

Minutes
*workforce***CONNECTIONS**
Board of Directors Meeting
May 27, 2010

Paris Las Vegas Hotel & Casino
Versailles Room
3655 Las Vegas Blvd South
Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

Members Present

Maggie Arias-Petrel	Hannah Brown	Councilman Travis Chandler
Ardell Galbreth	Charles Darling, Sr.	David Lee
Laurie Luongo	Valerie Murzl	Charles Perry
Mujahid Ramadan	Margarita Rebolal	Debra Reed
Dan Rose	Commissioner Tommy Rowe	Ronna Timpa
Commissioner Lawrence Weekly	Commissioner RJ Gillum	

Members Absent

Commissioner Butch Borasky	F. Travis Buchanan	Mark Edgel
Marilyn Fink	Sonja Holloway	Kenneth J. LoBene
Eloiza Martinez	Pat Maxwell	Councilman William Robinson
Councilman Steven D. Ross	Councilwoman Gerri Schroder	Dana Wiggins
Dr. Linda Young	Deana Zelenik	

Staff Present

John Ball	David Jefferson	Tameca Ulmer	Suzanne Potter
Nancy White	Debra Collins	Jaime Cruz	Heather DeSart
Cornelius Eason	Mary Ann Avendano	Rosie Boulware	Ricardo Villalobos
Jeannie Kuennen	Clentine January	Byron Goynes	Carol Hicks
Sylvia Spencer	Wendy Villanueva	Adriana Burnett	Kelly Ford

Others Present

Michael Hobbs, GNJ Family Life Center	Helicia Thomas, GNJ Family Life Center
Bishop James Rogers, Sr., GNJ Family Life Center	Victoria Simon, CHR, INC.
Fran Phillips, CHR, INC.	Zach Tapp, CHR, INC.
Mary House, CHR, INC.	Pam House, CHR, INC.
Val Sims, CHR, INC.	Donald Ducksworth, CHR, INC.
Hung Dang, CHR, INC.	Tammy Truong, CHR, INC.
Clinton House, Jr., CHR, INC.	Tyrone Anderson, CHR, INC.
Odalys Carmona, DETR	Leverne Kelley, DETR
Laurie Clemens, LV-PITA	Penny Hagen, FIT
MaryAnn Ronan, Opportunity Village	Peggy Oliver, NACS
Marie Flores, BCA	Anthony Manor, Clark County Commissioner
John Collins, Ridgehouse (South)	Kammy Bridge, TMT
Tuesday James, Office of Councilman Ross	

(It should be noted that not all attendees may be listed above)

Agenda Item 1 – Call to order, confirmation of posting, and roll call

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mujahid Ramadan at 9:43 a.m. Staff confirmed the meeting had been properly noted and posted in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of Agenda with the inclusion of any emergency items and deletion of any items.

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented by Commissioner Tommy Rowe and seconded by Charles Perry. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 3 – DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION: Committee Progress Reports A. Budget & Finance Committee

a) ACTION: Approve an increase to budget line #6310 – Staff Travel

David Jefferson provided background on this item. Due to additional staff travel, including onsite technical assistance and monitoring of service providers, the Budget and Finance Committee recommends \$25,000 be moved from budget line #6320-Training & Seminars to cover these expenses. As of the March 2010 Operating Expenses Budget vs. Actual report line #6320-Training & Seminars had remaining budget authority of \$87,088. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made to approve an increase to budget line #6310 – Staff Travel by Hannah Brown and seconded by Dan Rose. Motion carried.

b) ACTION: Approval of the PY2010 Budget

Mr. Jefferson provided background on this item. *workforce*CONNECTIONS will be receiving \$16,749,418.00 in PY2010 Workforce Investment Act Formula Funds to include Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth funds. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made to approve the PY2010 Budget by Charles Perry and seconded by Valerie Murzl. Travis Chandler opposed. Motion carried.

Mr. Jefferson provided an overview of the combined ARRA/PY09 Formula Operating Expenses Budget vs. Actual-March 2010 Report; Contract Expenditures for Service Providers ARRA Funds – Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth; and Contract Expenditures for Service Providers PY09 Formula Funds-Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth.

B. Youth Council - 1. ACTION: Approve the execution of the contract for the 2010 Summer Youth Employment Program with Boulder City in an amount not to exceed \$73,708.

Tameca Ulmer provided background. Boulder City was awarded \$147,646 in Governor's Reserve funds to support their Summer Youth Employment Program, of which \$73,938 was spent. The Governor's Workforce Board approved Boulder City to use the remaining \$73,708 to support their 2010 Summer Youth Employment Program, which will service approximately 50 youth. This is a no-cost extension contract.

A motion to approve the execution of the contract for the 2010 Summer Youth Employment Program in an amount not to exceed \$73,708 was made by Commissioner Tommy Rowe and seconded by Margarita Rebolal. Travis Chandler abstained. Motion carried.

2a. INFORMATION: Area Health Education Center of Southern Nevada, Inc. (AHEC) Update

Sylvia Spencer provided the following update: On February 25, 2010, *workforce*CONNECTIONS' Board of Directors approved a youth contract amendment in the amount of \$300,000 with Area Health Education Center of Southern Nevada, Inc. (AHEC) for the Healthcare Industry Sector Initiative.

On March 25, 2010, *workforce*CONNECTIONS' Adult and Dislocated Worker staff recommended that AHEC be placed on *High Risk Status* due to various compliance issues. AHEC was advised that the youth contract amendment would be held for 30 days to allow for the compliance issues to be resolved; however, the issues were not resolved and AHEC's contract was officially rescinded on May 12, 2010.

2b. INFORMATION: ARRA Extended Work Experience Contracts

Ms. Spencer provided a summary of the ARRA Extended Work Experience Contracts: A total of 1130 ARRA-WIA youth were served through March 31, 2010 of which 59% were in-school and 41% out of school; 1130 youth were placed in Work Readiness and 100% completed Work Readiness, and 96% of the youth were placed in and completed a work experience.

2c. INFORMATION: work+HAPPENS Project 5000 Kids Update

John Ball introduced Nancy White, Project 5000 Kids Program Manager, who was the former Human Resources Manager of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. White provided a Project 5000 Kids (P5K) update:

On May 17th staff had a meeting with Mayor Oscar Goodman, who agreed to send a letter to 400 business community members asking for their support of P5K.

Staff met with Mayor Sherry Buck, who also agreed to send a letter to business members in the North Las Vegas community.

On Tuesday, May 18th, staff met with the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce, who had agreed to promote the program to over 6,000 members-businesses through various media channels.

In-Business magazine agreed to publish a P5K article and solicit the support of the business community.

Southwest Airlines expressed an interest in becoming involved with P5K to become more involved with the Las Vegas community, their largest market.

Over the next few weeks, staff will create public service announcements with prominent members of the business community based around the theme “Who Believed in You?” Staff will collect collateral materials for distribution around the community to broaden their awareness of P5K, including “We Support Project 5000 Kids” window clings for participating businesses. The work+HAPPENS website will be redesigned with new feature, new videos, and updates.

Ms. White asked the Board for business referrals who may be interested in participating in the P5K campaign.

C. Adult & Dislocated Worker Committee

1a. ACTION: Review and approve the PY2010 contract renewal recommendations.

Charles Darling, Sr. provided background on this item: *workforceCONNECTIONS* staff went through a comprehensive evaluation process of the Adult and Dislocated Worker providers and recommended contract renewals to the following agencies who scored 80% or higher during the evaluation process: Bridge Counseling Associates, Foundation for an Independent Tomorrow, Nevada Partners, Inc., Easter Seals, Native American Community Services, Catholic Charities, Housing Authority, Goodwill of Southern Nevada, GNJ, and CHR. Contract renewals were not recommended for Great Basin College, Area Health Education Center of Southern Nevada, Inc. (AHEC), and Expertise, Inc.

Heather DeSart stated that staff will continue to work with AHEC and Expertise, Inc., the two agencies that were placed on *High Risk Status* following the formal monitoring in February 2010. Ms. DeSart stated that the agencies have been dedicated to understanding what the issues are and how they can be corrected. These agencies will be eligible for funding after PY2010.

AHEC’s case load will be reassigned and the participants will be transitioned to Native American Community Services and the Las Vegas Housing Authority and Expertise, Inc.’s files will be transferred to GNJ Family Life Center.

To continue with the demands of the healthcare sector, *workforceCONNECTIONS* will release a Request for Proposal that focuses on healthcare. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made to review and approve the PY2010 contract renewal recommendations as presented by Charles Perry and seconded by Commissioner RJ Gillum. Commissioner Lawrence Weekly and Heather Brown opposed. Motion carried.

1b. ACTION: Approve the recommendation placing service provider CHR, Inc. (Caring, Helping, & Restoring Lives) on High Risk Status.

Charles Darling, Sr. provided background on this item: following the on-site monitoring at CHR on February 9, 2010, staff identified nine compliance issues in the area of operations and fiscal which led to CHR being placed on *High Risk Status*.

Ms. DeSart stated that after the monitoring staff met with CHR, Inc. to discuss the compliance issues and findings and relayed the proper procedures to correct the findings and gave CHR, Inc. five days to respond, which they did in a timely manner.

CHR, Inc. will be required to produce more detailed financial reports. Funds should be drawn down for operational expenses only and no funds should be expended on clients/participants unless authorized by *workforce*CONNECTIONS staff.

Mary House, Chief Executive Officer, CHR, Inc. stated that the compliance issues do not merit high risk and that CHR, Inc. has answered and submitted responses to all of the findings and awaits approval from *workforce*CONNECTIONS staff. Ms. House stated that CHR, Inc. has done everything according to staff's direction. Ms. House stated that if CHR, Inc. had been notified and given a chance they could have corrected everything and prevented being placed on *High Risk Status*. Ms. House stated that CHR, Inc. was not given an opportunity to do so. Ms. House said that CHR, Inc. is performing and meeting the performance measures.

Staff will work with CHR, Inc. and assist them in the work that needs to be done to address the issues and bring their program back into compliance. Discussion ensued.

Staff will provide an update on CHR, Inc.'s *High Risk Status* at the next Board Meeting.

A motion to approve the recommendation placing service provider CHR, Inc. (Caring, Helping, & Restoring Lives) on High Risk Status was made by Commissioner RJ Gillum and seconded by Valerie Murzl. Charles Perry, Margarita Rebollal, Hannah Brown, Commissioner Lawrence Weekly, Ardell Galbreth, and Dan Rose opposed. Motion carried.

2a. INFORMATION - Review of "Workforce Sector Strategies Healthcare Learning Exchange" meeting

Debra Collins provided a review of the "Workforce Sector Strategies Healthcare Learning Exchange" meeting: On May 17-18, 2010 New York and 1199 hosted the meeting where representatives from approximately 26 states gathered to discuss best practices on healthcare initiatives, including John Hartford Foundation for improving healthcare for older Americans, SCIU's challenge strategy of integrating legal immigrants into the healthcare sector, and creating pathways for low-income and unemployed workers for healthcare. Discussion ensued.

2b. INFORMATION - Prisoner Re-Entry Update

David Jefferson provided a prisoner re-entry update: approximately \$440,000 has been identified by the State to assist *workforce*CONNECTIONS in implementing the prisoner re-entry program which will provide life skills, substance abuse, mental health, support services, and job placement assistance. *workforce*CONNECTIONS will hire a Re-entry Specialist to support this program. The employment opportunity will be advertised in the Review Journal as well as posted on the *workforce*CONNECTIONS website.

D. Emerging Markets/Partnerships/Resource Development

Dan Rose provided an Emerging Markets/Partnerships/Resource Development update:

1) The Service Provider Executive Director Round Table was hosted by the Sheet Metal Workers at their state of the art training facility. The speaker, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Nevada State AFL-CIO Danny Thompson reviewed the state of organized labor during the current economic situation. At the event were service provider Executive Directors, Board Members, DETR management, and *workforce*CONNECTIONS staff. Several local unions were present and discussed their organizations.

2) *workforce*CONNECTIONS sponsored the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce monthly luncheon; 21 *workforce*CONNECTIONS representatives attended including Board Members, service providers, and staff. Mayor Oscar Goodman was the main speaker. *workforce* CONNECTIONS' OJT program and Project 5000 Kids was highlighted.

3) The Southern Nevada Building Performance Professionals (SNBPP) was formed and has been actively recruiting members and conducting workshops and training sessions for current and potential professionals. SNBPP hosted an event at a retrofitted home to demonstrate how a low performing structure can be converted to a home that maximizes technology to improve energy efficiency. SNBPP is hosting a roundtable event on May 20th and a Lead Safe Weatherization Training Program on June 19th.

4) *workforce***CONNECTIONS** continues to have successful OJT placements with small businesses including, Desert Boilers & Controls, Hesselgesser Insurance, Periwinkle Media Group, Lunas Recycling, Chronic Wings, and Superior Pipe & Supply.

5) *workforce***CONNECTIONS** has been asked to develop the Governor's Workforce Investment Board's Health Care Council. The establishment of Nevada's Health Care Council brings together decision-makers in healthcare initiative to discuss state and local solutions to a common need. The role of the Council members is to provide inputs and help shape Nevada's emerging workforce initiative that are critical to the Governor's Workforce Investment Board's overall plan for developing best practices and creating benchmarks in the workforce development community.

E. Executive Committee

Mujahid Ramadan stated that the election of the Chair and Co-Chair will take place at the June 2010 Board Meeting; Mr. Ramadan will not run again.

F. Brand & Value Committee

Ronna Timpa distributed the *workforce***CONNECTIONS** talking points cards to the Board. Ms. Timpa gave thanks to Tameca Ulmer for her efforts in organizing the Board meetings each month.

Laurie Luongo announced that Maggie Mendez is now working at Easter Seals and is no longer a member of the *workforce***CONNECTIONS** Board of Directors.

Ms. Luongo updated the list of Board Meeting topics and stated that Brand and Value would like to continue to have these discussions at every Board Meeting.

Agenda Item 4 – Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda was tabled until the June 24, 2010 Board Meeting.

Agenda Item 5 – Public Comment

Commissioner RJ Gillum gave thanks to Tameca Ulmer for her hard work in organizing the Board Meetings.

Harriet Goldstein, client of CHR, Inc., provided a brief summary of her positive experience with the agency. Ms. Goldstein was able to pursue her accounting education through CHR, Inc. and secured employment as a result.

Lori Clemmons, owner, Professional Institute of Technology, stated that CHR, Inc. is a wonderful agency and does a great job as a service provider.

MaryAnn Ronen, Recruiter, Opportunity Village stated that they have an excellent working relationship with CHR, Inc.

Donald Ducksworth, thanked CHR, Inc. for 'being there' for him and his family; CHR, Inc. provided him with a new direction and career.

Tammy Truong expressed her thanks for CHR, Inc.

Brenda Chaney, Expertise, Inc. stated that they have been working through the process with *workforce***CONNECTIONS** staff to clear their name from *High Risk Status*.

Tiffany Tyler, Nevada Partners, Inc. invited *workforce***CONNECTIONS** Board members and staff to celebrate the graduation of approximately 40 youth at Nevada Partners, Inc. on June 15, 2010.

James M. Rogers, Sr., GNJ Family Life Center thanks the *workforce***CONNECTIONS** Board for making it possible to serve over 250 individuals.

Agenda Item 6 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.