

State Workforce Investment Board

Lifelong Learning Committee Minutes

November 10, 2014

4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

GoTo Meeting or Walt Sullivan Bldg., 2nd floor conference room
Helena, Montana

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Trent (Chair); Tom Facey; Margaret Bowles (designee); Billie Lee; and Rep. Ryan Lynch

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Tina Bundrock; John Cech; Al Ekblad; Kirk Hammerquist; Keith HeavyRunner; Maureen Kenneally ; and Robert Minto

STAFF: Leisa Smith, Casey Schreiner and Greg Cano

GUESTS: Matt Springer and Kaye Norris

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Scott Trent called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. He welcomed Committee members and guests.

Roll call

Greg Cano conducted roll call and established a quorum was not established.

Agenda

Chair Trent reviewed the Agenda. The committee could not provide a consensus vote to approve the meeting agenda because a quorum wasn't established.

Minutes

September 25, 2014 meeting minutes were not approved due to lack of quorum.

Moving Pathways Forward

Ms. Bowles, State ABE Director, provided an update on the Moving Pathways Forward Technical Assistance Award received by the Adult Basic Education System in Montana. Recent activity has been looking at regional alignment with two-year colleges and assessing ease of access and transition. Additionally, ABE Center Directors have been given homework to research each regions needs by way of using labor market data to document such information as; workforce projections, most in demand job openings, economic development activities, available services and education and training centers as they align with the labor market needs in the region and build new and reaffirm existing partnerships. The compilation of this work is to be completed by

Jan. 15, 2015. The information will begin the creation of the necessary information to transition ABE students into a career pathway in all regions in the State. The implementation date is slated for fall of 2015. Discussion ensued around partner versus partnership and how regions were being defined. Ms. Bowles stated that the regions being used for this Award are the regions used by Higher Ed. There are 18 ABE centers in MT. The overarching goal is to have pathway system and services understood by ABE students to support and advance them into the workforce.

Role of Pathways in TAACCCT Grants

Matt Springer, Project Director for the SWAMMEI Grant was unable to attend. Kay Norris, Assistant Director, Western Montana Area Health Education Center spoke to the newly awarded HealthCARE grant. Ms. Norris and reviewed the main objectives of the SWAMMEI grant but spent most of the time speaking to the grant focused on healthcare. This new grant will work closely with adult learners. The grant will provide regional coaches, tutoring, and remediation regarding healthcare occupations. Health care core contextualized modules will be developed, prior learning assessment tools will be used, creation of core healthcare coursework for all MT colleges will be developed with established career pathways, establishment of new certification such as, patient care, health and administrative tracks such as, health information technicians, coders, billing and office specialists, and the creation of new health care related Apprenticeship programs. John Cech, committee member was unable to attend today but is spearheading this work. Employer partnerships are key to pathway development and success. Pathways provide more on and off ramps into careers through education and training programs. Job Service offices are also active partners. Ms. Bowles requesting information on the work of these grants as it will assist her in the Moving Pathways Forward initiative. Ms. Lee was pleased to see these two initiatives moving along similar tracks and wondered what role SWIB could play in keeping these grant activities moving forward? Ms. Bowles stated that her initiative was still in its formative stages but anticipated the need for input and support in the future.

Pathways Support

Due to lack of a quorum the committee could not move forward with formalizing a motion statement regarding SWIB support of career pathway development in the State.

Ms. Lee inquired as to our inclusion of preschool age students and if so, should this be considered in the overall mission? Staff stated the Governor is very supportive of early education and the Governor's Main Street Montana Key Industry groups are focused on sector strategies and how career pathways can be further developed to support economic development. Career pathway's support the work of the Governor and aligns with SWIB.

With no further discussion Chair Trent requested an email be sent to committee members to solicit feedback on the motion language that could be reviewed at the next meeting for action. A GoTo meeting was recommended, if possible, before the Dec. 2nd full Board meeting. All attending members agreed.

Ms. Lee inquired into the development of a committee mission statement. Staff stated that the Executive Committee was meeting to develop the SWIB mission to be taking to the full Board in December. Members felt it behooved them to wait until the overarching mission was developed.

Discussion: Next Steps /Next Meeting

Staff will send out current draft language via email for further comment and recommendations. The information obtained will be provided at a GoTo meeting to be scheduled prior to Dec. 2nd for finalization and then presented for action at the SWIB meeting. The committee will review a mission and goals once the full Board mission has been approved.

With no further discussion Chair Trent asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Lee made the motion with a second from Sen. Facey. The motion carried and the meeting was concluded at 5:00 p.m.