



Humboldt County Workforce Investment Board

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING Thursday, August 6, 2009 1:30 - 3:30 pm Prosperity! Center Conference Room 520 E Street, Eureka, CA

MINUTES

Members Present: Maggie Gainer (Vice-Chair), Terry Coltra, Jon Sapper and Bob Sampson (Chair)

Members Absent: Ahn Fielding, Mark Lovelace and Bryan Plumley

Others Attending: Joe Davey, Janet DePace, Barbara LaHaie and Donna Wheeler

1. OPENING

1.1 Call to Order: Meeting came to order at 1:33 pm

1.2 Adjustment to the Agenda: Add Item 4.4: Possible Workforce Impact for Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA)

1.3 Introductions: No introductions; everyone known

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

3. DISCUSSION and ACTION ITEMS

3.1 Minutes: Motion made by Terry Coltra, second by Maggie Gainer to accept the previous minutes; Jon Sapper abstained, so carried.

3.2 Membership: Motion made by Jon Sapper, second by Terry Coltra to accept for membership Barbara LaHaie; so carried. **Motion** made by Jon Sapper, second by Maggie Gainer to accept for membership Alyson Talbot, application pending; so carried. Evelyn Giddings and Linda Grimm have missed 3 Full WIB meetings in a row; by-laws state a member can be terminated for "Failure to attend three (3) consecutive WIB meetings". **Motion** made by Terry Coltra, second by Jon Sapper to reverse the automatic drop of these two members; so carried.

3.3 Work Experience policy update: Allows for stipends to be used instead of hourly wage to pay participants based on competencies mastered, for instance, the College of the Redwoods component of the summer youth program. Those classes can be counted as needs-based. **Motion** made by Maggie Gainer, second by Terry Coltra to approve additions to the Work Experience policy; so carried.

3.4 Agenda for upcoming year: Following are suggestions of topics for next years Full WIB meetings:

- Update Targets data
- Integrate into update of CEDS
- IDEO/summit series
- Diversified Healthcare Industry Strategic plan
 - health of work environment
 - health of people at work
- Childcare facilities plan
- Mapping skill sets in Targets/Occupations of Opportunity
- Building a workforce from the ground up
- Bring in businesses to present
- Smart grown and workforce
- Connecting dollars across programs

- Census (8/21 meeting in Ukiah)
 - letter to Regional director of Census Bureau; cc Thompson's office
 - Terry Coltra and possibly Mark Lovelace will attend meeting
- Education role
- Tracking legislation
- Youth program funding
- Transportation for work and industry

Discussion: Maggie has done some research on the overall health of the work environment; may be able to find funds to support this. Jon Sapper is interested in discussing how we can build a workforce from the ground up; long-term strategies of how an area can build a workforce in a new market environment. HSU is looking for workforce prep for their career center; resume writing, job search skills with an on-line program. This seems to mirror what's happening right now at the Job Market. Building a Green workforce; range of skills that are directly related to energy and the environment. What businesses are out there and how will they play a role. This will be more and more a part of our businesses and government. We should continue our work with local entrepreneurs; keep up the presentations. Childcare facilities are really a Worklife Alliance project. This project concentrates on the question: how can we increase the number of facilities? Youth program funding; what do we do next year and the year after when stimulus funds run out. We have to make sure that we track and connect stimulus money across all programs. The Census is important to workforce planning; we should weigh in on this issue. This could affect our funding. Special populations don't get counted; Spanish population, Hmong population or Native Americans. We need to move quickly on this. Terry Coltra will be attending the meeting in Ukiah on the 21st of this month; possibly Mark Lovelace could also attend. Bob Sampson will write a letter stating our concerns to the Regional director of the Census Bureau. This Board will meet two more times before the next Full WIB meeting. This will give us an opportunity to have more conversation on these topics and possibly brainstorm for additional topics.

4. REPORTS

- 4.1 Staff:** Staff has been working on funding opportunities. DOL Pathways out of Poverty grant; working on a concept for that with CR in the lead. Regional Innovations grant is still sitting out there without an answer yet. This is with DOL. Two months ago they requested more information that finalized our budget; have heard nothing since then. Economic Development Administration has a grant for CEDS and Targets. Our department has a few staffing changes; Jose Quezada's last day will be September 11th and Nicole Morrow has been hired as an Economic Development Specialist. Jacqueline will be away for approximately 3 weeks returning on the 28th of August.
- 4.2 Youth Council:** Youth program for the summer is up and running at a furious pace. One hundred and forty-four participants are on the payroll; we're well over our 200 benchmark. This number does not include CCC crews, Digital Pathways or students taking classes at CR. Digital Pathways had a premiere last week with rave reviews. At the end of the month the monitor will be here; we're getting our ducks in a row. CCC crews came in a little under what we expected but are still going strong. CR classes are for Work Readiness; had instructors that were "fun", so say the students. At the end of September we will have local celebrations to recognize those youth that had exemplary work experiences. CWA is doing an end

of summer program in Sacramento; we will be sending one youth from our summer program over; that student will be dining with the governor.

4.3 Job Market Operators: The CWA Conference in Monterey is at the end of September; Nicole Morrow, Jacqueline Debets and Connie Lorenzo will be attending and presenting at that meeting. The volume of individuals going through the Job Market has gone up to 3,000 visits per month; a 54% increase in youth using the facility is largely due to the fact that Laura Chancellor and the StepUp program is physically in that building. The orientations given are overflowing with youth.

4.4 MLPA: Motion made by Jon Sapper, second by Terry Coltra to add discussion/action item on the Marine Life Protection Act and its implications on economy and workforce to the agenda, due to the fast track it is on at the state level and the potential significant impacts; passed unanimously and added as item 4.4. Marine Life Protection Act; an initiative whose purpose is to establish marine life protection areas around the West Coast. There is a stakeholders group being established. This could have a substantial economic impact depending on how this is rolled out; a negative impact to our fishing industry. There is a requirement that an Environmental Impact Study be done; the study is to end at the dock, period! Everything that occurs from the dock past is not currently in the parameters of the study. This is something that needs to go on the radar; it's being fast tracked. The ramifications include everything from restrictions to closure. **Motion** made by Jon Sapper, second by Terry Coltra that the WIB send a letter strongly recommending that any economic analysis of the MLPA extend to impacts beyond the dock and consider the workforce implications of the MLPA; passed unanimously. Jon to assist staff in writing the letter.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

5.1 Terry Coltra has another 68 youth on board with him. Workforce Development; a course of study is being updated right now and woven into a package with CWA. Reaching out to other endorsement folks for any recommended changes. Some amazing things are happening after Jacqueline went in and spoke with the teachers at Fortuna High a few months ago. Teachers took her presentation to heart; this second semester they restructured the day. Currently 75 percent of the teaching faculty is on board with the Targets. Jacqueline received an invitation from Southern Humboldt to give her presentation; she will not be in town so she has asked Jon and Kathy Moxon to present in her place.

6. CLOSING: Meeting adjourned at 3:25