

**WASHINGTON STATE
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 160
January 27, 2012**

Ms. Cindy Zehnder called the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. at the Washington State Labor and Industries Building in Tumwater. The following Board members and officers were present:

Cindy Zehnder, Chair

Amy Johnson for Don Brunell, Representing Business
Lutz Ziob, Representing Business
Creigh H. Agnew, Representing Business
Lee Newgent, Representing Labor
Jeff Johnson, Representing Labor
Beth Thew, Representing Labor, Vice Chair
Mark Mattke, Representing Local Government
Charlie Earl, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges
Kathleen Lopp for Randy Dorn, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Anne Goranson for Paul Trause, Employment Security Department
David Stillwell for Robin Arnold-Williams, Department of Social and Health Services
Leigh Felton for Rogers Weed, Department of Commerce

Eleni Papadakis, Executive Director

Chair's Report

Ms. Cindy Zehnder welcomed staff and guests to the meeting and introductions were made. Ms. Zehnder shared the details about the upcoming Governor's Best Practices Award ceremony. The 2011 winners for the Best Practices are Big Bend Community College for Commercial Driver's License, Pre-Employment Training Project for Heath Tecna Aerospace, Work Ready Spokane, and Seeking Opportunities, Developing Occupations. She thanked Ms. Beth Thew for chairing the special meeting on December 21. She also welcomed Ms. Leigh Felton from the Department of Commerce.

Motion 12-160-01

Ms. Beth Thew moved to adopt the November 17, 2011 minutes. Ms. Creigh H. Agnew seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Motion 12-160-02

Ms. Beth Thew moved to adopt the December 21, 2011 special board meeting minutes. Mr. Lee Newgent seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Director's Report

Ms. Eleni Papadakis reported on Senate Bill 6402 and thanked Mr. Jeff Johnson and Mr. Charlie Earl for testifying in support of the Workforce Board. Ms. Papadakis highlighted the Manufacturing Institute

Grant and the National Association of Manufacturers Report. She thanked the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, The Center of Excellence in Aerospace and Advanced Manufacturing and the Association of Washington Business for all their hard work. Ms. Amy Johnson provided a report to the Board on 2012 Challenges and Opportunities for Manufacturers in Washington State published by the Association of Washington Business. Ms. Dixie Simmons mentioned Boeing's interest in the manufacturing education credential. Ms. Creigh Agnew asked about best practices in other states. Ms. Papadakis explained that the grant from the Gates Foundation was to pilot and explore best practices in four states and Washington was one of the states. Mr. Lutz Ziob asked if the credential would be used as a tool to hire rather than a requirement to hire.

Ms. Papadakis asked Mr. Tim Sweeney to report on a few of the Workforce Board's publications. He gave a brief outline of the winners of the Governor's Best Practices Awards. He highlighted the Evergreen Jobs Initiative, High Skills, High Wages Annual Progress Report, Healthcare Personnel Shortage Task Force Report and the Workforce Training Results Report. He added that all 30 of the Workforce Development Council (WDC) success stories in Retooling Washington's Workforce report could be read on the Workforce Board's website. Ms. Cindy Zehnder thanked Mr. Sweeney and Ms. Terry Teale for their work on the Retooling Washington's Workforce efforts and the WDC stories. She also thanked Mr. Bryan Wilson for his leadership during Ms. Papadakis' absence.

High Skills, High Wages Planning

Mr. Bryan Wilson presented the materials for Tab 2. As discussed at the November meeting, the Board must update "High Skills, High Wages: Washington's Strategic Plan for Workforce Development," by December 1, 2012, and present it to the Governor and Legislature. The Board assigned a committee to consider the process for updating the plan and to report back. The committee met in early January and came up with a proposal that was first shared with the Interagency Committee for their review. Ms. Amy Johnson asked if there were other states that would be examined. Mr. Charlie Earl suggested looking at other advanced nations since this is a global situation. Mr. Wilson mentioned that the Workforce Board is involved with the OEDC. Mr. David Stillman inquired on the environmental scans. Mr. Wilson told Mr. Stillman that the staff will be meeting in the following week to develop the questions. Ms. Cindy Zehnder asked that the whole Board be sent the questions for feedback.

Motion 12-160-03

Mr. David Stillman moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board commence work on *High Skills, High Wages 2012*. Mr. Lee Newgent seconded. The motion passed.

Eligible Training Provider List Performance Standards

Ms. Karen Pyle presented the material for Tab 3. The Board adopts the criteria used to determine the eligibility of programs authorized to provide training funded by Workforce Investment Act Title I-B Individual Training Accounts. The same criteria are used to determine eligibility to train dislocated workers receiving additional unemployment insurance benefits under the state's Training Benefits program.

The proposed criteria for 2012-2013 raises the earnings criteria in order to maintain the policy of matching the federal poverty guidelines, and raises the hourly wage criteria to adjust for inflation. Mr. David Stillman inquired on the amount of training that was funded by Workforce Investment Act dollars. There was discussion about the impact of the wage criteria on availability of ETP training programs in

rural areas due to lower wages there versus urban areas. Ms. Dixie Simmons stressed the importance of early childhood development. Ms. Leigh Felton asked about the number of students that would be impacted by programs losing eligibility. Ms. Beth Thew expressed concern about tax dollars being used to train for low wage jobs. Ms. Cindy Zehnder suggested that in the next analysis the Workforce Board should watch for unintended impacts of the minimum standards caused by the poor economy.

Motion 12-160-04

Mr. Mark Mattke moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, on behalf of the Governor, adopt the Performance Criteria for Determining Training Program Eligibility for July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013. Ms. Beth Thew seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Carl Perkins for Institutional Services (Actions)

Mr. Walt Wong presented the materials for Tab 8. To assure that each state provides services for individuals in institutions, the 2006 Perkins Act requires the state to determine an amount for services, up to one percent of the state allotment for Title I, for individuals in state institutions, such as state correctional institutions and institutions that serve individuals with disabilities.

The two proposals for the Board's consideration serve youth and adults respectively. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction proposes to serve youth in three institutions, offering IT Academy classes along with two Network Cabling introductory courses, leading to industry-based certifications. The State Board for Community and Technical Colleges proposes to provide I-BEST programs in two adult institutions: a Building Maintenance Program at Cedar Creek Corrections Center and a Horticulture Program at the Washington Corrections Center for Women. These two I-BEST programs will offer GED completions as well as short-term industry certifications. Ms. Cindy Zehnder asked whether the number of individuals served with the one percent funds remain the same. Ms. Beth Thew asked about the location of the students. Ms. Kathleen Lopp answered that all the students are institutionalized. Mr. Mark Mattke asked if the funding levels resulted in reduced outcomes.

Motion 12-160-05

Mr. Lee Newgent moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board divide the available one percent funds equally between the two proposals. Ms. Beth Thew seconded the motion. The motion passed. Mr. Charlie Earl, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and Ms. Kathleen Lopp from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction abstained.

“A Skilled and Educated Workforce: An Assessment of the Number and Type of Higher Education Training Credentials Required to Meet Employer Demand”

Mr. Bryan Wilson, Mr. Randy Spaulding and Ms. Tina Bloomer presented the material for Tab 4. The joint report by the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, the Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the Workforce Board looks at the supply and demand in the state for skilled and educated workers. Ms. Cindy Zehnder asked for more information about the mid-level supply. Ms. Anne Goranson asked for more clarification. Mr. Lee Newgent identified concerns about aerospace. Mr. Lutz Ziob asked about the data and concerns about misconceptions about available jobs. He also indicated interest in more detail concerning information technology. Mr. Charlie Earl said he would like to see data on total employment, total job openings, and the number of net-immigrants as part of the report.

Legislative Update

Mr. Wes Pruitt and Ms. Sonja Hallum presented the materials for Tab 5. The 2012 Legislative Session commenced on January 9, and will adjourn on March 9. The Workforce Board reviewed operating agency budget proposals and passed a motion on those proposals at the November Board meeting. The Board also reviewed proposals by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Governor related to training for aerospace and advanced manufacturing and passed a motion in support of their proposals.

During a Special Session in December of 2011, the Legislature passed a supplemental budget for the current biennium, as well as a number of the Governor's aerospace training proposals (subject to funding).

A digest of all workforce-related bills that have been introduced in the 2011 Special Session and the current Regular Session was outlined. Throughout the session, staff will provide weekly bulletins on legislative happenings and a weekly hearings schedule through our newsletter and website.

Retooling Washington's Workforce

Mr. Martin McCallum and Ms. Amy Leneker presented the materials for Tab 7. In the last 12 months, state and regional Retooling work teams have been engaged in activities to address the following questions:

- 1) How do we work together to help the unemployed who need to have their skills retooled for jobs now and in the future?
- 2) How do we work together to respond to the needs of employers when they come to us to help them have the workforce they need now and in the future?

Board members heard updates on the Retooling Initiative for the next six months (January - June 2012) for the three Retooling work groups and work plans.

AmeriCorps

Mr. Bill Basl presented a slide show on AmeriCorps. Ms. Cindy Zehnder suggested we add volunteering to the internship discussion. She also suggested a follow up with Mr. Basl and his board.

Workforce Training Results

Mr. Dave Pavelchek presented the materials for Tab 9. The Board heard a staff presentation on further results from our evaluation of the Workforce Training System. The presentation included employment outcomes during the 2009-10 year, and survey data from workers and students who participated in workforce programs during that year. Mr. David Stillman asked about individual colleges and was interested in additional details. Ms. Lori Province asked where individuals were counted if they were participants in more than one program. Mr. Pavelchek will go into more detail offline.

Adjourned 3:10 p.m.