



MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 184 January 29, 2015

Board Members Present:

Beth Thew, Acting Chair
Creigh H. Agnew, Representing Business
Chris Alejano, Representing Target Populations
Lee Anne Caylor, Representing Business
Jeff Johnson, Representing Labor
Gary Chandler, Representing Business
Mark Mattke, Representing Local Government
Jim Crabbe for Marty Brown, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC)
Kathleen Lopp for Randy Dorn, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
Tim Probst for Dale Peinecke, Employment Security Department (ESD)
Carolyn McKinnon for Brian Bonlender, Department of Commerce (Commerce)
David Stillman for Kevin Quigley, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)

Board Staff Present

Eleni Papadakis, Executive Director

Welcome and Introductions

Acting Board Chair Ms. Beth Thew called the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) meeting to order at 9 a.m. at the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board's office in Olympia, WA.

Chair's Report

Motion 14-184-01: Ms. Beth Thew moved to adopt the November 20, 2014, Board Meeting Minutes with corrections. The motion passed unanimously.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

Mr. Jeff Johnson and Mr. Gary Chandler updated the Board on the latest Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Steering Committee Meeting. They informed the Board that in response to the discussion regarding committee members, an invitation to sit on the Steering Committee had been extended to the Department of Commerce, which was accepted by Alex Pietsch. They reported that the Committee members asked for a series of "101 sessions" at subsequent meetings to help gain a better understanding of each of the core programs.

Ms. Terri Colbert reported on the afternoon session, where the subcommittee co-chairs took some time to get acquainted and discussed how to move their work forward. She noted the subcommittees are in the process of holding their initial meetings and setting their meeting schedules. A schedule of all WIOA Committee meetings can be accessed at <http://wtb.wa.gov/WIOA.asp>.

Initial Designation of Local Workforce Development Areas

Mr. Jeff Johnson provided background information on the Steering Committee's discussion regarding initial designation of the existing Workforce Development Councils (WDCs). He noted the current WDCs are under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) designation until July 15, 2015. He communicated the Steering Committee's perspective which is that part of the work of envisioning how the system should be improved involves a full dialogue on serving employers and workers within the confines of existing resources, and that to further that goal, it makes sense to have an initial designation of the existing WDCs. He reported that the Steering Committee discussed the importance of maintaining consistency throughout the planning process to provide stability to the system and ease the process of moving forward.

The Board discussed the details of initial designation of WDCs as it relates to the individual councils and boards. Mr. Gary Chandler pointed out that the recommendation to grandfather in the current WDCs as they are today does not mean they will remain that way after June 30, 2016. There will be time throughout the planning process to evaluate the current structures and determine whether or not adjustments would be beneficial.

Mr. Chandler made a motion to approve a recommendation to the Governor for initial designation of the existing 12 Workforce Development Areas currently in operation under WIA. The motion was amended to recommend that the current composition of WDCs hold steady until June 30, 2016. Mr. Johnson seconded the amended motion and it passed unanimously.

Legislative Update

Ms. Nova Gattman announced her new role as Legislative Director and introduced the Board's new Workforce Program and Policy Analyst, Eric Wolf.

Mr. Wolf provided an overview of the Legislative Taskforce on Career Opportunities. The result of that taskforce was a report to Legislature with the following recommendations:

- Assure STEM opportunities are available
- Increase student and parent awareness of high school graduation requirements
- Increase support for career guidance and counseling services
- Incorporate Common Core into Career and Technical Education (CTE)
- Better coordinate statewide CTE policy for equivalent credits
- Support programs like Career Guidance Washington

Ms. Gattman went over the themes for legislation currently being monitored by the Board's staff. She updated the Board on the various committee hearings and work sessions she and other staff members are participating in. She noted the Governor did endorse the budget request for an additional Consumer Protection unit staff member to enhance the Board's work with licensing and monitoring private career schools. She also provided an updated list of partner agency budget priorities that were funded in the Governor's budget.

The meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.