

Governor's Workforce Board RI
Strategic Investments Committee Meeting
May 10, 2010

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members present: Joseph MarcAurele, Chair, Brandon Melton, Martin Trueb, George Nee
Committee Members absent: William McGowan
GWB Staff present: John O'Hare, Nancy Olson, Maureen Mooney, Dan Brown
DLT Staff present: Jenn Buck, Diane Gagne, Mavis McGetrick, David Tremblay,
Others Present: Deb Anthes, RIDE; Paul Harden, RIEDC; Judy Jones, Poverty Institute; James Glover, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston; Deborah Varga, Trades Training Center

Call to Order

Chair MarcAurele called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided an overview of the agenda items.

Minutes of 4/8/10

Chair MarcAurele asked for a review of the meeting minutes of 4/8/10 for the Governor's Workforce Board (GWB) Strategic Investments Committee. He asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented.

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

JDF Cash Flow Analysis

Chair MarcAurele asked Diane Gagne, CFO of the Department of Labor & Training to present information on the Job Development Fund (JDF). He noted that committee member, George Nee, had requested this at an earlier meeting.

D. Gagne provided a handout detailing the cash-flow summary of the JDF using actual expenditures from FY2007 through FY2009 and projected expenditures for FY 2010 and FY 2011. She noted that the RI Legislature had requested this information back in March. She reviewed the budgeted expenditures for FY10 noting the unexpended balance of \$986,048. D. Gagne explained that though the House fiscal advisors view this as unexpended funds, she reported that this amount is a carry over into FY11.

There was a discussion regarding the scheduled transfer of \$2.5M in JDF funds to the State Controller on June 30, 2010. G. Nee suggested it is important for the board to review the JDF expenditures to ensure that the funds are being utilized as originally intended. J. O'Hare noted that the Legislature created the fund and thus has the authority to change it. G. Nee pointed out the USDOL Cost Sharing expenditure listed on the Cash-Flow summary in the amount of \$717,445 for FY09. He suggested that this could be an expenditure item to pursue in the attempt to recover JDF funds. J. O'Hare agreed this would be an appropriate action and Chair MarcAurele indicated he would be willing to meet on this issue.

Funding Request Adult Education FY11

Chair MarcAurele asked Deb Anthes from the RI Department of Education to provide clarification on the Adult Education funding request for FY11.

D. Anthes mentioned that the deadline for the RFP has passed, that 40 proposals were received and that funds were requested totaling more than \$15M. She noted that the RFP promotes partnerships and collaboration of services as well as regionalization of areas in the state.

Chair MarcAurele asked for a motion to approve the FY11 funding request of \$4,000,000 for Adult Education programs with approval for \$3,500,000 immediately and an additional \$500,000 if the \$1M is restored to the Job Development Fund.

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

Incumbent Worker Training Grants FY 11

Chair MarcAurele asked N. Olson to present the FY11 funding request for the Incumbent Worker Training grants. N. Olson explained the strategy of the \$1M funding request based on the recent issue with the JDF. She indicated that the funding request today would be up to \$1M in total with \$500,000 available immediately. N. Olson reported the \$500,000 in funding would fund training grants for approximately 20 organizations with the highest scores. She indicated that should the additional \$500,000 be restored, that an additional 20 organizations could be funded.

Chair MarcAurele asked for a motion to approve the FY 11 funding request of \$1M for the Incumbent Worker Training grants with approval for \$500,000 immediately and an additional \$500,000 if the \$1M is restored to the JDF.

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

Workforce Expansion Grant Criteria

Chair MarcAurele asked N. Olson to provide information on the Workforce Expansion Grant criteria. N. Olson reported that recently the grant criteria changed to 5 employees to qualify for these funds. She indicated that since there are other funding options for companies such as OJT, Federal stimulus, ARRA and WIA that the criteria could be set back to 10.

Chair MarcAurele asked for a motion to approve the change for the Workforce Expansion grant criteria from 10 employees to 5 employees.

VOTE: G. Nee moved to approve. M. Trueb seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

Other Business

J. O'Hare mentioned that there would be a funding request presented at the May board meeting to award funding to Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston and/or the Workforce Partnership of Greater RI on an as needed basis for dislocated worker services. He also noted there is a waiver request pending with the USDOL for rapid response funding for Incumbent Worker training.

With no further business, Chair MarcAurele asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Mooney