

NWWIB, INC. & NWCEP, INC. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, August 10, 2009 – 10:00 a.m.

NWCEP, Inc. Administration Office – Ashland, WI

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Dan Racette, Co-Chairperson. Roll Call was taken. The members present constitute a quorum.

PRESENT:

LeRoy Forslund
Dick Nystrom
Peg Kurilla
Dan Racette
Doug Finn
Lew Martin
Toby Johnson
Bambi Patterman
Jack Wichita
Walt Jaeger

EXCUSED:

Bill Kacvinsky
Brett Gerber

OTHERS

Mari Kay-Nabozny
Jennifer Baron
Steve Terry
Marcy Pratt
Susie Bodoh
Bill Eskola
Linda Barnes

For the record, it was noted the public meeting notice was published in two Class A newspapers and aired on eighteen radio stations in the WDA. Bill Eskola, CEP Operations Director, Marcy Pratt, CEP Finance Director and Linda Barnes, CEP Grant Writer and Marketing Specialist and Sue Bodoh, CEP Business Services Manager were introduced to the Committee.

APPROVAL OF THE 6/09/09, MINUTES

Lew Martin made a motion to accept the 6/09/09, meeting minutes as presented, seconded by LeRoy Forslund. Vote taken carried unanimously.

ARRA Stimulus Package Performance Update

Steve Terry discussed the ARRA goals for CEP. A handout was distributed to the Committee. Steve indicated that we're meeting the goals for the youth, adult and dislocated worker programs. Bill Eskola, Operations Director discussed the goals and the funds spent to achieve them in more detail.

Summer Youth Report

Steve gave a report on CEP's Summer Youth Program. He discussed a handout in the packet that provided information on youth worksite locations, the name of the business providing the worksite and the number of youth served by county. Steve noted Karen Pfiel, DWD monitor came up last week to monitor the summer youth program. Steve explained the locations that she visited. Steve distributed a draft monitoring report that he received with summary and observations which Steve explained.

On the Job Training Program Report

Bill Eskola distributed an on the job training report which he explained. He indicated that between October of 2008 and June of 2009, 48 OJTs have been provided. Bill discussed the hourly wage, reimbursement rate from CEP, training hours and the cost. Bill will start a new list starting on July 1st of each year. Sue Bodoh indicated that eight contracts have been written since June 1st and they're getting good feedback from employers on the value of the program.

WIA Appropriations & Reauthorization Update

Steve and Mari Kay-Nabozny gave an update on what is taking place on the federal level with the WIA reauthorizations and appropriations. Mari indicated that a more streamlined fashion of putting clients through the system. She noted that eligibility requirements may be streamlined. She indicated that practitioners are being encouraged to be more creative in their plans for those being served. Mari noted that appropriations was level funded at this time, which can create some problems for those enrolled. Steve indicated that CEP will utilize funds from other grants to make up for any shortfalls.

DWD Grant Updates

Susie Bodoh distributed an updated DW report to the Committee. Susie indicated that there was only one dislocated worker addition. Sue pointed out the some manufacturers who have been offering voluntary rotating lay-offs.

Steve reported that the dislocated worker woodworking special response grant written for \$402,000 was received for our area at \$235,000, which CEP will receive this fall.

Job Center Customer Counts

Jenny Baron discussed the Job Center handout in the Board packet. The handout is a monthly spreadsheet that tracks how many people are coming into the Job Centers for services. She pointed out the increase in Job Center traffic in those areas where dislocations have taken place and a slight decrease in traffic in areas where the supportive services of the Job Center partners have taken place to assist with area dislocations.

New Grant Update

Mari indicated that our area received the two state Sector Strategy training grants she wrote for. One was for advanced manufacturing and the convener for the grant initiative will be the NWMOC. The other grant convener is the Building Trades Association out of Rusk County.

Mari reported that the WIB's request for the EISP grant for \$86,000 was received at \$100,000. This will be used for advanced training opportunities and incumbent worker. Mari noted that Rochelle Ashley, the Native American Liaison for DWD has worked with CEP for a woodworking training apprenticeship program proposal for \$300,000, but our area did not receive the grant request. A suggestion was made to get some letters of expressing support for this proposal .

LeRoy Forslund made a motion to send Roberta Gassman, DWD Secretary a letter on behalf of the Executive Committee to express disappointment in our area not receiving the grant and for DWD to reconsider the woodworking training proposal for our area in the future. Seconded by Doug Finn. Vote taken, carried unanimously.

RIG Update

Steve noted that he, LeRoy Forslund, Mari Kay-Nabozny, Bambi Pattermann and Andy Lisak attended the last Regional Innovations Grant meeting in Duluth. It was noted that Bruce Lindgren, NWWIB member has joined the group. The goal for the group is to continue working on creating an economic development and education collaboration plan for our 17 county multi-state region.

HHS-HRSA Direct Care Worker Grant Update

Sue Bodoh explained the HRSA grant. She indicated that the focus is to get the numbers of those on the wait list to be trained as healthcare workers on site or through the technical colleges. A need was identified to recruit and train healthcare workers to keep people in their homes. It was noted that this is a great opportunity for individuals to begin at this level and career ladder in the medical field.

Marketing/PR Information Update

Linda Barnes explained the news items that were included in the packet, which were a compilation of success stories regarding the summer program, the welding boot camp and other workforce initiatives taking place. Steve noted that this news item packet has been sent to area legislators.

ITA Review/Approval

Jenny Baron distributed and briefly explained the following ITAs that require Board approval to be placed on the state's website for eligible training providers:

UW Eau Claire - Undergraduate major in communications sciences and disorders

Eau Claire, WI

Class A CDL Training Program – 160 hour certificate

American Truck Driving Training North, Inc. – Newport, MN

Dairy Herd Management - Technical Diploma

WITC – Rice Lake

Dick Nystrom made a motion to approve the ITAs presented. Seconded by Toby Johnson. Vote taken, carried unanimously.

Other Business

Dan Racette noted that he, Doug Finn and Norm Voorhees, WIB member attended the ITBEC conference that took place at the Lake of the Torches Casino last month. Dan gave a brief report on the economic development topics that were addressed.

Next Meeting Date and Location

The next meeting date will take place at the call of the Chair.

Adjournment

Lew Martin made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Dick Nystrom. Vote taken, carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.