

State Workforce Investment Board

Executive Committee

Minutes

June 14, 2011
GoTo Meeting

Council Members Present: Marty Copps, Chair; Dave Crum, Vice Chair; Mike Grove, Mike McGinley, Pat Wise (designee); and Todd Younkin (designee)

Council Members Absent: Robbe Lindsay

Guests: Gary Wright

Staff: Leisa Smith, Dan Bernhardt, Adrienne Piccono

I. Welcome and Introduction

Chair Copps called the meeting to order at 11:05am. She welcomed staff, council members, and guests. She reminded the group that the meeting is to be conducted under Robert's Rules of Order.

Roll Call

Ms. Piccono conducted roll call. A quorum was present.

Housekeeping

Mr. Bernhardt informed the group of the technicalities of the GoTo process.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approve the Meeting Minutes

Chair Copps asked if there were any changes made to the March 22, 2011 minutes. The Minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

II. Program Updates

Gary Wright reported on Montana's funding allocations for WIA Title IB employment and training programs for next program year starting July 1, 2011. The funding reflects a cut of 6.8% across the board. However, Montana remains under the national average which is about 10%.

This will affect the number of customers providers will be able to serve, The Governor's set-aside funding has also been reduced to 5% for the first quarter of July 1st through Sept 30th. If set-aside funding remains at 5%, that would greatly restrict or eliminate funds for any special project requests.

WIA funding allocations as follows:

- Youth \$169, 668,
- Adult \$160,481
- Dislocated Worker \$127,649.

After October 1st, the Department will have a better idea of what recommendations need to be made to the Governor. Committee members went on to inquire into the impact to service providers. Gary stated that at this time they do not anticipate any additional cuts to programs. However, with pending WIA reauthorization this could also be the first wave of cuts. If the Governor's set-aside funding remains at 5%, priorities would be to fund the mandatory federal requirements such as support for the SWIB, and program oversight & monitoring. The first quarter will be difficult for operators. We are at a point where we are barely surviving maintaining the operators that we have. We may have to wait until 3rd quarter to have a clearer picture.

III. Governor's Set-Aside

Pat Wise presented a \$59,000 request for Governors set-aside funds to be used for a proposed third year of activities for the First Lady's Math and Science Initiative.

Over the past two years, Governor's Set-aside funds have been utilized to support and expand a state initiative to promote math and science as a key to preparing a workforce capable of competing in a global economy. Year Three activities will include:

- Design, development and production oversight of the next set of math and science trading cards that will highlight food, nutrition, gardening, and related Montana agriculture and healthcare jobs. Students are asked to get involved in creating each new set of trading cards by voting online for the math and science facts they find most interesting. There is a significant outreach component to teachers and students for selecting and then announcing the new set of cards.
- Continued promotion and development of Montana's agricultural industry cluster through the Classroom Gardening Project. A system will be in place this summer to contact schools for their feedback concerning the impacts of the first year of the Project. This Fall's focus will be on education and outreach to teachers through networks such as the MEA-MFT Educators Conference. Local Project activities will center on coordinating with classroom teachers to bring volunteer scientists, such as agricultural extension agents, and others from the agricultural industry into the classroom. There will be involvement of 14 to 18 year olds through the 4-H Teen Leaders program.

- Continued promotion of Roadside Geology Markers Program in the Spring and Fall. High school students from communities throughout the state participate in each local event that includes classroom conversations concerning the geology, geography and history of each featured site.
- Active involvement in a number of statewide events encouraging 14 to 18 year olds to participate in science fairs, science competitions, or summer camps that inspire students to study math and science as a pathway to a career.
- Participation in a steering committee leveraging post -secondary resources to increase the quantity, quality, and diversity of mathematics and science teachers and expanding outreach to teachers' organizations.
- Participation in a consortium of states working through a federal grant program to adopt internationally benchmarked college and career ready standards to better align K-12 and higher education and apprenticeship programs.
- Award recognition of a community organization, a private research organization, and an individual who have partnered with Montana's school systems to enhance math and science education tied to high-demand fields

Dave Crum made a motion to support, Mike McGinley seconded the motion to recommend funding support for the third year of outlined activities for the First Lady's Math/Science Initiative. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. No opposition, no abstentions.

IV. Unfinished Business

Leisa Smith mentioned that June 30th was the end of the board terms, so she encouraged people to resubmit their applications if they wish to continue service to SWIB. So far, we have received 3 new legislative leaders and Kim Gillan will remain on the board.

Chair Copps adjourned the meeting at 11:48am