

**WASHINGTON STATE
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 152
January 27, 2011**

Ms. Cindy Zehnder called the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) meeting to order at 9 a.m. at Washington State Department of Labor and Industries, Tumwater. The following Board members and officers were present:

Cindy Zehnder, Chair

Creigh H. Agnew, Representing Business

Andres Aguirre for Susan Dreyfus, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)

Troy Hutson for Susan Dreyfus, DSHS

Steve Frazier for Mark Mattke, Representing Local Government

Mike Hudson, Representing Business

Rick Bender, Representing Labor

Jeff Johnson, Representing Labor

Lori Province, Representing Labor

Kathleen Lopp for Randy Dorn, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

Daniel Malarkey for Rogers Weed, Department of Commerce

Dixie Simmons for Charlie Earl, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC)

Beth Thew, Representing Labor

Paul Trause, Employment Security Department (ESD)

Eleni Papadakis, Executive Director

Chair's Report

Ms. Cindy Zehnder welcomed the Workforce Board and guests to the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries and introductions were made. The Board recognized Mr. Rick Bender for his 11 years of service to Washington and the Workforce Board with a standing ovation. Ms. Zehnder shared her recent visit to the Spokane Area Workforce Development Council meeting, and announced her plans to attend more WDC meetings around the state. Ms. Beth Thew thanked Ms. Zehnder for her participation at the Spokane Area Workforce Development Council meeting. Ms. Zehnder asked Ms. Thew to attend the upcoming National Association of State Workforce Board Chairs meeting.

Motion 11-152-01

Mr. Daniel Malarkey moved to adopt the November 18, 2010 minutes. Ms. Dixie Simmons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Eleni Papadakis shared her recent presentations. The materials in the Brown folder were introduced and discussed. Mr. Bryan Wilson provided an update on the latest activity involving the Governor's Workforce Investment Act Discretionary Funds. The recommendations being considered include additional support for "On the Job Training" consistent with the Board's Retooling initiative. Mr. Mike

Hudson mentioned the need to emphasize services for disabled workers to employers and Ms. Beth Thew mentioned an emphasis on serving veterans.

Coordinating Workforce and Economic Development around Strategic Industry Clusters: A Progress Report on Substitute House Bill 1323

Mr. Bryan Wilson and Ms. Joyce Brake presented the materials for Tab 2. The Legislature enacted Substitute House Bill 1323 in 2009 and established industry clusters as a central organizing framework for workforce and economic development planning and service delivery. The Board discussed aligning the state and local strategic clusters and the eventual inclusion of the clusters in “High Skills, High Wages” and local strategic plans. Mr. Troy Hutson suggested including government as a cluster when appropriate. Mr. Mike Hudson inquired as to which strategic clusters received state funds versus federal funds. Ms. Beth Thew asked about Industry Skill Panels and Mr. Steve Frazier shared how his area, the Olympic Workforce Development Area, is sustaining the work of the health care Skill Panel. Mr. Daniel Malarkey expressed his appreciation of the work Mr. Wilson and Ms. Brake did in this effort, and also acknowledged the Department of Commerce reduced their staff for business services from 60 to 33. Ms. Cindy Zehnder also expressed her appreciation to the team for their work.

Extending And Appending Local Area Strategic Plans

Mr. Martin McCallum presented the materials for Tab 3. The Workforce Development Councils (WDCs) design their local area Strategic Plans following guidelines adopted by the Workforce Board. The goals, objectives and strategies in the current WDC Strategic Plans are aligned and consistent with *High Skills, High Wages 2008-2018: Washington’s Strategic Plan for Workforce Development*. The WDC Strategic Plans expire on June 30, 2011. Workforce Board staff recommend the end date of the current WDC Strategic Plans be extended through June 30, 2013. The Workforce Board would issue guidelines to the WDCs for their use in developing new Strategic Plans due to the Workforce Board on March 31, 2013. Mr. Mike Hudson expressed concern that a lot of work needed to happen to align local and state clusters and complete the next steps involving *High Skills, High Wages* and the local plans.

Mr. McCallum described how the state’s regional strategic cluster list and the Workforce Development Councils’ regional strategic cluster lists should be updated periodically to keep pace with changing economic conditions. Staff recommends that the Workforce Board work jointly with the Workforce Development Councils to update and align regional strategic cluster lists and, once this work is completed, append updated lists to state and local strategic plans.

Motion 11-152-02

Mr. Mike Hudson moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, following the adoption of a High Skills, High Wages plan update in 2012, issue guidelines to the Workforce Development Councils on the development of new local area Strategic Plans for the Workforce Development System and that the end date of the current local area Strategic Plans for the Workforce Development System be extended through June 30, 2013. Further, the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board and the Workforce Development Councils shall append their strategic plans to incorporate updated and aligned lists of regional strategic clusters once a six-month joint review and update process is completed. Ms. Beth Thew seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Workforce Training Results

Mr. Dave Pavelchek presented the materials for Tab 4. The Net Impact Study is conducted every 4-5 years, and its results are published in the Workforce Training Results publication. It is the most methodologically sophisticated study of workforce participant outcomes routinely conducted by any state. Participants' outcomes are compared to the outcomes of similar individuals who faced the same regional labor markets at the same time, but did not participate in workforce training programs. Ms. Beth Thew asked about I-BEST at the secondary level. Ms. Cindy Zehnder asked for information comparing the last net impact study to the current results. Ms. Dixie Simmons asked about overlap of worker retraining and Workforce Investment Act dislocated worker numbers. Mr. Daniel Malarkey inquired about the cost benefits of these programs. Ms. Zehnder suggested using this data to drive changes, such as in *High Skills, High Wages*. She also suggested that a marketing campaign was in order once the data is complete. Ms. Thew felt we should share the information with our Congressional delegation in advance of the Workforce Investment Act Reauthorization. Mr. Steve Frazier suggested getting the information on the National Association of Workforce Boards website and also providing it to local Workforce Development Council business and labor members.

Aerospace Apprenticeships And Training

Laura Hopkins, Executive Director of the Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee, presented the material for Tab 5. She updated the Board on the work of the Joint Committee and other aerospace training efforts. She mentioned a possible tax incentive for aerospace apprentices that Representative Tim Probst is working on. Ms. Cindy Zehnder suggested Ms. Hopkins do a presentation to the Jobs Cabinet at the Governor's Office, and asked Mr. Daniel Malarkey to make that connection.

Retooling Washington's Workforce

Mr. Bryan Wilson and Ms. Amy Leneker presented the material for Tab 6. The Workforce Board was updated on the progress of the Retooling efforts thus far. Ms. Cindy Zehnder inquired on the usage of the Resource Guide. Ms. Beth Thew asked about impact on the urban areas versus the rural areas affected by the unemployment rate. Mr. Paul Trause gave the Board a report on the recent Unemployment Insurance data. Ms. Cindy Zehnder asked for a report at the March meeting, including efforts at the local level.

Wanted: Work Experience For Young Adults

Mr. Tim Sweeney presented the materials for Tab 7. State law passed in 2008 called on the Workforce Board to "conduct research into workforce development programs designed to reduce the high unemployment rate among young people between approximately eighteen and twenty-four years of age." While the Workforce Board received no funding for this project, staff produced a report in November 2008 titled: *Reconnecting Young Adults, 18-24*. Mr. Sweeney was joined by Mr. Mike Bogatay, Executive Director, Washington Student Association. Mr. Bogatay is working on a legislative proposal to create a website for matching students and employers interested in internships.

Legislative Update

Ms. Joyce Brake, Ms. Carolyn McKinnon and Mr. Wes Pruitt presented the materials for Tab 8. The 2011 Legislative Session commenced on January 10, and is scheduled to adjourn on April 24, 2011.

Leading up to this Session, the Legislature passed a supplemental budget for the current biennium and the staff reviewed the major impacts of these budgets on workforce development programs. Staff also briefed members on the proposed Puget Sound Conservation Corps programs and the recommendation that the proposed be targeted to serve disadvantaged youth.

Motion 11-152-03

Ms. Creigh Agnew moved that the Workforce Board encourage the Legislature to consider establishing disadvantaged youth as a priority for service in the Conservation Corps program. Ms. Lori Province seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Motion 11-152-04

Ms. Beth Thew moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board add the Student Achievement Initiative to the Board's priorities for the 2011-2013 operating budget. Mr. Daniel Malarkey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Adjourned 2 p.m.