

GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RHODE ISLAND
April 19, 2012

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBERS (*DENOTES NOT PRESENT)

Mario Bueno*	Juana Horton (S)	Robert Nangle (S)
Robin Coia	Constance A. Howes	George Nee*
Ray DiPasquale (S)	Paul MacDonald	Keith Stokes*
Charles J. Fogarty (S)	William McGowan	Cathy Streker
Deborah Gist (S)*	Brandon Melton	Martin Trueb
Mike Grey*	Sharon Moylan (S)	Pheamo Witcher

(S) denotes State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) only

GWB STAFF: Rick Brooks, Nancy Olson, Dan Brown, Angelo Dafonseca, Maureen Mooney

DLT STAFF: Mary Ellen McQueeney Lally, Diane Gagne, Sue Biagoni, Hector Rivera, Sue Chomka, Diane Vendetti, Mavis McGetrick,

GUESTS: Ruth Ricciarelli, HARI; Robert Ricci and Richard Beneduce, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston; Joe Winn, CCRI; Aime Brissette, Stepping Up, Judy Jones, Economic Progress Institute; Tom Costello, CCRI; Malcom Baxter, BIS; Robin Smith, CCRI; Marguerite McLaughlin, Healthcentric Advisors; Fred Santaniello, NEIT; Robert Bromley, RI Senate; Adrian Boney, RI Foundation; Kathie Shields and Cheryl DaCosta, Tech Collective; Philip Less and Andrea Castaneda, RIDE.

LOCATION: Department of Labor & Training, conference room 73-1

Call to Order

Chair Howes called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Meeting Minutes

Chair Howes asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes of the Governor's Workforce Board's meeting held on March 15, 2012.

VOTE on motion to approve: P. MacDonald moved to approve, seconded by R. Coia. All approved. Motion to vote passes.

VOTE to approve Governor's Workforce Board meeting minutes. All approved. March 15, 2012 meeting minutes approved.

Chair's Comments

Chair Howes referred to the handout in the meeting packet listing the members of the Human Resource Investment Council (HRIC) and the State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB). She stated that only those with HRIC membership are able to vote on matters relating to the Job Development Fund (JDF). She explained that those members who are solely members of the State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) are not able to vote on JDF matters. She referred to the meeting consent agenda noting that the items were broken out by the membership distinction of HRIC and SWIB.

Chair Howes reported there has been discussion about the current funding formula used to distribute WIA funds to the two local Workforce Investment Boards (LWIBS). She indicated there is a request from Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston to implement an alternative formula. She stated there will be a report back to the board on this matter at a future meeting.

Chair Howes reported on the presentation provided by the Department of Revenue to the GWB Strategic Investments & Evaluation Committee at its last meeting. She indicated that the payments made to the Department of Revenue are based on the allocation and processing of work for unemployment insurance, temporary disability insurance (TDI) and Job Development Fund (JDF) taxes. The costs associated with the work allocation were explained and she stated there was concern about the costs and the number of employees involved in the process. A motion was made indicating appreciation for the work performed on behalf of DLT/GWB and it was requested that the process be reviewed in order to determine if any savings could be obtained.

Executive Director's Report

Chair Howes asked Rick Brooks to provide the Executive Director's Report.

Incumbent Worker Training Grants

R. Brooks reported that a bidder's conference was recently held for the FY12 Incumbent Worker Training Grant Program. He noted that 144 people were in attendance and that 125 companies were represented. He mentioned the bonus funding opportunity available for employers willing to provide a summer job or academic year internship. He indicated that the grant proposals are due on April 27th. He asked that anyone interested in reading and rating the proposals be in touch with Dan Brown.

FY2012 Jobs Initiative

R. Brooks provided an update on the FY2012 GWB Jobs Initiative programs. He noted that Stepping Up will be assisting 10 unemployed Rhode Islanders with health information training starting in a few weeks. He mentioned that the Hospitality Association is placing graduates of the START program into internships. He reported that the Tech Collective is offering college post employment training and a post graduate fellowship program to graduating college seniors. R. Brooks noted that Electric Boat will be providing a dozen internship positions to older youth through the Youth Centers. He said there will be a screening process and training provided for these interns for summer employment with the possibility of a permanent position. R. Brooks mentioned that Senedia will be expanding this work to other defense companies.

Rick Brooks reported that up to \$1M has been approved for FY13 GWB Jobs Initiatives and that input is sought from the board. He stated they have been meeting with the

Industry Partners to discuss their contracts that are up for renewal. He reported that an RFP is being finalized to support the addition of a Manufacturing Industry Partnership.

Outreach & Networking

R. Brooks reported on meetings with the RI Public Expenditure Council (RIPEC) to collaborate with the GWB to provide a Biennial Plan. He indicated this plan will align with the assessment of the State Strategic Plan update and will form the basis of the next 2 years of activity. R. Brooks noted that he recently met with Electric Boat and the New England Institute of Technology (NEIT) to collaborate on a USDOL grant for trade affected, unemployed workers with the idea of creating a ship building operation at NEIT.

Legislative Advocacy

R. Brooks reported that he recently testified at the Joint Economic Development Committee. Committee members were interested in hearing from DLT and the Governor's Workforce Board on the programs that are currently in place to help train and retrain workers to meet labor market demand. R. Brooks pointed out a handout in the meeting packet from the Rhode Island Workforce Alliance noting it is a helpful resource for legislative advocacy.

Committee Chair Reports

Chair Howes asked Committee Chairs to provide an update on the work of the committees which met since the last board meeting,

Adult Education & Literacy Committee

Ray DiPasquale provided an overview of the March 26th Adult Education & Literacy Committee meeting. He reported that the committee is very engaged and that Dr. Philip Less is the catalyst of information for this committee. He reported that Dr. Less provided a review of the services provided by the adult education providers as well as information on GED preparation and transitions to college. He noted the two requests on the consent agenda: \$3.5M funding request for adult education programs for FY13 and the 2012 – 2013 extension of Rhode Island's Adult Education State Plan.

Employer Committee

Martin Trueb provided an overview of the first meeting of the Employer Committee and noted that a mission statement is currently being crafted. He mentioned that a key element of the mission of the committee is to provide a bridge between the existing resources of the GWB/DLT and organizations that don't have a natural place to connect. M. Trueb spoke of establishing the Employer Advisory Committee to bring businesses together to inform them of resources available and to get their feedback. He mentioned a suggestion offered by Bob Nangle, which is to consider providing internships for the unemployed. M. Trueb spoke of utilizing the resources of the local Chambers of Commerce to provide information to local businesses, noting a suggestion was made to create a short presentation. He mentioned a survey given to the employers attending the recent GWB Pre-proposal conference noting that the data would be collected and discussed at the next committee meeting. M. Trueb indicated that the committee discussed reaching out to all businesses but that it was important to reach out to small businesses.

Strategic Investments & Evaluation Committee

William McGowan reported on the April 3rd meeting of the Strategic Investments and Evaluation Committee. He mentioned the Division of Taxation cost allocation plan which

was noted earlier in Chair Howes' report. He provided an overview of the requests on the consent agendas and spoke of the critical need for funding for adult education and youth programs. He mentioned the items on the SWIB consent Agenda specifically the extension of the Adult Education State Plan and the Workforce Investment Notices.

Consent Agenda – Human Resources Investment Council (HRIC)

Chair Howes asked if there was a motion to approve the HRIC consent agenda.

VOTE on motion to approve: W. McGowan moved to approve, seconded by R. Coia. All HRIC members approved. Motion to vote passes.

VOTE to approve HRIC Consent Agenda as presented. All HRIC members approved. HRIC Consent Agenda approved.

Consent Agenda – State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB)

Chair Howes asked if there was a motion to approve the SWIB consent agenda.

VOTE on motion to approve: W. McGowan moved to approve, seconded by M. Bueno. All State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) members approved. Motion to vote passes.

VOTE to approve Workforce Investment Notices as presented. All SWIB members approved. Workforce Investment Notices approved

GWB Highlight: Industry Partner Collaboration – Electronic Health Record Training

Rick Brooks introduced Fred Santaniello of the New England Institute of Technology (NEIT) and Marguerite McLaughlin of Healthcentric Advisors who were presenting information on the Electronic Health Record Training program. This program is a partnership between NEIT and Healthcentric advisors and is funded by a \$2.8M grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. This is a workforce training program that will enhance the state's efforts to implement electronic health records. A report which provides a review of the year's activity was available in the meeting packet.

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Howes asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: B. Melton moved to approve. W, McGowan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Mooney