

Washington State Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board
Minutes of Meeting No. 118
May 15, 2007

Mr. David Harrison called the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) meeting to order at 8:36 a.m. at the Columbia Basin WorkSource Center. The following Board members and officers were present:

David Harrison, Board Chair
Diane Carver, for Terry Bergeson, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
Charlie Earl, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC)
Mike Hudson, Representing Business
Troy Hutson, Representing Business
Karen Lee, Employment Security Department (ESD)
Asbury Lockett, Representing Business
Lori Province, Representing Labor
Lynnae Ruttledge for Robin Arnold-Williams, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)
Kris Stadelman, Representing Local Government
Beth Thew, Representing Labor

Eleni Papadakis, Executive Director

Invited Guests

Patricia McKeown	Vice President of Instruction, Bellingham Technical College
Bill Bonaudi	President, Big Bend Community College
Andrea Archer	WorkSource Area Director, Olympic WDA
Todd Dixon	WorkSource Area Director, Benton-Franklin WDA
Patrick Raines	Supervisor, Thurston WorkSource DVR
Paul Vertrees	Supervisor, Silverdale DVR
Colin Conant	Former Director, Tacoma-Pierce County WDC
Elizabeth Smith	Labor and Industries Apprenticeship

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Harrison welcomed the Board, invited guests, and the staff to the Columbia Basin WorkSource Center, and introductions were made. Mr. Todd Dixon welcomed the Workforce Board to the Tri Cities and WorkSource Columbia Basin, and spoke about the mission of his center

Chair's Report

Mr. Harrison asked the audience to introduce themselves. Ms. Karen Lee announced recent promotions at Employment Security Department (ESD), Ms. Nancy Pringle as the Acting Assistant Commissioner and Ms. Holly Watson as the Deputy Assistant Commissioner for the Employment Training Division. Mr. Harrison congratulated both of them. Mr. Harrison mentioned that funding for dropout prevention retrieval and I-BEST were approved by this year's Legislature. He mentioned the Board's involvement in the upcoming Adult Education Advisory Council meeting that will occur in June. He also asked for an update at the June 28 meeting regarding the National Governors Association (NGA) Sector Strategy work. Mr. Harrison acknowledged his work with Mr. Charlie Earl on funding activities in the Seattle-King County area. Mr. Harrison announced his involvement over the last year as a grant maker with money made available from the Northwest Area Foundation. Mr. Harrison shared that he has asked Ms. Beth Thew and Ms. Lynnae Ruttledge to review his new roll in order to avoid a conflict of interest.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Eleni Papadakis thanked the Board for its work and complimented the staff. She has been impressed by the non-stop work ethic and the level of work produced by the Board and staff. The Workforce Board has three divisions: Policy and Research, Program Management, and System Partnership. They have reached the height of their productivity under the current structure. We want to explore how to get the agency to the next level by creating a new structure, which will allow for integration across divisions. With this new structure we have some promotions to announce. The management team will change to a "Leadership Team," Mr. Wilson has been promoted to Deputy Director, and Mr. Walt Wong has been promoted to Chief Operating Officer. Ms. Papadakis also spoke of the NGA Sector Strategy work and how it will support the Board's charge by the governor, to work with Community, Trade and Economic Development and other parties to develop sectoral framework for coordinating workforce and economic development. We are also looking at creating an evaluation paradigm for sector strategy work. Ms. Papadakis reminded the Board of the nomination forms for Best Practices Awards that was sent out, and urged Board member's to return the forms. The winner of the Best Practices Awards will be announced at our conference held on November 13-15, 2007.

Motion 07-118-01

Mr. Lockett moved to adopt the March 9, 2007, minutes. Mr. Earl seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Motion 07-118-02

Ms. Thew moved to adopt the April 20, 2007, minutes. Ms. Province seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Memorandum of Understanding and System Integration

Mr. Martin McCallum and Mr. Colin Conant presented material on the Memorandum of Understanding. Mr. Harrison indicated this was a start to the discussion and the Board would have more opportunities including August at the retreat to continue work on this topic.

Improving Integration: Memorandum of Understanding

Mr. Harrison asked the eight panelists to introduce themselves and share a brief comment on what they hope this discussion will result in. Each member of the panel described what their thoughts were. Ms. Thew asked about K-12's participation. Ms. Kris Stadelman indicated the MOU should be for the workforce system not just WorkSource. She emphasized that there should be state leadership and local level flexibility. Mr. Troy Hutson stated that the state should be concerned with the outcomes, not so much with the details of how they are produced. Ms. Papadakis suggested starting with goals and then guiding principals and outcomes. Mr. Harrison asked Mr. Wilson and Ms. Papadakis to work with the Interagency Committee and return to the June 28 Board meeting with the next iteration on this topic. The eight panelists provided final comments. Mr. Tim Probst and Mr. Steve Lindstrom shared their view that the MOU should keep the focus on the customers.

Workforce Investment Act 10 Percent Recommendation

Mr. Wilson introduced the material for Tab 3. Mr. Wilson indicated that although there is a 14 percent decline in WIA funds the Governors office has added some of the carry-forward money allowing for smaller cut-backs than would otherwise occur. We could have some challenges in the future with sustainability, unless WIA funds are increased by Congress. He summarized the proposal by saying it does include some

small upward adjustments in what might be considered the basic infrastructure required for one-stop operation, such as the data collection system and Eligible Training Provider List, which have not received any adjustments in the past few years. Mr. Wilson indicated there is a one time allocation for the Workforce Board to contract with the Association of Washington Business for the Work Readiness Credential. Ms. Rutledge asked that the Workforce Board have a clear expectation of accountability. Ms. Stadelman asked about the investment in the data systems. Ms. Thew thanked Mr. Wilson for his knowledge of the WIA 10 percent funding and activities.

Motion 07-118-03

Ms. Province moved to adopt the recommended Workforce Investment Act 10 Percent funding for July 1, 2007, to June 30, 2008. Mr. Lockett seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Workforce Investment Act Section 503 Incentive Grant

Mr. Wilson presented the material for Tab 4 and the process the state must go through in order to receive this grant. He also shared a hand-out with the latest input from the Interagency Committee (IC) including the recommended focus on adults with limited basic skills and people with disabilities. Mr. Harrison thanked Mr. Carl Wolfhagen for his work for insuring that the state receives this grant. Ms. Rutledge was interested in the results of the last incentive grants and whether they made a difference. Mr. Hutson spoke of the need for the ABE/ESL population. Ms. Province stressed the importance of some local flexibility. Ms. Stadelman asked for clarification that local applications do not require unanimity among stakeholders. Mr. Harrison summarized the four policy issues: incorporating Career Technical Education; focusing on hard-to-serve populations; flexibility for local areas; and measuring results.

Workforce Development Council 2007-2009 Strategic Plans Approved

Mr. McCallum and Ms. Watson presented the materials in Tab 5. Mr. McCallum indicated there will be two additional plans, Northwest and Pacific Mountain, to be presented to the Workforce Board at the June 28 Board meeting for approval. Ms. Watson acknowledged the Southwest plan is for one year while they engage in a comprehensive public process. Mr. Harrison asked for an update at the June 28 Board meeting.

Motion 07-118-04

Ms. Thew moved to adopt the recommended motion for the 2007-2009 Local Area Strategic Plans for Workforce Development. Ms. Province seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Legislative Update

Mr. Wes Pruitt presented the Workforce Board with the legislative wrap up for 2007. Mr. Harrison expressed appreciation for the work on the Private Career School bill and other bills.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.