

NWCEP, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

Wednesday, September 16, 2009 – 10:00 a.m.
Spooner Job Center – Spooner, WI

MEETING MINUTES

Present:

Doug Finn
George Sears
Gene DuSell
Peg Kurilla
Dennis DeRosso
Dan Corbin
Lew Martin
Steve Sather
Dan Racette
Dave Willingham
Jack Sweeney

Excused:

Dee Gokee Rindal
Bill Kacvinsky
Ray Maday
Allen Beadles
Hal Helwig

Others:

Steve Terry
Jenny Baron
Brad Gingras
Bill Eskola
Caroline Johnson
Kate Melton

Roll Call/Public Meeting Notice Report

Dan Racette, CEP Board Chairman called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present. The public meeting notice was published in two class a newspapers and aired on area radio stations in the WDA.

Approval of 8/19/09 Meeting Minutes

One correction was made. Dennis DeRosso did not make the motion to adjourn, Lew Martin did.

A motion was made by Steve Sather to approve the 8/19/09 meeting minutes as amended. Seconded by Dave Willingham. Vote taken carried unanimously.

ARRA Report

Bill Eskola, CEP Operations Director gave a report on CEP's ARRA goals. Bill indicated that CEP received \$1.5 million dollars to spend by the end of the year. The four goals for CEP to achieve by October are to meet enrollments in the in the Adult, the Dislocated Worker, Youth programs, and to spend 80% of the funding.

WIA 4th Quarter PY08 Report

Bill reported that CEP is tied at number one with another area in the state for meeting performance standards in programs. He noted issues with a couple standards in the older youth measures, which are harder to meet. The goals were all exceeded and met.

Summer Youth Program Report

Brad Gingras, CEP Youth Services Manager indicated that a letter was sent out to area employers requesting their interest in having a youth employed through CEP on a worksite. Brad indicated that over 800 positions were requested by employers and the goal was to place 230 youth in employment worksites. 303 youth were put to work. Brad reported that over 160 businesses hired youth. Youth were placed in non-profits, private and public sector work sites.

Four Youth Program Employment Coordinators (YPECs) were hired to coordinate the Summer Youth Program, and were responsible for placing the youth in worksites. Brad explained the selection process by which youth were selected for work opportunities. He indicated that 95 percent of the youth served had a successful work experience, meeting the work readiness goals. Brad reported that a state monitoring visit by DWD took place at CEP focusing on the ARRA summer youth program. Brad explained some of the challenges that clients coming into the program have, and how CEP's programs offer them an opportunity to improve their lives for the better.

Crex Meadows Report

Brad distributed the final Crex Meadow's annual report. Brad indicated that this year's camp was successful. He reviewed the counties where the youth were from and noted that 24 of the 32 schools in our WDA were represented by youth who attended the Camp. Brad will continue recruitment efforts in the schools where youth did not participate. Brad noted that 24 campers were return. This was the first year that four, two week sessions were implemented, rather than three, three week sessions. This allowed for 20 additional youth to attend the Camp. Brad noted that two vans were purchased for the Camp, rather than leasing, which saves money for the Camp.

Report on Congressman Obey's Visit to the Ashland Job Center

Steve reported that Congressman Dave Obey visited the Ashland Job Center on September 2nd to hear about the impact of the ARRA funding had on assisting individuals in our region. Youth participants were present to discuss their summer youth work experience. Steve indicated that the visit was successful and Congressman Obey was very impressed with the stories he heard.

Dislocated Worker Report & DW Special Response Grant

Steve reported that there were no additions to the dislocated worker information sheet, which is good news. Discussion took place on status of some of the current dislocations that have taken place.

Grants Update

Steve gave a grants update. He indicated that the NWWIB received two Industry Sector Strategy Grants for \$25,000 a piece to bring together industry sector stakeholders to discuss construction and new green technologies, and to address workforce development's roll in this initiative.

Steve discussed the Emerging Industry Skills Partnership (EISP) grant for \$100,000 to provide training in electrical manufacturing. There are 17 individuals currently signed up for the electrical/mechanical maintenance program at NTC.

Steve discussed the Opportunity Grant that CEP received for \$191,000 to help individuals improve their skills at the tech colleges.

NWWIB Membership Update

Steve gave an update on the current membership composition of the Northwest Wisconsin Workforce Investment Board, Inc. He noted that this is an informational update for the NWWIB who is in the process of reducing the membership on the Board. Steve explained some the membership changes taking place, who the members are that are leaving and what sectors they represent.

Review/Approve ITAs

The following ITAs were reviewed for approval:

1. Respiratory Care Practitioner, AAS – Lake Superior College
2. Medical Assisting, Diploma – Lake Superior College

Doug Finn made a motion to approve the two ITAs presented. Seconded by Jack Sweeney. Vote taken, carried unanimously.

Other Business

Lew Martin gave an update of the Wisconsin Counties Association conference he recently attended.

Steve reported on a proposal to create a small expansion in the Park Falls CEP office for more confidential space to meet clients. The projection cost for this proposal is around \$3,700 to implement. The general consensus of the Board was to approve the go ahead of the project until a motion is made.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Dan Corbin to adjourn at 12:00 p.m. Seconded by Lew Martin. Vote taken, carried unanimously.

Tour of the Spooner Job Center

After the meeting was adjourned, the staff at the Spooner Job Center gave the Board a brief tour of the Job Center office, explaining their roles.