

Local Area III Workforce Investment Board Minutes
Johnson County Nursing Center
11875 S. Sunset, Olathe KS
Tuesday, November 22, 2005

WIB MEMBERS PRESENT: Ian Bautista, Steve Christensen, Paul Clay, Karen DeOrnellas, Billy Davis, Mary Fassenmyer, Dan Fletcher, Steve Houglan, David Huston, Michael Keenan, Lin Knudson, Wade Ladd, K.J. Langlais, Jerry Leonard, Wendell Maddox, Lynn McClure, Gina McCullough, Lonnie Myklebust, Kathy Shackelford, William Shipley and James Thompson

WIB MEMBERS ABSENT: David Cleveland, Judy Gifford, Karen Griffin, LaDora Jackson, Brenda Jones, Peggy Kelly, Walter Lantzy, Donald Nelson, Rick Robards, Johnny Stevenson and Lori Trumbo

WIB STAFF PRESENT: Scott Anglemyer, Brenda Wilson

CEOB MEMBERS PRESENT: Doug Wood

ONE-STOP OPERATOR STAFF PRESENT: Kent Eckles, Nanette Padilla, Erich Ulmer, and John Casner, KCK Workforce Center; Lavera Wood, Overland Park Workforce Center; Dennis Sutter, Leavenworth Workforce Center

GUESTS PRESENT: Senator Karin Brownlee, Steve Kelly, Kansas Department of Commerce; Jennifer Filley, SER Corporation; Gary Kusek, Gracious Promise; and Margaret Turner, El Centro.

Call to Order

Karen DeOrnellas called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Procedural Agenda

Comments from the public

Karen asked the guests to introduce themselves. Scott Anglemyer introduced the newly appointed board members. There were no comments from the public.

Approval of WP Board minutes, Executive Committee minutes

Karen asked if there were any changes to the minutes from the September 27th Board meeting and Executive Committee meetings from October and November 11, 2005. Paul Clay moved that the consent agenda items be approved. Jim Thompson seconded. Motion carried.

Eligible Training Provider Committee

Lonnie Myklebust spoke on behalf of this committee. She stated that the committee discussed the topic of additional standards to ensure that approved programs provide training for true career opportunities. The committee decided to focus on two considerations. First, the programs should train people for jobs paying a sustaining wage, or with a clear career path that will lead to a sustaining wage. Second, the programs train people for careers with current or projected high demand. The committee also addressed the definition of sustaining wage. Based on a self-sufficiency standard developed by Kansas State University, the lowest

self-sufficiency wage in the tri-county area is \$11.06 per hour. The committee will use this as the basis for further discussion. They also discussed phasing in new eligibility requirements to allow programs time to adjust.

Erich Ulmer also spoke on behalf of this committee. Erich stated that the committee considered eligibility certification renewals for Kansas City Kansas Area Technical School (ATS), New Horizons Computer Learning Center, and Tech Skills. ATS had several programs up for renewal, many of which did not meet state standards. Of the 25 programs, four failed to meet the state minimum program completion rate for all participants, while nearly half failed to meet one or more standards for WIA participants. Committee members wondered whether these low rates may be due to a small number of WIA participants. Erich agreed to investigate further to determine the raw numbers behind these completion rates.

The committee recommended the approval of all seven programs from New Horizons, all of which met state minimums. The committee also recommended the approval of all but two programs from Tech Skills. These two programs – Linux+ and Oracle 9i Professional Database Administration– failed to meet the minimum program completion rate for all participants.

The committee also discussed other changes that could be made to help programs meet current and new standards. Committee members felt that soft skills/job readiness programs should be available for participants to help them develop these skills prior to enrolling in other training programs. Sr. Mary moved that the suggested certification renewals be approved. Jim Thompson seconded. Motion carried.

Summit Planning Committee

Doug Wood spoke on behalf of this committee. Doug mentioned a tentative date for the Summit; however we are still awaiting confirmation from the Reardon Center. He stated that the committee discussed structuring the Summit around the theme of a bridge, connecting two sides: employers and the workforce system. The committee discussed how we would measure the success of the Summit. The committee briefly addressed structure and size of the summit. Part of the Summit will be broken down into industry sectors, where similar businesses can discuss common needs. Future meetings will address agenda and breakout sessions in greater detail. The committee set 300 as the goal for the number of participants, with about 75% of the participants being business representatives.

One-Stop Operators Report

Kent Eckels gave this report. He stated that the Kansas Department of Administration has published an RFP for the Kansas Departments of Commerce, Labor, Revenue and Social & Rehabilitation Services. The Commerce section of the RFP is for a replacement location of the Workforce Center in Kansas City. There was a pre-bid press conference, five vendors were present. Bids are due December 19th. Participants can bid on pieces of the package or all aspects of the package. The vendor who wins the package(s) will be picked and announced in six weeks.

Lonnie Myklebust wanted to commend and thank the Workforce Center Directors for data presented to the “Silver Haired Legislature”. She stated that 80% of all older workers 55 and better received intensive services through Local Area III than any other location. Local Area II served 0%. Lonnie stated that Area III has the largest number of job seekers 55 or better.

She just wanted to thank the Workforce Center Managers for seeking to serve people walking in the door.

Executive Directors Report

Scott stated that he and Karen met with Steve Kelly and other members of Commerce to discuss performance measures for Area III. Scott stated that Area III failed to meet 3 of the 17 performance measures for the year completed. This number is down from the previous performance year. They also discussed board composition issues. Commerce states that the majority of our board members must be business representatives. Because of the reclassification of most of our board members, the board is now out of balance. The Department of Commerce has given the board until December 31 to bring the board up to compliance.

Scott stated that he would attend a meeting in Emporia with local area representatives regarding the paymaster contract. At the present, we are contracted with a company called CBIZ. Their contract is up for renewal. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss renewing the current contract or putting it out for bid.

Scott also discussed the Older Workers RFP that is being drafted. He stated that the Department of Labor insisted that this be put out for bid. We would like to have little to no disruption of services during the transition.

Internal/External Business Agenda

Scott discussed the roles involved in the local delivery of services. Commerce plays the role of the Administrative Entity, The Fiscal Agent, and the One-Stop Operator of the workforce centers. There are a number of federally funded programs that must be present along with a number of entities and organizations that operate these programs. The contract between the Department of Commerce and the One-Stop Operator is due to expire June 30, 2006. We need to formalize that relationship; how do we want the local delivery of services to be carried out. If we were to RFP some of the services, a good time to do this would be at the change of the program year, effective July 1. Wendell Maddox asked how the recommendation would impact current employment. Scott stated that he wasn't sure and that Commerce would have to figure out who stays and who gets laid off. There are certain programs in the workforce centers that must be run by state employees. If a different entity was selected to carryout the role of being the One-Stop Operator, Administrative Entity and Fiscal Agent, we would lose some very talented and competent people. There would still be salary and KPERS issues to deal with.

Doug Wood urged the board to issue an RFP regarding the local delivery of services. He stated that we would need someone totally dedicated to draft the RFP, or have Commerce draft the RFP and submit it to the boards' liaison to have the law department review it before it goes out. KJ Langlais moved giving permission to Scott to move forward on RFP and leverage to look at a third party in helping to draft the RFP. Lynn McClure seconded. Motion carried.

Lori Trumbo stated as a representative for Adult Basic Education, KCKCC was rated number three in the nation for the ability to reach their goals in the past year.

Adjournment

A motion was set forth to adjourn. It was seconded. Motion carried.