

**Region 13 WorkSource Oregon
Board Meeting**

Friday, January 25, 2008
Union-Baker ESD
9:00 am – 10:45

ATTENDANCE:

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

Bob Keyser, Chair
Kathy Gover-Shaw
Craig Thompson
Deborah Beeson
Susan Cederholm
Brinda Stanley

PUBLIC PARTNERS

Debbie Gargalis, OED
Teri Simonis, TEC
Jennifer Hills, BMCC

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Nellie Hibbert
Ben Boswell

RESOURCE PARTNERS

Annette Shelton-Tideman, OED

GUESTS

Bob Tackett, ALF-CIO

STAFF

Tara Bishop

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Bob Keyser welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 9:10am. Introductions were made by all attending.

STRATEGY #6 UPDATE

Debbie Gargalis and Kathy Gover-Shaw provided an update on the career fair that is scheduled for March 7th, 2008 for Baker High School students.

A conference call was not held due to staff changes. Tara Bishop will reschedule the call.

Debbie reported that the career fair is progressing. The career fair will have a main speaker and three break-out sessions. There are two students focused on making it happen with the assistance of OEC and OED. Employers have been contacted but only one response has been received to date. OEC will be contacting employers. Volunteers are needed to meet with employers after the event in order to help evaluate the success of the fair.

Jennifer Hills suggested the possibility of focusing on Career Pathways and Nellie suggested having a break-out session focused on alternative wind energy.

There was concern that 20 minute break-out sessions would not be a sufficient amount of time for employers to provide the necessary information. It was suggested to narrow the break outs to two in order to allow for more time.

Bob asked what the Board could do to help but at this time the school and the students need to make the decisions. Debbie will e-mail the Board if help is needed.

EMPLOYER WORKFORCE TRAINING FUND UPDATE

Teri Simonis provided a report on the Workforce Response Team.

A meeting will be held after the R13WSO meeting and a quorum will be present. Three applications will be reviewed and presented for approval.

Teri also reported that they will be discussing combining the core and expanded team to form one team.

All funds must be obligated by March 31st, 2008 and spent by May 30, 2009.

TOCOWA QUARTERLY MEETING UPDATE

Teri Simonis, Nellie Hibbert, and Kathy Gover-Shaw provided an update on the TOCOWA quarterly meeting.

RWIB Staff Meeting: Best practices on attracting and retaining private sector members were shared. Region 13 was highlighted for the work that is being done on Strategy #6 and #9. 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. Annette Shelton-Tideman will check on the possibility of having a presentation on the system at the next R13WSO meeting.

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.

RWIB MEMBERSHIP

Labor Representative: Bob Tackett, Labor Liaison - AFL-CIO, attended the meeting in order to assist the Board in finding a representative to fill the currently vacant Labor position. Bob works closely with the Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development coordinating the efforts of business, labor and public sector in order to provide rapid response activities to those employees affected by layoffs. Bob will be assisting the Board in filling the vacant position.

Veteran Representative: The Board discussed the need of having a Veteran representative as a resource partner at the R13WSO meetings. Board members were asked to talk to Veterans they think might be interested and have the passion and time to serve. This item will be addressed again at the next Board meeting.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Debbie Gargalis reported that Oregon Employment Department's Workforce and Economic Research Department will be conducting a Vacancy Survey for Oregon as a whole and six broad geographic regions. The report for Eastern Oregon would encompass workforce regions 12, 13, and 14. Regions can request that a survey be completed for their individual region for a cost of \$6,000.00. The Board did not find it necessary to have a report specific to R13.

The Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development and Oregon Employment Department have contracted with Greg Newton in order to assist the departments in coming together to eliminate duplication of service and provide seamless delivery. Debbie reported that the RWIB will be the entity that provides oversight and advisement. An announcement will be made next month.

Jennifer Hills reported that Blue Mountain Community College is taking applications for their Diesel Mechanic Program. Due to a grant received from the Department of Labor the program is tuition free; therefore, students pay for tools and fees only. The Welding Program is also tuition free. Applications and information for the programs are available at www.bluecc.edu.

Nellie Hibbert shared that she recently gave a presentation on the importance of Soft Skills. All employers agreed that without soft skills opportunities are limited.

Ben Boswell thanked the private sector members for their participation and for taking the time to come to the meetings. He stressed the importance of keeping the focus on the value of the private sector. Bob Keyser followed up by saying that we need to take time at each meeting to have an agenda item dedicated to the private sector.

The Board discussed the need for K12 representation on the Board. The consensus of the Board is to have K12 representation in an advisory position.

Teri Simonis stated that it would be helpful to have strategy #6 and #9 as well as the mission statement put on a poster board and displayed in the R13WSO meeting room. Tara will have these items displayed at the next meeting.

The Board discussed the possibility of making presentations to service clubs as a way to reach the younger youth.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45am.

NEXT MEETING

February 29th, 2008

9:00am

Union-Baker ESD

Island City, OR