

Governor's State Workforce Investment Board Workforce Investment Act Committee

**GoToMeeting
January 12, 2010**

DRAFT MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Miles, Chair; Evan Barrett (*Designee: Pat Wise*); Marty Capps; Robbe Lindsey; Mike McGinley; Jeff Rupp; and Dore Schwinden (*Designee for Keith Kelly.*)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mike DesRosier and Sandi Miller.

STAFF: Leisa Smith; Dan Bernhardt; Danielle Nettleton; and Gary Wright, Bureau Chief, Statewide Workforce Programs and Oversight Bureau (advisor.)

GUESTS: Suzanne Ferguson, Dave Morey, Todd Younkin, and Adam de Yong.

I. Welcome and Introduction

Chairman Dan Miles called the meeting to order at 2:12 p.m. He welcomed committee members and guests.

- **Roll call, Housekeeping, and Meeting Documents**

Danielle Nettleton conducted roll call and addressed housekeeping items. She stated a recording of the meeting will be posted on the SWIB website under archived meetings. Chair Miles explained the committee conducts business under Roberts Rules of Order and reminded members of the public to state their name clearly for the accuracy of the minutes.

- **Agenda**

Chair Miles reviewed the agenda; it was accepted, as presented, by consensus.

- **Minutes**

Chair Miles reviewed the June 4, 2009 committee meeting minutes. Dore Schwinden made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Mike McGinley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

II. WIA Title IB Overview

Dan Bernhardt provided a PowerPoint presentation on the following topics about the Workforce Investment Act:

- What the Workforce Investment Act is
- WIA funding sources and how the funding is allocated
- WIA Adult, Youth, and Dislocated Worker program eligibility and services
- Roles and Responsibilities of SWIB, WIA Committee, and WIA Staff
- WIA Reauthorization
- WIA and Wagner-Peyser State Plan
- WIA Annual Report
- ARRA update
- WIA timeline
- Overview of the Governor's Discretionary Fund
- One-Stop Certification Assessment Status

To view a copy of the PowerPoint presentation, please go to: www.swib.mt.gov

Discussion:

- Chair Miles asked for clarification regarding local planning boards and statewide planning boards. Gary Wright, Program Oversight Bureau Chief, provided a brief history of the old local board structure and operations, and the current single board structure and operations.
- Chair Miles requested a detailed list of tasks needing to be addressed by the committee versus the board. Staff reported the WIA committee's role is to address items within the WIA law as needed. The committee was reminded of Lindsey Woolsey's suggestions to have the committee review and discuss WIA issues prior to making a recommendation to the board. The WIA committee does not have the authority to act on behalf of the Board or in place of the Executive Committee.
- Chair Miles asked about Montana's recommendations regarding the reauthorization of WIA. Mr. Wright explained WIA staff within each state and the United States

Department of Labor (USDOL) has been discussing proposed changes. States will be asked for comment when USDOL officially releases information regarding WIA reauthorization.

- Chair Miles requested staff review the state plan and detail each task the board stated they would accomplish; allowing the committee to ensure Montana is performing as indicated. Ms. Smith clarified that the recent state plan modification did not include any changes, rather descriptions on activities related to ARRA funding. WIA Unit provides oversight and monitoring to program providers for both regular and ARRA funding that went into Adult, Youth, and Dislocated Workers.
- Chair Miles asked if the SWIB needed to be preparing for another Summer Youth Employment Program. Mr. Wright announced USDOL had not made a decision to have a second Summer Youth Employment Program at this time.

III. Other Business

Todd Younkin, Research and Analysis Bureau Chief, provided a brief overview of the past “Training Montana for the Right Job” presentation provided to the State Workforce Investment Board during the May 12, 2009 meeting. The presentation was based on the “Occupational Prioritization for Training Model” created by the Oregon Employment Department, Workforce and Economic Research Division. The model uses statistics to identify high wage and high demand jobs to focus training dollars. He briefly described the intended approach, primary and secondary factors to be considered, and data issues.

Due to the recent release of Green Job Training Grants and the short deadline for submitting an application, the R & A Bureau reviewed all current projects and reprioritized each task. After the Green Grant Application was submitted, the bureau staff worked quickly to catch up and complete projects attached to deadlines and contracts. When reviewing the Occupational Prioritizing for Training Project, staff realized the benefit to Montana if the project was held off due to the award of the State Labor Market Information and Improvement Grant. The current information and data available is skewed due in part the delay in acquiring data and the dynamics of the current economy. The new data to be collected through extensive research during the new grant period will be compiled and analyzed by R&A staff. The data collected will provide extremely beneficial and expanded information to Montana and surrounding states. When the new data is collected, the R&A Bureau will provide an update to the Board.

Chair Miles discussed the possibility of finding other sources to provide the board statistical information. Mr. Younkin informed the committee of other entities who could provide limited

information for a fee. The R&A Bureau is the only entity who has access to certain statistics because of confidentiality concerns (i.e. Unemployment Data.)

The committee discussed how program operators currently decide how participants utilize training funds. Suzanne Ferguson, WIA Supervisor, explained program operators explore different training options with candidates while reviewing R&A data about job growth and income. The participants are only allowed to utilize funds for a training program if the training will allow the participant to earn a higher income to support themselves and their family.

IV. Adjourn

With no further discussion, Pat Wise made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dore Schwinden seconded the motion which passed unanimously.