update from the Legislative Committee Meeting. Ray Worden, Executive Director—Oregon Workforce Partnership joined the Legislative Committee and provided information to the group.

Scott reported that the committee discussed WIA allocations and that Oregon took the maximum allowed reduction. He explained the need to support the State of Oregon hold back funds for our programs. The committee recommends to the OWA that a letter be sent to Governor Kulongoski requesting an examination of hold back funds and a request to move the maximum amount possible to the local level.

**MOTION:** Pat Davis moved that representatives of OWA send a letter to the Governor and Commissioner of CCWD requesting that the amount of hold back dollars be examined and reduced and that the

funds be passed onto the local Area's to support programs and services. Motion was seconded by Craig Schmidt. Motion passed unanimously.

The committee also discussed the need to advocate for Veteran Services. Larry Blount and Robin Popp volunteered to work together to draft a letter to express concerns regarding the current status of Vet services. It is suggested that the letter be sent to the Congressional delegation, the Governor and the Veteran services committee. Jerry Fletcher, Labor representative and Barb Higinbotham, OED representative volunteered to provide assistance to Larry and Robin.

**MOTION:** Craig Schmidt moved to have a letter sent on behalf of the OWA to the Congressional delegation, Veteran Affairs and the Governor regarding the current status of Vet's services and the need for the appropriate coordination and funding of those services. Motion was seconded by Larry Blount. Motion passed unanimously.

Bob Schroth, Larry Blount and Kris Latimer shared an update from the NAWB conference that took place in Washington DC, February 24-28 2007. While in DC, they met with Representatives and Senators regarding local workforce and legislative issues.

#### RWIB Staff Update

Kayleen Warner-Arens, RWIB staff for Region 9 provided an update from the RWIB staff meeting from their meeting held on Thursday.

### **VII. Update on Cluster Projects and State Manufacturing Strategy**

#### State Manufacturing Strategy

Kris distributed handouts for the Oregon Manufacturing Workforce Strategy, which focuses on an industry-led plan to build competitive companies, fill the skilled-worker shortage and provide high wage jobs for Oregonians. Kris announced that if regions were interested in learning more about these efforts, Audrey Theis—Key Links Inc. would likely be willing to make a presentation or at a minimum enter into a discussion via conference call. Regions interested in perusing the strategy should contact Kris.

#### Wood Products

The "Supporting the New Forest Economy" Skills Panel met for the first time in Eugene on January 28 and 29<sup>th</sup> and again in March. Various representatives from the group are now working with TOC/OWA to hone in on present and future needs and to develop a campaign and plan to attract and involve our young citizen in this still important and changing industry.

### TEAM Oregon—WIRED Grant

Early in March, the Oregon Workforce Partnership (OWP), together with partners in several regions from through out TOC, submitted a grant concept in response to a request from the Governor's office—related to Department of Labor's release of a funding opportunity under the Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) initiative. The Governor's office selected the proposal as one of the two concepts to be developed and put forward by the Governor in response to the WIRED opportunity. The proposal brings together Community Colleges and other partners from 14 TOC and non-TOC counties to integrate as a sustainable energy sector.

**MOTION:** Craig Schmidt moved, seconded by Larry Blount to accept the WIRED Grant application. Motion passed unanimously.

Kris also noted that Julie Gassner, MTC Works/Region 1 was involved with a WIRED proposal related to advanced manufacturing.

### **VIII. Administrative Report**

Kris reviewed the Administrative Report in the packet. She noted that on April 17-18 a TOC-wide staff training was held with 100+ staff from the Regional WIA 1B providers participating. This was the first large scale TOC-wide training in a number of years and she thanked the regional providers for their support.

### **IX. Information Update**

- a. Review of TOC/OWA meeting schedule  
The next quarterly meeting will be held July 19-20 2007 at the Running Y resort in Klamath Falls.
- b. The date for the October quarterly meeting was discussed. Kris suggested the members consider moving the meeting dates to the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> because Craig Schmidt is not able to attend the prior week due to his responsibilities as Chamber Director and Hood River's Harvest Fest. The group did not have any objections to changing the date. Elisha was asked to check with Holiday Inn Express in Astoria to see if meeting space is available the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.
- c. Survivors '07  
As mentioned previously Survivors 2007 will be August 12-17 on campus at Oregon State University, with VIP activities scheduled for August 16<sup>th</sup>.

- d. Matt McCoy expressed his concern surrounding the co-chairs budget released at the Capitol which supports very little investment in the Community College system. He asked that members of OWA write to the co-chairs, encouraging the need to invest in post secondary education. Art Hill and Matt McCoy volunteered to compose the letter, which will be posted to the TOC/OWA website for review.

**MOTION:** Pat Davis moved that the OWA send a letter to the co-chairs reminding them that Oregon needs to invest in post-secondary education in order for Oregon to be competitive in today's environment.

**X. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m. by Bob Schroth.