



Bay Area Workforce Development Board

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the Bay Area Workforce Development Board

Meeting Minutes May 10, 2007

Present: Paul Linzmeyer (Chair), Christine Jensema, Sam Perlman, Tony Marcelle, Mike Troyer, Joe Hilke
Absent: John Haugh

Mr. Linzmeyer called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM in the conference room at the Bay Area WDB office. Several members participated by conference call. Roll call showed a quorum present. The Minutes of the 11/10/2006 meeting were adopted as submitted on a motion by Dr. Troyer and a second by Mr. Perlman.

Mr. Golembeski reviewed the strategic statements that had been approved at the Bay Area WDB meeting on April 19 at lakeshore Technical College and asked for further input. These were:

1. Increased quality and range of Internet-based and distance learning services focused on reaching a broad customer base of employers and job seekers;
2. Postsecondary technical training for workforce entrants, the underemployed, and dislocated workers utilizing short term, targeted training programs focused on high-wage, in-demand industry sectors and conducted in close partnership with area businesses who will hire the trainees;
3. Training all workers in the essential "21st Century Skills," as articulated by the NEW North Educational Attainment Committee, as the basic requirements for success in the post-recession economy of NE Wisconsin. These skills are:
 1. Communication
 2. Problem Solving/Critical Thinking
 3. Information Technology
 4. Employability and Career Development
 5. Understanding Systems: Social, Organizational, Technological

6. Safety, Health and Environment
7. Leadership and Teamwork
8. Ethics/Legal Responsibility
9. Creativity and Entrepreneurship

Members agreed that the strategy statements were right on target for the needs of the Bay Area. The Strategic Leadership Committee will meet during the summer months and will focus their efforts on how the job centers can provide work readiness training to address Goal #3. Mr. Linzmeyer spoke about the work of the NEW North Business and Higher Education Subcommittee focused on systemic changes in the postsecondary educational institutions to better that level of training with regional business needs. He asked that the topic be put on the Bay Area WDB agenda for discussion.

Members received a draft WIA budget for review. The Bay Area received about \$400,000 less in its WIA allocation than last year, a cut of 12.2%. But there is also significantly less carry-in funding from the current program year, so the funds available for 2007 represent a 30% decrease from 2006. Several issues were discussed, including:

1. The effect of the state requirement that 35% of the WIA program funding be allocated for training in high-wage, high-demand occupations;
2. Balancing resources for distribution among the job centers, the two contracted positions, and special projects;
3. Aligning the budget with the board's strategic goals;
4. Looking ahead to the 2008 budget.

After discussion, there was consensus in a number of areas. Members were in agreement that the two contracted positions should remain because of their capacity building activities. Most WIA Younger Youth activities will end and only current enrollees will be served so that they can complete services and achieve positive outcomes. Projects with the Wisconsin Department of Corrections will continue contingent upon an increased contribution from DOC. Mr. Golembeski had already sent a letter to DOC Secretary Matt Franks with regard to that contingency and was awaiting a reply. Staff was instructed to review the proposed budget and find additional funds for the job centers wherever possible without endangering future grants because of the state 35% training requirement. With those provisions, there was consensus to send the draft budget to the Bay Area WDB at their May 24 meeting.

Members reviewed the corporate budget which included about an 8% reduction from the current year. There was support for a 2.5% staff salary increase. The budget included the \$10,000 fee to join the state "Virtual Job Center" project which staff believes will be successful statewide in the future. The Bay Area will go live on that website on July 1. Mr. Linzmeyer asked the staff to exercise due diligence in starting with a budget that is challenging. Members suggested that the staff look at a competitive bid for the independent audit to reduce costs in that area. Motion to approve the draft budget for consideration by the Bay Area WDB was made by Ms. Jensema, second by Mr. Hilke. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM.