

WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

April 9, 2015

9:30 AM

*Rosalie Boulware Bronze & Silver Conference Rooms
6330 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite 190
Las Vegas, NV 89146*

Members Present

Valerie Murzl, Workforce Connections' Board Chair
Hannah Brown, Workforce Connections' Board Vice-Chair (phone)
Commissioner Lawrence Weekly, LEO Consortium Chair (phone)
Sonja Holloway, Youth Council Chair (phone)
Dan Gouker, Budget & Finance Committee Chair

Members Absent

Dan Rose, Adult & Dislocated Worker Committee Vice-Chair

Staff Present

Ardell Galbreth
Suzanne Potter
Heather DeSart
Brett Miller
Jaime Cruz
Emilio Pias
Kenadie Cobbin Richardson

Others Present

Carol Turner, CST Project Consulting
April Guinsler, Easter Seals of Southern Nevada
Flora Cortez, Easter Seals of Southern Nevada
Tina Teeves, Easter Seals of Southern Nevada

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

1) CALL TO ORDER, confirmation of posting, roll call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Valerie Murzl at 9:44 a.m. Staff confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed and 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 Gouker and seconded by Sonja Holloway. Motion carried.

3) **FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION**

Jerry S., Easter Seals client expressed thanks for the opportunity provided to him to attend school and earn a Class AC driver's license. He stated that Easter Seals staff gave him a lot of support especially Ms. Cortez, and they are wonderful people. Jerry will start a new job on Monday as a truck driver for a transport company.

4) **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Approve Executive Committee minutes of September 11, 2014**

Chair Murzl presented the minutes on page 5-10 of the agenda packet.

A motion was made to approve Executive Committee minutes of September 11, 2014 by Sonja Holloway and seconded by Hannah Brown. Motion carried.

5) **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Approve staff's recommendation to award \$35,000 in ADW fund and \$50,000 in NEG funds to Easter Seals of Southern Nevada to provide employment and training services to an additional 20 participants on their current PY2014 contract**

Heather DeSart, Deputy Executive Director provided background. Easter Seals' funding request letter is on page 12 of the agenda packet.

Discussion ensued regarding NEG contract expenditures and eligibility restrictions.

Ms. DeSart reported that the feds have lifted some of the restrictions by allowing dislocated workers to be eligible for NEG funds. Dislocated workers are individuals, who received a notice of layoff or who have been laid off, and received or exhausted their unemployment benefits. NEG funds are for training only, not case management or supportive services. Ms. DeSart further reported that the NEG funds will sunset on June 30, 2015; however, there has been discussion that DOL may grant an extension for the NEG funds.

Kenadie Cobbin Richardson, Director of Business Services and Communication stated that at the last hiring event of 1,000 participants, less than 100 (approximately 74) were NEG eligible; this includes those that were robo-called from DETR as well as about 8,000 e-mails that went out. Even though 74 people were flagged as eligible, they still had the responsibility to provide the necessary eligibility documentation. Many people that have exhausted their unemployment benefits do not have stable contact information, e-mail, phone or home address, so unfortunately even with massive outreach; the crowds we should expect do not show up. During the Nevada Day Super Hiring Event, there

were about 8,000 people on the rolls that looked like they would be eligible, but only about 74 showed up and the event was advertised on radio and the news. These challenges are not just local, but nationwide.

Ms. DeSart stated that OJT's are encouraged with NEG so it is possible for individuals to go right to work. Discussion ensued regarding OJT's. Chair Murzl presented the possibility of OJT's at Station Casinos; Ms. Cobbin Richardson will meet with Ms. Murzl to further discuss.

Commissioner Weekly asked what roll the Board can play to assist and what roll is WC playing to assist the individuals affected by the Riviera Hotel and Casino closure. Mr. Galbreth stated that Rapid Response will be contacting the hotel and/or the individuals who are being laid off.

A motion was made approve staff's recommendation to award \$35,000 in ADW fund and \$50,000 in NEG funds to Easter Seals of Southern Nevada to provide employment and training services to an additional 20 participants on their current PY2014 contract by Dan Gouker and seconded by Hannah Brown. Motion carried.

6) INFORMATION: Strategic Initiatives Update

Jaime Cruz, Chief Strategy Officer provided a brief demo of the staff WIOA implementation plan on the overhead screens and presented the update on page 14 of the agenda packet, highlighting that the Mobile One-Stop will be onsite during the Board meeting and staff will be providing tours.

7) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Executive Director's Report ~ Ardell Galbreth, Executive Director

Mr. Galbreth presented his report provided on page 16 of the agenda packet.

A motion was made to accept and approve Executive Director's Report by Dan Gouker and seconded by Commissioner Lawrence Weekly. Motion carried.

8) SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

April Guinsler, Director of Employment Solutions, Easter Seals of Nevada thanked the Executive Committee for approving their funding request for OJT's and supportive services and stated that Easter Seals targets non-profits for OJT placements.

9) INFORMATION: Executive Committee Member Comments

Dan Gouker stated good job Easter Seals and be mindful of state and federal guidelines for OJT's such as Worker's Comp insurance and other considerations.

Commissioner Weekly requested a one page summary of all funding sources. Chair Murzl requested that the summary be emailed to all members of the Executive Committee and Board.

Chair Murzl asked if an individual is laid off, finds a job then leaves that job, are they eligible for dislocated worker funds. Ms. DeSart replied yes, they are a dislocated worker when they access unemployment benefits.

10) ACTION: Adjournment

Chair Murzl adjourned the meeting at 10:14 a.m.