

*Workforce***CONNECTIONS**

Executive Committee

MINUTES

March 8, 2012

9:30 a.m.

*Workforce***CONNECTIONS**

7251 W. Lake Mead Blvd.

Suite 200 Conference Room

Las Vegas, NV 89128

Members Present

Hannah Brown

Pat Maxwell

Ken LoBene

Commissioner Lawrence Weekly

Councilwoman Gerri Schroder

Members Absent

Valerie Murzl

Staff Present

Ardell Galbreth

John Ball

Carol Turner

Debra Collins

Clentine January

Heather DeSart

John Kostecki

Jaime Cruz

Jeannie Kuennen

Sylvia Spencer

Suzanne Potter

Rick Villalobos

Emilio Pias

Kelly Ford

Others Present

Matt Cecil, Legal Counsel

Charles Perry, NVHCA

Carol Elslager, ISIS Connections

Eric James, Governor's Board

Doug Geinzer, SNMIC

Peggy Oliver, ISIS Connection

Lynda Parven, DETR

Tom Wilson, Clark County (Phone)

Dennis Perea, DETR

Mujahid Ramadan, MR Consulting

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

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

The meeting was called to order by Hannah Brown at 9:37 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.

Agenda Item 2 – ACTION: Approve the agenda with inclusions of any emergency items and deletion of any items.

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented by Councilwoman Gerri Schroder and seconded by Pat Maxwell. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 3 – FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

Peggy Oliver, ISIS Connection commented that she and her colleagues attended the RFP 101 seminar and thanked the Board for setting up an excellent workshop which provided key points of the RFP process, such as what the evaluators look for in a proposal.

Ms. Oliver expressed her concern regarding the possibility of one unified workforce board stating that it would cause the community and service providers to suffer.

Charles Perry, NVHCA & Workforce Connections Board Member commented on the unified workforce investment board initiative proposed by the Governor's office and DETR. Mr. Perry stated that he is in favor of a unified board under the Governor's Workforce Investment Board with oversight by DETR and the industry sector councils. Mr. Perry said it is necessary because the executive leadership under Mr. John Ball have corrupted the agency to the point that it is basically non-functioning. Mr. Perry stated that it is a shame and a disgrace that this has happened and that he does not know how it happened. Mr. Perry stated that when Mr. Ball first came on as a consultant he initiated many good changes; however, now there is a total breakdown. Mr. Perry stated that it is "their way or the highway" and thinks that it is time for it to come to a stop. Mr. Perry reiterated that he is in favor of the unification that is being proposed by the Governor's office and the Director of DETR.

Mujahid Ramadan, Workforce Connections Board Member commented that he is challenged by the direction the board is going but also has mixed emotions as to whether or not there should be a unification to one statewide board due to the different needs and populations statewide. Mr. Ramadan stated that the Board is having challenges but none that cannot be overcome. Mr. Ramadan requested to be a part of any discussions around the potential unification and suggested that the Board also be involved to provide input and voice their concerns.

Agenda Item 4 – ACTION: Approve the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2012

A motion was made to approve the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2012 by Pat Maxwell and seconded by Commissioner Lawrence Weekly. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 5 – Adult & Dislocated Worker Update ~ Valerie

Sylvia Spencer provided an update on the RFP 101 Workshop held on February 29, 2012 at the Texas Station. The workshop topics included the procurement process, statement of qualifications, and how to respond to a Request for Proposals (RFP). Ms. Spencer will administer a survey of the attendees and bring the results back to the Board.

In response to Commissioner Weekly's question, Ms. Spencer stated that the Workforce Connections in-house Re-Entry program is not an eligible respondent to the Re-Entry RFP process.

Agenda Item 6 – Youth Council Update ~ Ken LoBene, Chair

Kim Colagioia, Ready for Life (RFL) Graduate Advocate Director, provided an informational update on the RFL Graduate Advocate Initiative (GAI). Currently 384 community members are interested in being a youth mentor and 200 mentors are working with youth. The full update is provided on page 12 of the agenda packet. Discussion ensued regarding the challenges of the program which include identifying WIA eligible youth and income verification. The program goal is to serve 500 WIA youth by June 30, 2012.

Commissioner Weekly commented that the Graduate Advocate Coordinators need to be more proactive and work outside normal business hours. Discussion ensued.

Clentine January, Project Specialist I, provided a year-round youth funded partner informational update. Demographic and characteristic information is provided on page 15-18 of the agenda packet.

Ken LoBene stated that the new RFP will require respondents to address how their agency will serve the most at-risk youth in the zip codes that are most in need.

Ms. January reported that as of February 13th, Nye Communities – TCC, Nevada Partners, HELP of Southern Nevada and Olive Crest were monitored with no findings. Clark County School District – Desert Rose will be

monitored on February 24th.

Agenda Item 7 – Emerging Markets, Partnerships, and Resource Development Update ~ Pat Maxwell, Chair

Pat Maxwell stated that the dissolution of the Emerging Markets committee will be an action item on the next Board agenda; however, staff will continue to provide reports to the Board. Ms. Maxwell stated that the existing committee members are willing to serve on the Adult & Dislocated Worker committee.

Cornelius Eason, Director of Regional Strategies provided the following committee update:

Employment Edge Workshop Series – the next event is scheduled for March 29th and will last from 8:00 am – 2:30 and is being held at the Pearson Community Center. The target attendee of this job seekers workshop is Veterans of the U.S. Armed Services.

Layoff Aversion/Business Services – This program is fully underway and the team of two business consultants is actively meeting with businesses to assess their needs. The consultants are also aggressively recruiting resource partners that can be available to assist the business clients once the needs have been identified.

Business Roundtable Series – this gathering of business owners, managers and professionals continues in partnership with the North Las Vegas, Henderson and Women's Chambers of Commerce. The next events are currently being planned with a target of May for the next.

Strictly Biz Radio Show – The radio shows that broadcast 6 times per month on KCEP, FM (2nd and 4th Mondays, 9:00 am) and KNUU AM (each Thursday 2:00 pm) allows the agency to drive the community conversation regarding a wide range of workforce development, economic development and business related issues. Recent guests include the Director of Business and Industry, Director of DETR, officers of the Henderson, North Las Vegas, Las Vegas, Urban, Women's, and Latin Chambers. We have also hosted a number of small business owners as well as elected officials to discussing the current economy and business climate.

Jaime Cruz, Director - Green Economy Workforce provided an update on the Green Economy Sector programs including "What's It Mean to Be Green" Program and SESP. The participant outcomes for the SESP program, currently at 45%, are on track to meet performance goals by the end of the grant, January 2013. Mr. Cruz provided a list of companies that are providing participant workforce opportunities and local businesses benefiting from incumbent worker training.

Staff has been invited to bring the Green mobile classroom as an exhibit to the upcoming Nevada STEM Coalition Summit on March 9 – 10 at the South Point Hotel and Las Vegas Science Fair on April 29th at the Las Vegas Speedway.

Agenda Item 8 – Operations Update ~ Ardell Galbreth, Deputy Directory - Operations

Ardell Galbreth provided information regarding the amendment to the Board By-Laws and Matt Cecil, Legal Counsel provided an overview of proposed changes including options for Board members to get items on the Board agenda and designating the Adult & Dislocated Worker Committee as a standing committee. The amended By-Laws require vetting by the Local Elected Officials then approval by the Board. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Galbreth introduced Jim Kostecki who will serve as the agency's new Finance Manager. For the past five years, Mr. Kostecki worked for the City of North Las Vegas. Mr. Kostecki is CPA certified in Nevada and Illinois.

Carol Turner provided an overview of the revised PY2011 Budget revision for February 2012, PY2011 Budget vs. Actual, and PY2011 Awards & Expenditure report. The budgets and detailed budget narrative are provided in the agenda packet.

PY2011 Budget revision: \$110K was moved from the NVTrac line item 6130-11 and reclassified under Salaries

line item 6260; the purpose is to hire the NVTrac system developer as a full-time employee rather than a contractor. \$250K was moved from Strategic Initiative line item 6850 to the Audit/Accounting Services line item 6100; the purpose is to fund additional accounting services provided by Ms. Turner as well as the interim services that were provided by Piercy, Bowler, Taylor, Kern employees.

In response to Commissioner Weekly's question regarding the Strategic Initiative line item, Mr. Turner explained that the line item was created for carry-forward funds and the operations portion of the additional 10% of funds from the Governor. \$75K of this line item is from the governor's reserve initiative – these funds have the most flexibility.

Commissioner Weekly requested staff to provide further breakdown and specify what percent of the funds are restrictive vs. nonrestrictive.

In response to Commissioner Weekly's question regarding the Travel line item 6310, Ms. Turner explained that these funds cover the travel costs incurred for training seminars and conferences as well as local mileage reimbursement to staff.

In response to Commissioner Weekly's question regarding Board Support & Travel line item 6285, Ms. Turner explained that these funds cover the costs of Board meeting space, equipment, and mileage reimbursement for Board members that travel from the rural areas.

Commissioner Weekly requested staff to produce a report of all active vendor and consultant contracts.

Agenda Item 9 – Executive Director's Update ~ John Ball

John Ball reported that DETR's Director and Deputy Director will provide a full presentation on the Unified Workforce Investment Board Statewide Proposal at the Local Elected Officials Consortium meeting following this meeting; staff will report on the presentation at the next Board meeting.

Agenda Item 10 – SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

Mujahid Ramadan, Workforce Connections Board Member requested staff to provide the number and type of OJT and job placements under the State Energy Partnership Grant (SESP) and emerging markets. Mr. Ramadan commented that the agency needs to engage with other re-entry service providers and professionals in the community to maximize our knowledge base. Mr. Ramadan volunteered his time to serve on a sub-committee to work with the staff in terms of the Re-Entry RFP outcome and shaping our strategy moving forward.

Charles Perry, NVHCA & Workforce Connections Board Member reiterated his earlier comments that he stands firmly in favor for the Unified Workforce Investment Board Statewide Proposal.

Doug Geinzer, CEO, Southern Nevada Medical Industry Coalition commented on the PY2011 Budget. Mr. Geinzer stated that it appears that the in-house programs were awarded more than the Adult & Dislocated Worker (ADW) service providers. Mr. Geinzer stated that it is problematic when the in-house programs are awarded \$3.7 Million while the ADW service providers are only awarded \$3.6 Million.

Ms. Hannah Brown stated that the Board needs to take a look at the agency's administrative costs because even though the agency is within WIA standards, the administrative costs can be reduced. Ms. Brown stated that the Board's salaries are astronomical and more money needs to be put out on the street and allocated to put people back to work.

Agenda Item 14 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.