

**WASHINGTON STATE
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 143
November 19, 2009**

Mr. Marty Brown called the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. at Renton Technical College. The following Board members and officers were present:

Creigh Agnew, Business Representative
Lori Province for Rick Bender, Labor Representative
Karen Lee, Employment Security Department (ESD)
Mike Hudson, Business Representative
Janet Lewis, Labor Representative
Betty Klattenhoff for Randy Dorn, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
Mark Mattke, Local Government Representative
Don Kay for Susan Dreyfus, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)
Charlie Earl, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC)
Jim Crabbe for Charlie Earl, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC)

Eleni Papadakis, Executive Director

Welcome and Chair's Report

Mr. Marty Brown welcomed the Board and staff to Renton Technical College and introductions were made. Mr. Brown announced the latest budget projections for the biennium. He also reminded guests that we would be meeting with the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) at 10 a.m. and resume our meeting after the lunch break. He also mentioned the Lifelong Learning Account dinner with participants and their employers. Mr. Brown expressed his appreciation to Mr. Tim Sweeney for his job on the Workforce and Economic Development conference that was held in Spokane.

Motion 09-143-01

Ms. Creigh H. Agnew moved to adopt the September 24, 2009 minutes. Ms. Lori Province seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Eleni Papadakis shared her recent national meetings: Lifelong Learning Accounts (LiLA) accompanied by Mr. Patrick Woods; Career and Technical Education Directors; and the National Governors Association Sector Strategies meeting. Ms. Papadakis acknowledged Mr. Tim Sweeney and his staff for a successful conference. She expressed that this conference had everything a conference should have, including outstanding speakers.

Mr. Charlie Earl provided a brief summary on "Achieving the Dream," which is a multiyear national initiative to help more community college students succeed, particularly with students that traditionally have faced significant barriers to success. He also mentioned the "Student Achievement Initiative," funded by the Ford and Gates Foundations.

Ms. Janet Lewis shared the first “Veterans in Construction Electrical” (VICE) program graduation details. The VICE program is a joint venture between Seattle Local 46 and the Puget Sound JATC and has seen their first group of graduates whose military training helped fast-track them toward a career in the electrical field.

Ms. Province mentioned an upcoming meeting between the Washington State Labor Council and the Department of Commerce. She also mentioned that the state of California’s Education, Diversity, and Growth in the Economy (EDGE) group will return to Washington for a two-day tour to learn about Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training (I-BEST) and skill panels. The group will include state legislators.

Mr. Don Kay mentioned that Ms. Lynnae Ruttledge was on her way to Washington, D.C. to meet with Mr. Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of Education.

Ms. Karen Lee complimented the Navigation 101 program after seeing it in action with her son.

Ms. Papadakis invited Board members to attend the Workforce Forum at South Seattle Community College on December 4, 2009.

Workforce Board meeting adjourned at 10 a.m.

Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board and the Higher Education Coordinating Board joint meeting

Higher Education Coordinating Board members present:

Jesus Hernandez, Chair

Charley Bingham

Ethelda Burke

Gene Colin

Bill Grinstein

Roberta Greene

Earl Hale

Andrew Helm

Nita Rinehart

Sam Smith

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Jesus Hernandez opened the joint meeting at 10 a.m. The members of both boards and the audience introduced themselves.

Renton Technical College (RTC) Interim President Steve Hanson welcomed the boards and commented that RTC was the perfect venue for a joint meeting of the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) and Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) as the primary mission is workforce education and basic skills. Renton Technical College has a diverse campus and a strong emphasis on Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training (I-BEST).

The joint meeting with the HECB included a discussion on how best to align the state’s workforce development efforts with the new System Design Plan being considered by the HECB. Ms. Papadakis and Mr. Bryan Wilson presented the materials on *High Skills, High Wages* and the Adult Workers Strategy. Ms. Jan Ignash presented the materials for the HECB’s System Design Plan. The primary recommendations in the System Design Plan are based on the work of the System Design group, state

partner agencies and public universities. The Plan's recommendations support improved college preparation of K-12 students and young working-age adults. Both Boards acknowledged the collaborative efforts of staff.

The joint meeting adjourned at noon and the Workforce Board reconvened their meeting at 1 p.m.

Gap Analysis of the Supply and Demand for Mid-level Training

Mr. Dave Pavelchek and Mr. James Hu presented the material for Tab 3. The Workforce Board conducts an annual review of the gaps between the supply and demand for workers with mid-level skills. Mr. Pavelchek shared that forecasters predict a slow recovery for job creation, and it may be 2012 or 2013 before demand for mid-level skills again exceeds the supply. Board members discussed the data.

Setting Performance Standards for the Eligible Training Provider List (Action)

Mr. Wilson presented the materials for Tab 4. The Workforce Board was asked to adopt the criteria used to determine the eligibility of programs 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 2009-2010 raises the earnings standard in order to maintain the policy of matching the federal poverty guidelines, and raises the hourly wage standard to adjust for inflation. Mr. Brown asked if these were "stretch goals" for completion rates. Mr. Mark Mattke added even though the base line was fair, he hoped the employment rates will be actually higher. Ms. Lori Province suggested a review of these standards before they come up for revision. The Workforce Board agreed to a more in-depth look at the Eligible Trainer Provider List standards during the coming year.

Motion 09-143-02

Ms. Lori Province moved to adopt the Performance Criteria for Determining Training Provider Eligibility for July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. Mr. Jim Crabbe seconded the motion. The motion passed.

2010 Operating Agency Budget and Policy Requests for Session (Action)

Mr. Wes Pruitt presented the materials in Tab 5. Included in this tab are the budget requests pertaining to workforce development for the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and the Employment Security Department. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction is not submitting any operating budget requests related to workforce development for the 2010-2011 supplemental budget. Ms. Karen Lee confirmed the Employment Security Department budget for SB5809 that is up for adjustment is General Fund State dollars. She also mentioned that the Employment Security Department does not have any contingency money that is not already allocated. Ms. Creigh Agnew asked for clarification that Employment Security is asking for extension of their current budget authority and not asking for more money for their budget. Mr. Don Kay expressed concern about the Department of Social and Health Services projected budget cuts. Ms. Agnew asked for a revised letter to Victor Moore the state's Budget Director. Ms. Janet Lewis asked for clarification on the ebb and flow of the Worker Retraining Program. Ms. Lori Province asked Mr. Crabbe what happens if the State Board for Community and Technical College does not get their budget proposal approved, what would that mean to the Worker Retraining Program. Ms. Agnew asked the Board to revise the motion given the budget situation.

Motion 09-143-03

Revised motion

Ms. Creigh Agnew moved to adopt that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board recognizes the current economic situation and budget shortfall and encourages the Governor and Legislature to re-prioritize state spending to accommodate the need for worker retraining. Ms. Janet Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Motion 09-143-04

Ms. Lori Province moved to adopt that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board endorses the Employment Security Department request to adjust the expenditure authority for worker retraining under E2SSB 5809 to allow the use of incentive funds in Fiscal Year 2011. Mr. Mike Hudson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Workforce Development System Review

Mr. Bryan Wilson, Ms. Tammy Fellin, and Ms. Amy Smith-Rubeck presented the material for Tab 6. The draft Review with recommendations will be released on November 24, 2009 and a final provided to the Governor on December 15, 2009. The Workforce Board will hold a special meeting on December 7, 2009 to discuss the draft. Mr. Mark Mattke inquired on the body of the draft. Ms. Lori Province asked if there would be a meeting of the Workforce Board members prior to the special meeting. Ms. Karen Lee mentioned that the Review showed customers are strongly influenced by their first contact with the system. Mr. Charlie Earl mentioned that the Review did not include K-12 and CTE and the Review revealed that there are uneven services across the Workforce Development areas. Mr. Marty Brown invited Workforce Board members to contact him prior to the December 7, 2009 meeting if needed.

In closing Mr. Brown suggested the Workforce Board meet periodically with other Boards of the state such as the Higher Education Coordinating Board, State Board of Education and the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges to cement relationships. Ms. Creigh Agnew asked for sufficient time at these meetings for thorough discussions. Ms. Karen Lee suggested a joint meeting with the Economic Development Commission. Mr. Brown raised the question of the Workforce Board by-laws and the need to designate a Chair in his absence. He asked Ms. Eleni Papadakis to share the current by-laws with the Board prior to the January 28, 2010 meeting for discussion.

Adjourn 3:22 p.m.