

# State Workforce Investment Board Sector Strategies Committee Minutes

Capitol, #405  
Helena, Montana  
January 11, 2012

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mike Grove, Chair; Alan Skari; Pat Wise (Evan Barrett's Designee); Keith Kelly; Jacquie Helt; Mike McGinley; Tina Bundtrock

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Connie Eissing; Henry Dykema; John DeMichiei; Rodney Miller

**STAFF:** Kali Wicks

**GUESTS:** Barb Wagner; Gordy Sanders; William Connell; Cindra Stahl; Devin Cowan; Dave Morey; Tom Kaiserski; Pat Murdo; David Hall; Rhonda Huseby; Carol Hanel; Todd Younkin

## I. Welcome and Introduction

Chair Mike Grove called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. He welcomed Committee members and guests.

### Roll call, Housekeeping, and Meeting Documents

Kali Wicks conducted roll call, addressed housekeeping items, and reviewed meeting materials. Chair Grove explained the committee conducts business under Roberts Rules of Order.

### Agenda

Chair Grove reviewed the Agenda. The agenda was accepted as presented by consensus.

### Minutes

Chair Grove reviewed past meeting minutes from May 5, 2010. Keith Kelly asked that his status be changed to "Present", as he had come in after roll call. The change to the minutes was noted. Commissioner Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Chair Grove seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

## II. Energy Industries: Current Trends

Tom Kaiserski of the Energy Division at the Department of Commerce gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the current trends of the energy industry in Montana. Mr. Kaiserski's

presentation included information on coal, oil, transmission, wind, and bioenergy, and contained detailed maps and graphics. Following the presentation, the group discussed the growth of the coal industry in Montana and the Bakken Boom and its effects on housing and infrastructure in Montana and North Dakota. Chair Grove asked SWIB staff to make a copy of Mr. Kaiserski's presentation and make available via e-mail or on the website, so it could be shared with the full Board. Chair Grove also asked Mr. Kaiserski to keep SWIB in mind in forming partnerships and studies where business and industry might be of help in this sector, particularly in the Bakken Region with its rapid growth and expanding workforce. Mr. Kaiserski stated that he would forward any further information or opportunities on to SWIB staff.

### **III. Wood Products Update: Forrest Products Retention**

Gordy Sanders of Pyramid Lumber updated the group on the works of the Forrest Products Retention Roundtable, including the various ways the SWIB could assist the industry. He specifically asked if the Board would help to facilitate financing and help seek opportunities for financing for operators in the industry, as it is critical for operators to keep equipment up to date and in safe working order. He also asked if the Committee would help facilitate opportunities for operator training for new, state of the art equipment, especially with computers, and look for specific types of training for the industry, such as CDL's. Mr. Sanders stated that there is a particular need across the nation for truck drivers, and noted that the mills are currently in need of electricians.

Following the presentation, the Committee had several questions about biomass and beetle kill. Mr. Sanders will send SWIB staff a Biomass document the Roundtable has put together with further information on their work in that realm. Chairman Grove asked Mr. Sanders to pass along any other help or training ideas that the industry may need from the Roundtable meetings. Mr. Sanders agreed to keep the Board apprised of industry information as it comes forth.

### **IV. Economic Development & Education Outreach Activities**

Pat Wise of the Governor's Office of Economic Development gave a short presentation on several sectors that the committee may be interested in looking into in the upcoming months including Manufacturing and Tourism. Ms. Wise stated that there are new developments in manufacturing including advances with Bio-Science and Photonic Light and also in Solar Energy. Ms. Wise also commented on small growth in the field of next generation products (higher tech). She suggested that the Committee may wish to hear from the Montana Manufacturing Center at an upcoming meeting.

### **V. Strategic Plan: Montana's Healthcare Workforce**

Cindra Stahl of the Montana Office of Rural Health and William Connell of Department of Labor's Research & Analysis Bureau gave a short presentation on Montana's Healthcare Workforce Statewide Strategic Plan, which was prepared as a result of a grant supported by the SWIB. Mr. Connell presented statistics showing that a shortage of workers in the healthcare industry exists in Montana, and further detailed the specific deficiencies in each field. Ms. Stahl presented information relating how the plan came together, and the various agencies and groups

that worked as a team to see its fruition. Ms. Stahl also stated that her office will be seeking a letter of support for an upcoming grant in the near future, with details to follow.

## **VI. Industry Skills Panel Discussion: Healthcare Workforce Needs**

Chair Grove facilitated a panel discussion.

Presenters and Key Topics included:

Jacquie Helt, President of the Montana AFL-CIO, SEIU Healthcare 775NW

- An overview of the article “*Long-Term Care for the Disabled Elderly*”, by Robyn I. Stone, and information regarding the overall condition of the labor market with respect to the long term healthcare industry.

Tina Bundtrock, Administrator, Rainbow Senior Living, Great Falls

- A look at the long-term healthcare industry from the front lines, specifically focusing on recruitment and retention, as senior living care facility administrator.

Dr. David Hall, Project Coordinator “College! Now”, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education

- A current summary of the healthcare industry, education, and careers in the State of Montana.

Cindra Stahl, Montana Office of Rural Health, Area Health Education Center

- Involvement of business and industry in long-term healthcare developments and in furthering the goals of Montana’s Healthcare Workforce Statewide Strategic Plan.

## **VII. Next Steps**

The next Committee meeting will be held via go-to or conference call. The meeting time will be determined after SWIB staff have gathered and distributed the presentation materials reviewed at the meeting, and following receipt of information regarding a new letter of support for a healthcare grant Ms. Stahl’s organization will be pursuing. Committee members will review the information presented at the meeting and contact staff with suggestions for further action. Staff will organize a presentation by the Montana Manufacturing Company at the next face to face meeting.

## **VIII. Adjourn**

With no further discussion, Chair Grove adjourned the meeting at 5:10 p.m.