

**REGION 12 EXECUTIVE/REGULAR
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD (R12WIB)
MEETING MINUTES
WorkSource Oregon – Hermiston, OR
Tuesday, February 12th, 2008 – 9:00-11:00am**

Attending: Neal Simpson, Chair
Loren Schmucker, Keystone RV
Joe Eddy, Oregon Employment Department
Tony Wendel, Oregon Employment Department
Jennifer Shaw, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Art Hill, Blue Mountain Community College
Deborah Hayward, Community Action Program of East Central Oregon
Robin Bitrick, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Jue-Jue Withers-Lyons, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Susie Ortega, Oregon Human Development Corporation

Guests: Linda Valentine, Community Action Program of East Central Oregon
Scott Fairley, Governors Office
Tile Hamilton, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation – Work Experience

Staff: Tara Bishop

INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 9:17am. Introductions were made by all attending.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSP: Art Hill moved to approve the minutes of the November 2007 meeting. Jue-Jue Withers-Lyons seconded. Motion passed.

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET UPDATE

Tara provided a year-to-date budget report on the One-Stop and RWIB budget. In regards to the RWIB, as of December 31, 2007 we are 40.24% spent. Revenue and Expense reports were provided for the RWIB. We are waiting on documentation from partners in order to provide a full report on the One-Stop budget. Information that has been received to-date shows that we are on track with where we should be. A more detailed report on the One-Stop Resource Sharing Agreement will be given at the next meeting.

MSP: Art Hill moved to approve the budget reports as presented. Joe Eddy seconded. Motion passed.

Neal informed the Board that Tara has assumed the RWIB staffing duties for Region 13 through June 30, 2008. This will not impact Region 12's budget. All time and expenses

on duties performed for R13 will be paid separately through a contract with The Oregon Consortium.

RWIB MEMBER APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

Applications have been received from Neal Simpson, Bob Schroth, Jue-Jue Withers-Lyons, and Art Hill for reappointment to the RWIB. An application to serve as a private sector representative was also received from Loren Schmucker, Keystone RV. The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation presented a letter of recommendation for Robin Bitrick to serve as the alternate for Jue-Jue Withers-Lyons.

MSP: Art Hill moved to approve the above members for appointment/reappointment. Deborah Hayward seconded. Motion passed.

A letter will be sent to the Umatilla and Morrow County Commissioners for final approval.

477 PRESENTATION

Robin Bitrick provided a presentation on 477 planning (public law 102-477). The main focus is employment driven programs that support the return to work philosophy. Robin explained how the current system operates and the advantages and disadvantages of 477. Handouts were provided.

EMPLOYER WORKFORCE TRAINING FUND

Handouts were provided on the status of Program Year 2006 and 2007 Employer Workforce Training Funds. The Workforce Response Team will be meeting today to review applications that have been received to date and will more than likely obligate all remaining funds.

TOCOWA QUARTERLY UPDATE

RWIB Staff Meeting: Best practices on attracting and retaining private sector members were shared. Each RWIB will develop a 30 second elevator speech to share at the next quarterly meeting. Tara will prepare the speech and e-mail it to the Board for input. A RWIB brochure will also be developed.

One-Stop Partners Meeting: Oregon Employment Department provided a presentation on PRISM (Performance Reporting Information System) – the system used to track One-Stop partners' performance.

TOCOWA Business Meeting: A presentation was provided by the National Guard. In 2009, Oregon will be deploying 3500 guardsmen which will have a huge impact on our state. Career and Benefit Fairs are being held at various locations around the state.

Vision Committee Meeting: The Vision Committee reported on the restructure/realignment of The Oregon Consortium Board and The Oregon Workforce Alliance. Currently, four meetings are held per year costing approximately \$45k. The new

structure will consist of committees meeting via conference call or teleconference on an as needed basis in order to fulfill their committee charter as it relates to the vision. The full Board will meet twice a year (April and October). A Governance Committee will meet regularly (possibly up to 6 times per year) to carry out necessary business of the organization and to support committee work. The new structure will not only be a huge cost savings but will also better and more fully engage members of both Boards.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Last year each RWIB was asked to choose two to three strategies that they would like to focus on in their region. Two of the three strategies R12 chose are no longer relevant due to legislation not being passed. Neal appointed a sub-committee to review the strategic plan and recommend new strategies for our region to focus on. The committee will consist of Joe Eddy, Neal Simpson, and Tara Bishop.

There was a lengthy discussion on the need for skilled workers in our region. Employers seem to face the same obstacles such as poor work ethic among workers and drug issues. Loren shared that a vast majority of his employees have recycled 2, 3, and 4 times with no change in work ethic. He also noted that finding employees that can pass a drug test is an issue. There was also discussion regarding the need for affordable housing. The Board discussed the need for recruiting workers from outside our area/state and how to go about it.

BY-LAWS

A committee was appointed to review our current By-Laws (has not been reviewed since 2003) and recommend revisions to the Board. The committee members are Art Hill, Deborah Hayward, and Neal Simpson.

PARTNER UPDATES

Partners provided updates of workforce and economic development related activities from the past quarter.

Wildhorse Resort and Casino and The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation will be holding a career fair on March 21st, 2008

Art Hill thanked the Private Sector members for their time and dedication.

Tara will send an appreciation plaque to Mark Bell to thank him for his time and dedication spent on the Region 12 Workforce Investment Board. Mark is still a member of the Oregon Workforce Alliance and is now a private sector representative on Region 14's Workforce Investment Board.

OFFICER ELECTION

Art Hill moved to approve Neal Simpson as Chair and Bob Schroth as Vice-Chair of the Region 12 Workforce Investment Board. Deborah Hayward seconded. Motion passed.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for May 13th, 2008 from 9-11 am at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton.