

**Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island
Quality Assurance Committee Meeting Minutes
March 25, 2008**

Members Present: Mike Cassidy, Joe DesRoches, Ray Filippone, Kim Weiss, Diane Cook, Vin Balasco. Steve Wilson, and Paul Harden.

Members Absent: Ernani Vergano, Ed Sneesby, and Diane Karcz.

Staff: Nick Ucci, Dottie Miller, and Gail DuPont

Guests: Mavis McGetrick, Kathy Partington, and Donna Chaput

With a quorum present and the late arrival of Chairman Mike Cassidy, Steve Wilson called the meeting to order at 8:45 A.M.

A motion was entered to approve the February 27, 2008 Committee meeting minutes.

VOTE: Kim Weiss moved to approve, Ray Filippone seconded. The motion passed.

WIA Performance Update:

Nick Ucci directed everyone's attention to the handouts for the second quarter WIA Performance Report. He noted that the WPGRI passed all of its Adult and Dislocated Workers measures for the second quarter of the 2007 Program Year, but that it continues to fail several Youth measures. He added that this was the result of two poor-performing contracts that had since been deobligated by the

Board. Chairman Mike Cassidy asked about the failed Youth measures and Nick stated that the problem would continue through the fourth quarter until those Youth that qualify under the measures have rolled out of the performance period. Nick referred to the Rolling Four Quarterly Report and noted the same issue among Youth measures. He explained that the WPGRI Youth Program Manager has implemented an internal tracking system to help discover potential performance issues as they arise, and that performance is continuously discussed at monthly vendor meetings.

Nick Ucci went on to discuss the Service Plan levels and noted that the Adult levels are below expectations. He added that, since Dislocated Worker enrollments are above plan levels and the local economy is facing recessionary pressures, a recommendation might be made to the Board in the future to transfer money back to the Dislocated Worker funding stream. Nick added that both Adult and Dislocated Worker ITAs are severely unobligated, and that the WPGRI management and staff are working with One-Stop Management to increase obligations. He also noted that the staff, with the support of the State Workforce Investment Office, is working to procure a system that would allow training providers to more easily complete the required information to be listed on the state's Eligible Training Provider List. Dottie Miller pointed out that the WPGRI and the One-Stops are working together to address their common concerns. Nick Ucci stated that there are more eligible training programs now than at this point last year, thanks, in part, to the efforts of SWIO and

WPGRI staff who have worked on outreach to potential vendors. Nick added that he would be meeting with One-Stop managers and staff later that day to discuss what can be done in the final quarter of the program year to improve ITA obligations. Nick Ucci concluded his report by stating that projections for the final quarter indicate that the WPGRI could potentially fail the Adult Entered Employment and Credential

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measures, but that efforts to collect supplement data were already underway to avoid this scenario. Kim Weiss informed the committee that, because Massachusetts and Rhode Island have signed the WRIS agreement, data should be more accurate and easier to obtain. Ray Filippone added that he expected WRIS data to be accessible by the end of the fourth quarter.

Annual Meeting Awards:

Nick Ucci stated that he and Dottie Miller had met with Kim Weiss and Kathy Partington to discuss potential award categories for the Board's Annual Meeting in June. Nick explained that, based upon this meeting, they recommended that two awards be offered this year: a Top Center Award, which would be measured by WIA performance, and an Outstanding Service Award for a One-Stop staff member, as recommended by One-Stop managers. He explained that, as in the

previous year, these recommendations would be brought before the Committee for their review and approval. Nick suggested that over the next year, as new projects are developed through the Industry Skill Development Initiative and Youth Development System, the Committee could revisit this issue and recommend additional awards where appropriate.

A motion was made to approve staff recommendations regarding the awards process for the Annual Meeting.

VOTE: Diane Cook moved to approve, Vin Balasco seconded. The motion passed.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: Paul Harden moved to approve, Steve Wilson seconded. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail DuPont

Administrative Assistant