

State Workforce Investment Board

Sector Strategies Committee Minutes

November 2, 2014

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John McKee (Chair); Dean Bentley; Casey Blumenthal; Dean Becker (designee); Paul Gatzemeier; Jacquie Helt; Nan LeFebvre; and Loren Rose

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Larry Hall; Rep. Rep. Brian Hoven; Niles Hushka;

STAFF: Leisa Smith, Casey Schreiner, Greg Cano

GUESTS: None

Welcome and Introductions

Chair McKee called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

Roll call

Greg Cano conducted roll call and established a quorum.

Agenda

Chair McKee reviewed the Agenda and asked for any changes to the agenda. With no changes recommended, Mr. Rose moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. LeFebvre seconded, and the motion carried.

Minutes

Chair McKee asked if there were any changes to the minutes. Mr. Rose had some questions regarding the presentation by Annie Glover. The clarification was asked regarding the response to the inquiry of the grant to address “any distractions to education and employment.” Ms. Glover’s response was “it does and it does not.” Committee members agreed it needed clarification. Member requested the statement to read “It does not.” Mr. Rose asked for clarification regarding barriers in regard to childcare. Ms. LeFebvre stressed that without access to affordable childcare it impacts workers ability to maintain or seek employment. Lastly, Mr. Rose noted a wrong member listing on the final page. With no further recommended amendments, Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the September 25, 2014 minutes as amended. Mr. Dean seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Woolsey Group Recommendations

Chair McKee lead the discussion on the recommendations that were provided from Lindsey Woolsey during her work with the SWIB in September. Questions were asked regarding what current projects are underway addressing sector strategies and if there were any committee members who have been engaged in any of this work. Staff stated that current initiatives such as the recent Trade Adjustment Act Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) grants address several key sectors and the development of career pathways. These grants are focusing on manufacturing, energy and healthcare. The Governor's Main Street Montana Key Industry Network (KINS) groups are sector driven. SWIB has several members who are serving on these KINS and the Governor is encouraging any private sector member to attend meetings. Six KINS have been established and have begun meeting. Conversations are taking place as to how to align with the work of SWIB and its subcommittees. The KINS that have begun work are: Manufacturing, Technology, Tourism & Hospitality, Agriculture and Natural Resources. Staff also noted that Sector Strategies has been identify as a best practice and is promoted in the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) which replaces the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). This legislation is the primary workforce development in partnership with Education and Health & Human Services. There will be work for the committee but staff is still waiting for guidance. Staff inquired if the committee felt they had a solid understanding of sector strategies. Most committee members felt additional information would be helpful in order to move forward. Staff suggested providing some visual information that outlines the process of developing sector strategies. Another idea would be for staff to research other states that have established sector strategies and provide some process information. Chair McKee also noted that mapping would be another visual showing flow/process and what is happening regionally. Ms. LeFebvre stated that labor market information would also be helpful in furthering understanding. With no further discussion, a motion was made to approve the recommendations from Lindsey Woolsey. Ms. Helt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mission & Goals Drafting

The committee recommended that staff draft a mission statement as a starting point perhaps based on examples from other States. Committee members still feel they need more information on sector strategies and partnerships before they can move forward with identifying goals. However, some preliminary goals were established in the last meeting that Lindsey Woolsey attended such as; establishing 6 sector strategies within the next three years. Mr. Bentley expressed a need for more education on structure and foundational work regarding sector strategies. Staff agreed to provide definitions and provide examples of statements and partnerships along with the concept of industry skills panels. Staff will look into a survey for committee members to assess their level of understand of sector strategy work. Survey results will help staff and Chair McKee move forward. Ms. LeFebvre made a motion to postpone the development of mission and goals at this time. Mr. Gatzemeirer seconded the motion, motion carried.

Discussion: Next Steps/Next Meeting

Due to staff time preparing for the full Board meeting on Dec. 2nd, and time staff will need to prepare information on Sector Strategies, the next meeting will have to come later in December or early January. Staff will most likely send out a doodle poll to assess availability for the next meeting. With no further discussion, Mr. Bentley made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

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