

**WASHINGTON STATE
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 126
MAY 14, 2008**

Mr. David Harrison called the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. at Greater Spokane Incorporated. 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)
Amy Johnson, for Mike Hudson, Representing Business
John Aultman, for Terry Bergeson, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
Karen Lee, Employment Security Department (ESD)
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
Julie Anderson, for Juli Wilkerson, Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development
Eleni Papadakis, Executive Director

Welcome and Chair's Report

Mr. Harrison welcomed members of the Board and guests to Greater Spokane Incorporated and introductions were made. Mr. Rich Hadley, President and Chief Executive Officer of Greater Spokane Incorporated welcomed the Board and invited guests to Spokane and spoke about the collaborative approach to economic development, workforce development and small business development in the Spokane area. Mr. Harrison shared that he and Ms. Eleni Papadakis have been asked to serve on two committees being established to assist with the implementation of the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) master plan. He also serves on the P-20 Council and asked members to keep July 9-10, 2008 available for the Workforce Development Council (WDC) Chairs dialogue and Board meeting.

Ms. Karen Lee provided the Board with an update on the state's employment picture. Ms. Lee reported on the ESD Government, Management Accountability and Performance (GMAP) recently held in Spokane. She also expressed a need for sensitivity when providing public services to customers. Ms. Nancy Pringle shared with the Board an overview of the Greg Newton presentation which was held in Seattle recently.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Papadakis thanked the Board for attending the Worksource presentation and tour, as well as attending the dinner. She also thanked Board members for co-chairing the *High Skills, High Wages* workgroups. She also encouraged Board members to participate in the Washington Award for Vocational Excellence (WAVE) ceremonies as well as the Cluster Academies. Ms. Papadakis encouraged Board members to visit our new Career Bridge website. Ms. Lynnae Rutledge agreed to pilot the site on behalf of people with disabilities.

Motion 08-126-01

Ms. Beth Thew moved to adopt the March 27, 2008 minutes. Ms. Creigh Agnew seconded the motion. The motion passed.

WDC Certification Recommendations (Action)

Mr. Martin McCallum presented the material in Tab 2. The Workforce Investment Act requires governors to certify WDCs every two years. Mr. McCallum explained our role at the Workforce Board is to recommend certification to the Governor. In March 2008, Chief Local Elected Officials (CLEOs) submitted their applications for 2008-2010 council re-certifications. Each application identifies leaders appointed by CLEOs to serve on their local area council for a period beginning July 1, 2008. The Board's certification review committee is made up of Janet Lewis, Karen T. Lee, and Mike Hudson. This committee met on April 30, 2008, to review 12 WDC certification applications. The committee concluded that seven applications satisfied the Governor's certification criteria and were determined complete. The committee unanimously agreed to recommend conditional approval for four additional applications pending their completion of outstanding appointments and the committee recommends that these applications move forward to the Governor once a full roster of appointments is completed. Ms. Kris Stadelman raised the issue of not knowing the racial, ethnic, and disability status of all their council members. Ms. Lee mentioned the Latino and African American communities do not feel adequately represented on the WDCs. Mr. Harrison asked Mr. McCallum to prepare a paper for the Board to revisit in August at the retreat.

Motion 08-126-02

Ms. Janet Lewis moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board recommend that Governor Gregoire certify 12 WDCs for the period beginning July 1, 2008. Mr. Rick Bender seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Workforce Training Results 2008

Mr. Bryan Wilson and Mr. Terry Travis presented the material for Tab 3. *Workforce Training Results* is a biennial evaluation of the training and employment outcomes of major workforce development programs in Washington. The 2008 report includes results for 12 programs, and focuses on individuals who left their programs between July 1, 2005, and June 30, 2006. These individuals entered an economy that was very robust.

Some of the results appear to reflect the positive economy with better employment rates and higher inflation adjusted wages and earnings than found by the previous evaluations. These results also show fewer participants leaving programs with unmet needs than in previous years. Overall satisfaction varies somewhat by program, but has generally improved from prior years. Mr. Bender asked about people working past normal retirement age of 62-65 due to the economy. The Workforce Board agreed to provide additional analysis. Mr. Charlie Earl mentioned the issue of the disappearance of the middle class. Mr. Harrison asked for additional information on minority populations for the retreat scheduled for August 13 -14, 2008 in Walla Walla.

Draft Strategies for High Skills High Wages

Ms. Madeleine Thompson and Mr. Wilson presented the material for Tab 4. This tab contains the first draft of objectives and strategies for *High Skills, High Wages 2008-2018: Our Agenda for Action*. The draft addresses three goals to meet the workforce development needs of youth, adults, and industry.

Ms. Thompson shared the dates of the upcoming public forums scheduled in Eastern Washington, and mentioned there would be another draft of the plan after the public meetings are held. Mr. Bender commented about the expectations for youth and the mastery of skills in addition to graduating with a high school diploma. There was a suggestion made by the Board to add “no later than” to the 2018 target date’s of completion. Mr. Earl asked about the definition of “youth” and the role of colleges in the Youth goal.

Ms. Papadakis highlighted three key areas for *High Skills, High Wages*: 10 year vision, case management and coaching to ensure getting it right the first time, and finally, better and more consistent employer engagement. Mr. Earl cautioned the Board that focusing on graduation on-time may contradict with some individuals’ learning styles. Mr. Bender suggested language that stressed earlier intervention to prevent potential early dropouts. Ms. Lee suggested an emphasis on the role of parenting, role modeling, particularly for low income youth. Ms. Nancy Pringle suggested some inclusion of AmeriCorps and other community service opportunities. Ms. Stadleman raised the need to focus on youth who are disengaged and/or disconnected from schools. Mr. John Aultman asked the Board to remember mobile families especially military families. Mr. Bender raised the issue of the cost of achieving these strategies, especially in a tight economy, and suggested some prioritization. Ms. Lee asked for stronger ties to the offender community and increased counseling and community education. She also noted that the self-sufficiency strategy requires some clarity so that it is not used as a screening tool to exclude some types of workers. Mr. Earl wanted language changes on the third strategy. Ms. Lewis suggested a language change on page 15 that identifies the role/contributions of employers. There was a lot of discussion on funding, including flexible administrative funding. Ms. Thew asked that we spend some time at the retreat to discuss GMAP and other measures, the issue being accountability versus true success.

Legislative Ideas for 2009

Mr. Wilson presented the material for Tab 5. The purpose of the discussion is to get a sense of the Board’s support for these ideas and to identify any other ideas the Board wants to explore as agency requests. Staff will then work with appropriate stakeholders to further develop the proposals the Board is interested in. Final Board action on agency policy and budget requests will occur at the September Board meeting.

State Board of Education (SBE) Meaningful High School Diploma Recommendations (Action)

Mr. Wilson presented the material for tab 6. The Workforce Board adopted a motion in August 2007, which established a position regarding requirements for a high school diploma that staff have utilized in advocating before the SBE.

Recently, the Meaningful High School Diploma Committee of the SBE has developed a draft set of graduation requirements for public review and consideration by the full SBE. The Washington Association of Career and Technical Education has adopted a position paper on the current draft SBE graduation requirements. Mr. Earl expressed concern over restricting local options for the occupational credit.

Motion 08-126-03

Ms. Lee moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board support the direction of the March 27, 2008, Draft Proposed Graduation Requirements. Mr. Earl seconded the motion. The motion was amended and Mr. Earl abstained.

WIA 10 Percent Funds (Action)

Mr. Wilson and Ms. Pringle presented the material in Tab 7. The Workforce Board, Employment Security Department, the WDCs, and the Governor's Office have held extensive meetings to develop a proposal for the Board's consideration. The Interagency Committee also reviewed the proposal.

Mr. Bender asked that the narrative include the requirement that organized labor be included in the application process for the HSHW Strategic Fund.

Motion 08-126-04

Ms. Lee moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board recommend the Governor adopt the attached allocations of the Workforce Investment Act 10 Percent Funds for July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2009. Ms. Janet Lewis seconded. The motion passed.

Carl Perkins PY 2008 (Action)

Mr. Walt Wong presented the material in Tab 8. In March 2008, the Board adopted the Washington State Five-Year Plan for the Carl Perkins Act. The plan identifies how Washington state will allocate federal funds for both the Basic Grant and the Tech Prep programs. Mr. Aultman expressed concern about fluctuations in funding for local areas.

Motion 08-126-05

Mr. Bender moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board approve the Distribution of PY 2008 Federal Career and Technical Education Funds (July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2009) and enter into agreements with its partner agencies to distribute the funds in accordance with the fund distribution matrix. Ms. Thew seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Agency Operating Budget (Action)

Mr. Wong presented the material in Tab 9. Ms. Papadakis shared comments on the revised strategic plan and the organization of the agency around youth, adult, and industry teams. Mr. Earl was supportive of the alignment with *High Skills, High Wages* and cited similar examples in his system.

Motion 08-126-06

Ms. Thew moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board approve the Agency Source of Funds and Operating Budget for the period July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2009. Mr. Bender seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.