

State Workforce Investment Board
Executive Committee
July 23, 2009

DRAFT MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Dan Miles, Chair; Marty Copps, Vice Chair; Dave Crum; Mike Grove; Gail Richardson; and Dore Schwinden (Designee for Keith Kelly.)

Committee Members Absent: Evan Barrett (Designee: Pat Wise), Georgia Gibbs-Atkinson, Mike McGinley, and Mike O'Neill.

Staff: Dan Bernhardt and Danielle Nettleton.

Guests: Kara Graetz, Al Maurillo, Gerge Palmer, Will Stubsten, Kelly Yarns, Matt Hisel, Diana Reetz Stacey, Rhonda Huseby, Dave Delaney, Norma Vylasek, Dianne Lehm, Patty Nordlund, Vernetta Torgerson, Steve Olson, Deborah Jiang, Kate Johnson, Mary Berg, Sarah DeMoney, Tom Frisby, Gary Wright, Todd Younkin, Dave Morey, and Carol Hanel.

I. Welcome & Introduction

Chairman Dan Miles called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. He welcomed staff, committee members, and guests.

Roll Call and Housekeeping

Danielle Nettleton conducted roll call and addressed housekeeping items. Chairman Miles explained the committee conducts business under Roberts Rules of Order; he would relax Roberts Rules of Order to allow informal discussion among members.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chairman Miles asked if there were any changes to the June 29, 2009 meeting minutes. Dave Crum made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented; Marty Copps seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

II. Workforce Information Grant

Todd Younkin, Research and Analysis Bureau Chief reviewed the background of the Workforce Information Grant. He reported the grant has remained the same as previous years and provides a significant amount of funding for Montana's workforce information and research performed by the bureau. The US Department of Labor (DOL) Employment and Training Administration is requiring a Statement of Work Certification that will be signed by the DOL Commissioner and the State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) Chair.

Mike Grove made a motion to approve the approach, statement of intent, and authorize Chair Miles to sign on behalf of the SWIB. Gail Richardson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

III. Green Jobs Grants Presentation

Dan Bernhardt, SWIB Program Specialist provided a presentation to inform the Committee on American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 2009: Green Job Grants. \$500 Million of Recovery Act funding is designated for projects that prepare workers for careers in the energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors.

Key highlights of the five grants available include:

- State Labor Market Information Improvement Grants: Due August 14, 2009
 - The purpose is for the Workforce Agencies of the 50 states, District of Columbia, and US Territories, or a consortium of such agencies, to collect, analyze, disseminate labor market information, and to enhance the labor exchange infrastructure for careers within the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries. This grant will be primarily handled by DOL Research and Analysis Bureau.
 - \$50 million is available with \$750,000 to \$1,250,000 available for single state applicants and \$2 to \$4 million for consortium applicants. The period of performance is 18 months.
- Energy Training Partnership Grant: Due September 4, 2009
 - The purpose of these grants are to provide training and job placement in the renewable energy and energy efficiency industries for workers who have been affected by National Energy or Environmental Policy, Workers needing updated training in those industries, and Unemployed workers. The grant also allows for training current employees in the target industries as well as those who have been laid off from jobs in those industries. Because of the very natural fit between training and job placement, the Joint Apprenticeship Training Centers will be leading the grant with assistance from the DOL.
 - \$100 million is available for 20 to 30 projects, projected at \$2 to \$5 million each. The period of performance is 24 months.

Comment: Dave Crum suggested partnerships be made with energy training projects currently across the state.

- Pathways Out of Poverty Grant: Due September 29, 2009
 - The purpose of the grant is to provide occupational and basic work skills, supportive services, and placement services to the economically disadvantaged individuals allowing entry into the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries.
 - Specific groups targeted in this grant include High School dropouts, persons with criminal records, the unemployed, and persons living in high poverty. For purposes of this grant, a poverty rate of 15% or greater is required.
 - The two sets of eligible applicants for this grant include National Non-Profits that deliver services through a network of local affiliates, coalition members, or other established partners and local public organizations or non-profits whose service is limited to a sub state area.
 - \$150 million is available with \$2 to \$4 million projected for each grant. The period of performance is 24 months.

- State Energy Sector Partnership (SESP) and Training Grant: Due October 20, 2009
 - The purpose of the grant is to align the State energy policy with the workforce development policy and to implement training programs in the energy sector that reflect the alignment. This is a sector strategy approach focused on the renewable energy and energy efficiency industries. The policy alignment activity must occur through the SESP and must be completed before applying for the grant. The only eligible applicants are SWIB's and only one application per state will be accepted.
 - The SESP is comprised of representatives from the State Workforce Agency, SWIB, One-Stop Centers, State Cabinet officials from agencies receiving Recovery Act funds related to relevant energy efficiency and renewable energy resources and other green occupations and industries in the state, representatives from the energy efficiency and renewable energy business and industries such as public, private, or non-profit employers, and labor organizations including labor management training programs.
 - The optional but suggested partners include Apprenticeship, Non-Profit organizations including community and faith based organizations, Education and training community, state and local veterans' agencies and local veteran's service organizations, and Economic development organizations.
 - \$190 million is available for this grant with \$2 to \$6 million for each applicant. The period of performance is up to 36 months.

A sector plan will need to be developed. The governor will assign cabinet members and the first SESP meeting will be facilitated by a representative from Corporation for a Skilled Workforce (CSW) to assist in policy alignment and identifying the energy sector needs. The Grant process will be moving very quickly on a tight timeline. The grants will be time consuming for department staff and require SWIB members to be more active in committee meetings. The department will assist any and all applicants for each grant. Chair Miles requested staff develop a timeline for the Grants, allowing members to keep schedules open for meetings.

The Executive Committee expressed their excitement and encouraged all necessary partners to apply on behalf of the people of Montana. Members along with department staff will provide encouragement and assistance as needed or requested. Chair Miles stated Mr. de Yong has done a wonderful job working on the WIRED grant and believes his knowledge from the experience will be valuable to the grants.

IV. Other Business

Todd Younkin informed committee members the Labor Day Report will be presented during the October SWIB meeting.

V. Adjourn

With no further business Mr. Grove made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:02 a.m. Mr. Crum seconded the motion which passed unanimously.