

**WASHINGTON STATE
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 127
July 9 & 10, 2008**

Mr. David Harrison called the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. at Doubletree Guest Suites, Seattle, Washington. The following Board members and officers were present:

David Harrison, Board Chair
Creigh H. Agnew, Representing Business
Rick Bender, Representing Labor
Charlie Earl, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC)
Jim Crabbe, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC)
Mike Hudson, Representing Business
John Aultman, for Terry Bergeson, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
Karen Lee, Employment Security Department (ESD)
Nancy Pringle, Employment Security Department (ESD)
Tony Lee, Representing Targeted Populations
Janet Lewis, Representing Labor
Lynnae Rutledge, for Robin Arnold-Williams, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)
Kris Stadelman, Representing Local Government
Beth Thew, Representing Labor
Juli Wilkerson, Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development

Eleni Papadakis, Executive Director

Invited Guests

Steve Frazier, Director, Olympic Workforce Development Council
Del DelaBarre, Chair, Olympic Workforce Development Council
Mike Kennedy, Executive Director, Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Council
Nancie Payne, Chair, Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Council
Gay Dubigk, Executive Director, Northwest Workforce Development Council
Dick Nord, Chair, Northwest Workforce Development Council
Cheri Rayburn, Chair, North Central Workforce Development Council
Dave Petersen, Executive Director, North Central Workforce Development Council
Dennis Loney, Chair, Workforce Development Council Tacoma-Pierce County
Linda Nguyen, Executive Director, Tacoma-Pierce County Workforce Development Council
Julie Meyer, Chair, Spokane Area Workforce Development Council
Mark Mattke, Workforce Strategies and Planning Dir., Spokane Area Workforce Development Council
Bill Clemens, Chair, Eastern Partnership Workforce Development Council
Tom O'Brien, Executive Director, Eastern Partnership Workforce Development Council
Richard Berkowitz, Director, Workforce Development Council Seattle-King County
Patrick Baldoz, Director, South Central Workforce Development Council
Jesse Rodriguez, Vice-Chair, South Central Workforce Development Council
Sue Ambler, President/CEO, Workforce Development Council Snohomish County
Dale Peinecke, Chair, Workforce Development Council Snohomish County
Dale Lemmons, Chair, Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council
Brandi Stewart-Wood, Program Manager, Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council

Workforce Development Council Chairs Dinner

Mr. Harrison welcomed members of the Board, and the Workforce Development Council Chairs and Executive Directors to the meeting. Mr. Harrison identified the three discussion items for the evening. Discussion 1: Washington's Workforce Compact and the defined role of the Workforce Development Councils (WDCs); Discussion 2: The WDCs, as a critical entity in our workforce system, wide funding swings at the federal level, and how to create a strategy to achieve financial stability for Washington's WDCs. Discussion; 3: The upcoming legislative session. Mr. Bryan Wilson provided an overview of the "Skills for the Next Washington" proposal that the Workforce Board is considering for the 2009 Legislative session. There was a good discussion. Mr. Harrison asked the Workforce Board staff to work with Washington Workforce Association (WWA) on the idea of placing the WDCs into state statute. In addition, Mr. Harrison agreed that the Workforce Board will work with the WDCs on two other issues. The first is to provide summer employment for youth. The second is providing training to working adults. Mr. Harrison also suggested meeting with Senator Murray and others during the coming recess.

Welcome and Chair's Report

Mr. Harrison welcomed members of the Board and guests to the meeting and announced that TVW would be recording. He also thanked the Board for participating in the meeting with the WDCs last night and is looking forward to January's meeting with the 12 WDCs. Mr. Harrison recognized Mr. Jim Crabbe for his service on the Workforce Board and congratulated him on his future endeavors.

Skills for the Next Washington: Coordinating Workforce and Economic Development in Industry Clusters—Action

Mr. Wilson presented the materials for tab 1. Mr. Wilson stated that in 2007 Governor Gregoire directed the Board, the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (CTED), and the Economic Development Commission to "develop a plan to support coordination at the state and regional levels, with a special emphasis on key economic clusters." During the past year, our three agencies have worked with other agencies and stakeholders at the state and local level to develop such a plan. *Skills for the Next Washington*, is the result of that collaboration. In May and June, the Workforce Board and CTED sponsored six regional cluster academies around the state. At the academies, participants had the opportunity to discuss a draft version of *Skills for the Next Washington*.

The Workforce Board discussed state budget implications and the deficit forecasted for 2009-2011. It was suggested that the final document identify items for legislative action. Mr. Mike Hudson expressed his appreciation of the importance of cluster strategies. Ms. Creigh Agnew asked for clarifications on the recommendations. Ms. Beth Thew commented that tourism should not be considered a high wage sector. Mr. Rick Bender recommended that the WDC Chairs and Directors meet again to discuss the legislative proposals before the Board makes a final recommendation. Mr. Harrison added that Ms. Juli Wilkerson and Mr. Lee along with the Governor attended a meeting regarding the Blue Green Coalition. Mr. Hudson added that the private sector, labor and business together are driving some of the biggest and most impressive innovations in green job technology in the state. Ms. Karen Lee asked about the sectors that are already defined in statute. A final document will be presented to the Board for approval at the September meeting.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Eleni Papadakis shared the Cluster Academies work and *High Skills, High Wages* meetings that were held across the state. She also shared an update on the LifeLong Learning Account initiatives. Mr. Bender expressed concerns about the LiLA concept with respect to what happens to workers with health and pension plans. Ms. Papadakis said she has shared these concerns with Center for Adult Experiential Learning (CAEL). She and Ms. Thew will continue to work on this issue with CAEL in respect to pension plans and healthcare. Mr. Hudson shared the same concerns with Mr. Bender. Ms. Papadakis mentioned the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) subcommittee work related to their master plan. Ms. Papadakis mentioned her recent meetings at the Economic Development Commission, and noted Mr. Bender, Ms. Wilkerson, and Ms. Lee also sit on the Board and that Mr. Bender Co-Chairs the Workforce Development subcommittee with Mr. John Gardner. Mr. Bender added there will be a recommendation presented to the full Economic Development Commission by November. He hopes to report more at the next Workforce Board meeting. Ms. Papadakis reminded Board members about the Governor's 2008 Economic and Workforce Development Conference, The Next Washington: Growing Jobs & Income in a Global Economy at the Lynnwood Convention Center on September 3 & 4, 2008.

Motion 08-127-01

Ms. Thew moved to adopt the March 27, 2008 minutes. Ms. Nancy Pringle seconded the motion. Ms. Agnew mentioned changes. The motion passed with changes made.

***High Skills, High Wages* – Draft Plan**

Ms. Madeleine Thompson presented the material for tab 3. Our emerging knowledge-based economy has increased demand for workers with more advanced skills and higher levels of education than in the past. The upside of these changes is that many of these jobs are not only the fastest growing, but also the best paying. To obtain these jobs, workers will generally require some form of postsecondary education or training, said Ms. Thompson.

Youth Section - Ms. Wilkerson suggested summer youth-based programs. Ms. Agnew would like to see a reference to the WASL in the *High Skills, High Wages* document. Mr. Bender cautioned the Board on the controversial issue towards WASL and the legislature. Ms. Agnew was supportive of language change that would identify the expectations of high standards. Mr. Don Kay suggested getting the draft to organizations that serve students with disabilities. Mr. Harrison agreed that we should increase efforts to include stakeholders. Mr. Charlie Earl added there should be some language on dropout retrieval efforts. Mr. Harrison suggested the September Workforce Board meeting include dropout prevention activities. Mr. Hudson also suggested some additional language on Job Corps efforts, including the connection with the WDC's, and some language change on collaborative work with the State Board of Education (SBE) and CTE inclusion results.

Adult and Industry Section - Mr. Bender talked about the Women in Trades programs, mentoring, and apprenticeship programs. Ms. Stadelman would like some reference to case management efforts. Ms. Thew wanted a clear statement on the cluster work and the need for wage progression and family wage jobs.

Retreat Discussion

The Workforce Board agreed to change the retreat location and duration to one day (August 13) in Seattle. The Workforce Board identified the primary discussion items as student retention and retaining people in the workforce system. There will also be a brief discussion on Board effectiveness items.

Washington's Apprenticeship System

Ms. Elizabeth Smith and Mr. Jody Robbins presented the materials for tab 4. Ms. Smith recommended the Workforce Board create a diverse task force to examine ways to better integrate and utilize registered apprenticeship in Washington state as a postsecondary and talent development training system. There was discussion around potential budget implications and working with partner agencies. Ms. Wilkerson mentioned using existing efforts as a way to promote apprenticeship. Mr. Bender asked about apprenticeship completion rates. Ms. Smith invited the Board to the apprenticeship event being held at Bates College focusing on youth. Mr. Harrison suggested an update on Navigation 101 tied to apprenticeship at the September meeting in Wenatchee. He also asked that the Interagency Committee (IC) work this issue and identify agencies that could be liaisons to apprenticeship. A motion to accomplish these tasks was made. It was also suggested that the IC identify others outside the IC, such as Department of Transportation, who could be involved in this effort.

Motion 08-127-02

Mr. Crabbe moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board adopt the identified tasks. Ms. Thew seconded the motion. The motion passed.

2009-2011 Biennial Budget Strategic Plan (Action)

Mr. Walt Wong presented the materials in tab 5. Washington's state agencies are required under RCW 43.88 to develop a strategic approach to the budgeting process, including the identification of goals, objectives, strategies, and performance measures. The 2009-2013 Strategic Plan builds upon the work identified in the 2008-2009 Strategic Plan adopted by the Board at the May meeting. The agency strategic plan continues to focus on the major goal areas of: Youth, Adult, and Industry with strategies that include policy, program, research, and communications functional areas. The plan also includes supporting research, leadership and operations objectives and strategies. Together, these goals, objectives, and strategies reflect the work at the agency. Finally, the plan includes performance measures for each objective. Mr. Bender asked about the cost of doing these strategies. Mr. Hudson and Ms. Wilkerson spoke favorably about the content and work associated with the plan. Ms. Papadakis thanked the staff for all the work that went into the plan.

Motion 08-127-03

Mr. Hudson moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board approve the 2009-2013 Strategic Plan. Mr. Crabbe seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.