

**WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS  
YOUTH COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**February 11, 2015  
11:00 a.m.**

**Rosalie Boulware Bronze & Silver Conference Room  
6330 W. Charleston Blvd., Ste. 150  
Las Vegas, NV 89146**

**Members Present**

Sonja Holloway, Chair	Tommy Rowe	Vida Chan Lin	Liberty Leavitt
Dan Rose	Jack Martin	Mujahid Ramadan	Willie J. Fields (phone)

**Members Absent**

Stavan Corbett	Capt. Jack Owen
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**Staff Present**

Ardell Galbreth	Suzanne Potter	Heather DeSart	Ricardo Villalobos
Brett Miller	Jim Kostecki	Clentine January	

**Others Present**

Carol Turner, CST Project Consulting	Jeramey Pickett, Nevada Partners, Inc.
Tenesha McCulloch, Goodwill of Southern Nevada	Mildred Thompson
Kelli Mosley, Olive Crest	Sherman Rutledge, St. Jude's Ranch
Will Reed, HELP of Southern Nevada	Ron Hilke, DETR

It should be noted that all attendees may not be listed above.

**1. Call to order, confirmation of posting and roll call**

Chair Sonja Holloway called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m. Staff confirmed the meeting had been properly posted in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

**2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Approve the Agenda with inclusions of any emergency items and deletion of any items**

*A motion was made to approve the agenda by Dan Rose and seconded by Mujahid Ramadan. Motion carried.*

**3. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION:**

None

**4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Approve the Youth Council minutes of January 14, 2015**

The minutes are provided on page 5-7 of the agenda packet.

*A motion was made to approve the Youth Council minutes of January 14, 2015 by Tommy Rowe and seconded by Mujahid Ramadan. Motion carried.*

**5. INFORMATION: 2015 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

WC will release RFPs to secure Youth One-Stop System Affiliate Sites, as well as RFPs to secure providers of services to special populations. As a result of this RFP, the Youth One-Stop System

Affiliate Sites will be geographically located throughout the designated workforce delivery area (North, South, East and West).

Ricardo Villalobos, Program Director provided background. RFPs will be released by the end of February to begin programs on July 1, 2015 for both Youth and Adult & Dislocated Worker programs. The Youth One-Stop System Affiliate Sites in the North, South, East and West will allow for proximity of services to be provided more effectively. In addition to the Youth One-Stop System Affiliate Sites, RFPs will be released for special populations, specifically Youth with Disabilities and Foster Youth, and special initiatives, including Dropout Recovery for out-of-school youth. WC is seeking unrestricted funds to continue the Graduate Advocate Initiative program to serve in-school youth.

Chair Holloway inquired about oversight at the Youth One-Stop Affiliate sites. Ardell Galbreth, Executive Director stated that WC staff will still have the responsibility of oversight but business will change to ensure services are expanded to reach all areas North, South, East and West, where the need for services is critical at this time. WC is proposing these RFPs to address the need for youth services in these areas and is looking for proposals that include matching costs for overhead, such as rent.

Liberty Leavitt inquired about the timeframe for the Dropout Recovery Initiative. Mr. Villalobos stated that the RFP will be released by the end of February.

Mr. Villalobos stated that the Youth One-Stop Affiliate Sites will serve all populations; basically, everyone who comes through the door will be served and funded service providers will serve special populations (Youth with Disabilities and Foster Youth) through targeted outreach and recruitment and partnerships with community organizations that specialize in serving specific populations. The Dropout Recovery initiative will focus on youth that have dropped out of school and the DJJS Diversion/Intervention (Pre-Entry) Initiative focuses on youth who are at risk of incarceration. Mr. Villalobos stated that the annual cost for an incarcerated youth in Nevada is \$195,000. He stated that WC is partnering with DJJS to consider the cost to effectively serve youth before they enter the system. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Leavitt inquired about services in Laughlin and Boulder City (St. Jude's). Mr. Villalobos stated that the rural communities will not be impacted as they are already in the geographical areas that will be targeted. He further stated that the contract for St. Jude's is on its first year and has an additional two years remaining, and if the other rural contracts have not ended, they will continue for an additional year.

## **6. INFORMATION: Awards & Expenditures – Monthly Update**

Jim Kostecki, Finance Manager summarized the Awards & Expenditures report (p. 10) reflecting expenditures through December 2014, except for St. Jude's Ranch for Children, which only reflects expenditures through November 2014. He noted that new WIOA contracts will overlap existing WIA contracts for three months for service providers that are awarded new contracts. Mr. Galbreth stated that the plan is to expend existing WIA funds then new WIOA funds and any unspent WIA funds will be recaptured and reallocated to a new service provider and/or initiative. Mr. Kostecki stated that hopefully we will begin drawing down PY2014 funds by the end of February and clarified that the new contracts beginning July 1, 2015 will be under the WIOA rules and regulations, and remaining WIA funds will be reallocated into new WIOA contracts.

Tommy Rowe inquired about funding for the Caliente Youth Center. Mr. Villalobos stated that the rural funding does not specifically include funding for the Caliente Youth Center, but there are service providers that serve youth who are in the Caliente Youth Center per their contracts. Mr. Rowe noted that in prior years, Caliente Youth Center youth were counted as being rural residents from the area, but they were actually mostly from Clark and Washoe Counties.

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Chair Holloway inquired about Latin Chamber Foundation's remaining balance of \$274,866. Mr. Kostecki stated that this is the balance remaining from LCCCF's invoices ending November 30<sup>th</sup>, which staff is in the process of settling, so next month's report will reflect the trued up numbers. The estimated remaining balance was transferred to Academy of Human Development.

**7. INFORMATION: Funding Plan – Monthly Update**

Brett Miller, Manager of Strategic Planning & Analysis summarized the Youth Funding Plan PY2014 Projections, updated through December 2014, on page 12 of the agenda packet. The report reflects \$6,437,570 of available funds and a remaining balance of \$632,386 (.34 months). He reported that funds are earmarked for pending contracts including tutoring for Literacy/Numeracy for \$200,000 and DJJS Pre-Entry Youth for \$1,000,000, although based on PY2015 projections, this number may be as low as \$600,000.

**8. INFORMATION: PY2014 Performance Report**

Mr. Villalobos reported that WC failed the Literacy and Numeracy Gains performance measure in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarters by approximately 10% with 33.8% gains; the negotiated number is 43%. He further reported that out of 754 out-of-school youth, 255 increased Lit/Num Gains and 29% of the out-of-school youth did not have pre-test scores within 60 days of enrollment as required, which automatically fails them in the measure. Service providers that are failing this measure have been issued pink papers according to WC's Compliance and Sanctioning Policy and will be required to submit monthly performance improvement updates. Service providers will be required to pre-test within 30 days, rather than 60 and are required to submit a post-test implementation schedule for monthly post-tests, rather than quarterly. Service providers also must identify a staff member to track pre- and post-tests for all participants as well as emphasize tutoring for out-of-school youth. The Local Common Measures Performance Report for 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter PY2014 is provided on page 14 of the agenda packet.

Chair Holloway inquired about the new performance measures for WIOA. Mr. Villalobos stated there are six common performance measures. Literacy/Numeracy Gains is not one of the measures that will be reported on under the new legislation.

Mr. Villalobos noted the Common Measures Snapshot on page 16, which highlights in pink the service providers who failed the measure in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter and have been issued pink papers. Mr. Miller reported that WC has already passed the Lit/Num Gains measure for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter and is on par for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters.

Heather DeSart, Deputy Executive Director stated that the state negotiates the performance measures with the regional office and noted that the Lit/Num Gains performance measure was increased last year from 29% to 43%. This year when DETR's new leadership negotiates the numbers, WC will most likely have an opportunity to provide perspective as the local workforce development area.

**9. INFORMATION: Director's Report ~ Ricardo Villalobos, Workforce Development Programs**

Mr. Villalobos reported the following:

- WC staff is engaging in meetings with the various title programs (i.e., Title I Workforce Development, Title II Adult Education, Title III Wagner-Peyser, Title IV Vocational Rehabilitation) that have been mandated to work together regarding workforce development to begin the implementation of WIOA under a unified state plan.
- The out-of-school youth majority (75%) system will be effective immediately and RFPs will emphasize out-of-school youth services for ages 16-24 years. The rural areas will

target the in-school youth. Out-of-school youth are not held to income eligibility requirements.

- Local Elected Officials Consortium approved a new WIOA Board Member Application and the new application will be e-mailed to all board/committee members.

**10. INFORMATION: Youth Council Member Comments**

Liberty Leavitt reported that she will be attending the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Gang Conference on February 12<sup>th</sup> at the Riviera Hotel and offered to train and process a background check for individuals interested in becoming a mentor. Ms. Leavitt announced the Big Give, an online giving event on March 12<sup>th</sup> and encouraged schools and non-profits to sign up to receive donations.

**11. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION:**

Mr. Galbreth reported that WC will be contributing funds toward the alternate licensure for teachers to help address the teacher shortage.

**12. ACTION: Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

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