

**WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS  
LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS CONSORTIUM  
MINUTES**

**Tuesday, June 28, 2016  
1:00 p.m.**

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

**Members Present**

Commissioner Lawrence Weekly, Clark County  
Councilwoman Anita Wood, North Las Vegas (phone)  
Councilwoman Peggy Leavitt, Boulder City  
Commissioner Varlin Higbee, Lincoln County  
Councilwoman Gerri Schroder, Henderson (phone)  
Commissioner Butch Borasky, Nye County (phone)  
Commissioner Ralph Keyes, Esmeralda County (phone)

**Members Absent**

Councilman Bob Beers, Las Vegas

**Staff Present**

Ardell Galbreth	Suzanne Benson	Jim Kostecki
Jaime Cruz	Ricardo Villalobos	Kenadie Cobbin Richardson

**Others Present**

Michael Oh, Legal Counsel, City of Henderson  
Stephanie Garabedian, Parker Nelson Associates  
Doug Coombs, Olive Crest  
Ron Hilke, DETR  
Gina Garcia, Goodwill of Southern Nevada  
Lynn Hoffman, ResCare Workforce Services/One-Stop Career Center  
Terri Conway, Goodwill of Southern Nevada  
Tenesha McCulloch, Goodwill of Southern Nevada  
Devonte Yarbrough, Goodwill of Southern Nevada  
Ananda Evans, Goodwill of Southern Nevada  
Amy Licht, Olive Crest  
Sean Vanater, Goodwill of Southern Nevada  
Jared Awerbach, Goodwill of Southern Nevada  
Steve Chartrand, Goodwill of Southern Nevada  
Bonita Fahy, Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority  
Trnee Stephenson, Easter Seals Nevada  
LaNan Pasion, Easter Seals Nevada  
April Guinsler, Easter Seals Nevada  
Denise Gee, HELP of Southern Nevada  
Tracey Torrence, Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority  
Eric James, Goodwill Industries  
Brad Williams, ResCare Workforce Services  
Joshua Dobbins, Brady Industries  
M. Hirsch, Goodwill of Southern Nevada  
Janet Blumen, Foundation for an Independent Tomorrow

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

**1. CALL TO ORDER, confirmation of posting, roll call, Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Commissioner Lawrence Weekly at 1:03 p.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. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION**

Chair Weekly opened the floor to public comment.

Bonita Fahy, program manager, Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority apologized for not being present at the meeting last week and requested consideration of SNRHA's proposal, a joint partnership with Easter Seals Nevada, Olive Crest, the Nevada Hospital Association. Ms. Fahy spoke about the strengths of the partnership.

April Guinsler, director of the employment solutions program, Easter Seals Nevada expressed concern that the board may not be aware of the joint partnership between SNRHA, Easter Seals Nevada, Olive Crest, the Nevada Hospital Association, Urban League and Foundation for an Independent Tomorrow (FIT) that was written into SNRHA's proposal and she recommended that the LEOs read SNRHA's proposal. Ms. Guinsler thanked the Consortium and requested to be considered for funding to establish a program in conjunction with its partners.

Steve Chartrand, president/CEO, Goodwill of Southern Nevada thanked the Consortium for their time and apologized for failing to attend the June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting due to an internal communication issue, which is now resolved and provided the following reasons that Goodwill is the best provider for the One-Stop Affiliate Site – East:

- Goodwill's commitment is to focusing on the unique needs of each client served
- Goodwill has many different services and partners with many other community organizations, including Easter Seals, Nevada Partners and FIT
- Goodwill has proven outcomes by leveraging resources
- Since 2009, Goodwill has shepherd \$7.8 million in grants, raised an additional \$4.3 million for a total of \$12.2 million
- Since 2009, Goodwill has placed 11,800 southern Nevadans into jobs with a cumulative wage total of over \$209 million and return on investment of over 1,700% based on the leveraging of funds received from Workforce Connections and the funds raised by Goodwill
- If awarded the grant, Goodwill will commit an additional \$402,000 of in-kind labor and services thereby further leveraging the grant
- Goodwill partners with over 50 community organizations, including the Veterans Association, Clark County School District, Opportunity Village and many others

Mark Grant, disabled veteran shared about his positive experience with Goodwill's program. Mr. Grant received training in the IT field.

Eric James, local business owner of a State Farm Insurance agency and Goodwill board member spoke briefly regarding Goodwill's vision and mission.

Shawn Vanater shared about his positive experience with Goodwill's Elite program. Mr. Vanater received work experience training and is now enrolled at UNLV.

Ananda Evans shared about her positive experience with Goodwill's program. Ms. Evans received dental assistant training and will soon start cosmetology training.

Davonte Yarbrough shared about her positive experience with Goodwill's Elite program.

Jared Awerbach shared about his positive experience with Goodwill's program, where he was referred by child support for a level up program. Mr. Awerbach is currently enrolled in school for non-profit management.

Joshua Dobbins, chief financial officer of Brady Industries, provided perspective regarding Goodwill's audit records, with zero findings and impeccable administration of grant funds. Mr. Dobbins serves on Goodwill's board and audit committee.

Hearing no other comments, Chair Weekly closed the Public Comment Session.

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

Executive Director Ardell Galbreth confirmed no changes to the agenda.

*A motion was made by Commissioner Varlin Higbee and seconded by Councilwoman Peggy Leavitt to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.*

**4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Approve Local Elected Officials Consortium minutes of June 14, 2016**

Chair Weekly presented the minutes provided on page 7-21 of the agenda packet.

*A motion was made by Commissioner Varlin Higbee and seconded by Councilwoman Gerri Schroder to approve Local Elected Officials Consortium minutes of June 14, 2016 as presented; Commissioner Ralph Keyes and Councilwoman Peggy Leavitt abstained. Motion carried.*

**5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Approve Board member appointment of Bill Regenhardt, Regis 702 Consulting Group to represent the Business category for a three year term. Upon approval, Mr. Regenhardt will serve on the Programs Committee.**

Mr. Galbreth presented Mr. Regenhardt's board member application provided on page 23-25 of the agenda packet and stated that although the LEOs have authority to appoint whomever they feel is qualified, staff is recommending Mr. Regenhardt for his leadership qualities and experience as noted on his application.

*A motion was made by Councilwoman Peggy Leavitt and seconded by Commissioner Butch Borasky to approve Board member appointment of Bill Regenhardt, Regis 702 Consulting Group to represent the Business category for a three year term. Mr. Regenhardt will serve on the Programs Committee. Motion carried.*

**6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**

- a) Review and approve the Board's decision to award a contract to Goodwill of Southern Nevada as a One-Stop Affiliate Site – East to deliver WIOA employment and training services to adults and dislocated workers in an amount not to exceed \$700,000 and WIOA Youth services in an amount not to exceed \$960,000. The total funding amount shall not exceed \$1,660,000. The contract period shall be a period of two years beginning July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018 with annual funding based on Workforce Connections grant allocation;

Or, in the alternative

- b) Review and approve the Board's decision to award a contract to Goodwill of Southern Nevada as a One-Stop Affiliate Site – East to deliver WIOA employment and training services to adults and dislocated workers in an amount not to exceed \$700,000 and WIOA Youth services in an amount not to exceed \$960,000 with additional conditions to address program design adjustments as may be needed to ensure underserved eastside residents receive timely, comprehensive employment and training services to the extent that these conditions do not materially alter the scope of services set forth in the applicable Request for Proposal. The total funding amount shall not exceed \$1,660,000. The contract period shall be a period of two years beginning July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018 with annual funding based on Workforce Connections grant allocation.

Chair Weekly read the item into the record and referred to legal counsel.

Michael Oh, legal counsel provided background. This item was approved by the Workforce Connections Board with two options for the LEOs consideration. The first option is to ratify and approve the award to Goodwill of Southern Nevada based upon the scoring process of the RFP. The second option is to ratify and approve the award to Goodwill with modifications as needed to ensure services are provided in the eastside area. Any modifications must not materially alter the scope of services in the RFP that was released, due to stringent federal procurement process guidelines; otherwise this would have to be rebid and a new RFP released. Mr. Oh presented the backup (p. 28-139), the scoring methodology by SPR and RFP for the One-Stop Affiliate Site – East, and noted the provision in the RFP for protests. Goodwill's proposal was provided as a separate handout to the Consortium and public.

Chair Weekly opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Butch Borasky stated that he is satisfied after rereading the RFP and having a conversation with Steve Chartrand, who assured him that Goodwill is a great organization as well as hearing all of the positive testimony and he is willing to make a motion to ratify the award.

Councilwoman Anita Wood inquired if there was any attempt made to protest the RFP process; Mr. Galbreth replied no and summarized the protest process that is in the RFP. There was some discussion regarding the timeline of the process. Michael Oh clarified that a grievance must be filed per the WC procurement grievance policy 5.07 and based upon the fact that the LEOs have to ratify the Board's recommendation the appeal process should begin following the LEOs ratification, the official grant of the award.

Councilwoman Gerri Schroder thanked all of the individuals who provided testimony in support of Goodwill, Easter Seals and Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority and stated that no matter who gets the funding, we can be assured the money will be put to good use as all three of these are great organizations.

Addressing legal counsel, Councilwoman Schroder inquired if this material change would alter the scope of services in the RFP and require a new RFP process, which would prevent services from starting on July 1. Michael Oh responded that as of now he has not heard any conditions that may be contemplated; however, the Consortium must be very careful because depending on what the conditions are, they will potentially affect the scope of services and if so, it would require a rebid and a new entire RFP process. Councilwoman Schroder stated that this process has been vetted by an outside agency and twice by the Board and concurs with Commissioner Borasky's support for option a.

Commissioner Ralph Keyes asked what would be considered a material change outside the scope of services of the RFP and what is the difference between the options.

Chair Weekly stated that the LEOs do not want to pit any agency or organization against the other, no one LEO expressed any problems with any of the agencies and fully supports Goodwill; however, the LEOs liked the consortium of partner agencies included in the SNRHA/Easter Seals proposal and wanted to discuss what options may be there for Easter Seals to still be involved without negatively impacting Goodwill. However, at the last meeting, the LEOs were torn because they were not given enough time to contemplate or even have a discussion regarding this item, only to ratify it or not, because of how the agenda language was written. This resulted in a split vote and the item was sent back to the Board for reconsideration. The LEOs were put in a hard place and is has nothing to do with any of these agencies; rather it is between the LEOs, Mr. Galbreth and staff. This was a problem at the last meeting, it is a problem today and if it continues, there will be a closed door meeting with Mr. Galbreth and something will be done about it.

Commissioner Varlin Higbee stated that he apologizes if somehow these organizations feel like the LEOs are pitting them against each other because this was never the intent.

Chair Weekly restated the motion on the floor.

Commissioner Keyes stated that he is leaning toward option a.

Councilwoman Wood agreed with the Chair's comments that the LEOs were put in a difficult position with the recommendation by the Board and individuals coming forward in public comment leading the LEOs to believe that a group of people may not be serviced with the Board's recommendation and unfortunately there was no representative from Goodwill present that day to speak about the services they offer the partnerships and relationships they have established or to answer any of the LEOs questions and concerns that everyone will be serviced appropriately. Councilwoman Wood stated that she is comfortable supporting option a and moving forward with the original recommendation having heard from Goodwill today and learning that their proposal also includes partnerships they have established with Easter Seals, FIT and other well-known community organizations, as well as knowing that the entire process has been thoroughly vetted without any implications or concerns. She stressed the importance that applicants should be at all meetings in the future to answer questions and stated that all of this may have been avoided if Goodwill was represented at the last meeting.

Councilwoman Peggy Leavitt commented that when the LEOs were part of the board there was more opportunity to be involved in the decision making process and perhaps the LEOs may want to consider sitting in on a Committee and/or Board meeting to hear the discussion.

Chair Weekly stated that the LEOs agreed to be separate from the Board and having the authority to appoint Board members, but it has alienated the LEOs from the process and the LEOs should not have to sit in at another meeting to get information, especially since the LEOs are the fiscal agent for the WC Board.

Commissioner Higbee stated that the LEOs may have wanted to make some conditions or changes on the front end that whatever organization is awarded the One-Stop Affiliate Site contract, that organization is required to do some outreach and partner with other important community organizations that were left out. However, after talking with Steve Chartrand and finding out that Goodwill already does this, he is confident.

Mr. Galbreth proposed having an RFP process information session for the LEOs to review every step of the RFP process and requirements so that when these procurement items get to this level the LEOs being a policy board, will know and understand that the entire process did not violate any policies and was done fair and impartial.

Councilwoman Schroder concurred with comments from Chair Weekly, Councilwoman Wood and Leavitt and suggested that Mr. Galbreth give a briefing to each of the LEOs regarding the Board's discussions, decisions and the outcomes of those decisions so the LEOs are better informed.

Chair Wood apologized to Easter Seals, Goodwill and Southern Nevada Housing Authority because this issue has nothing to do with them and is much more an internal issue resulting from the changes that came about in the restructuring of the WC Board and separating the LEOs from the Board which has brought light to some obvious issues; Chair Weekly concurred.

Jaime Cruz stated that staff does hear the LEOs loud and clear and are making necessary adjustments to ensure that the RFP process happens earlier in the calendar year so that the LEO are never again in this position having to make a decision so close to the deadline. The staff's goal is to be talking and making a decision in February or March to allow more time to handle and adjust for problems unforeseen.

Chair Weekly thanked Mr. Cruz and stated that the LEOs do not want to overstep its boundaries and micromanage the Board or staff, but staff needs to realize that the LEOs have hands on staff and are accustomed to getting any information needed in order to make good informed decisions and the restructuring of the Board has caused some growing pains, but moving forward all we need is better communication to fill in the gaps.

Councilwoman Leavitt stated that she does not think the LEOs want to be part of the RFP process. Chair Weekly replied that the LEOs need more knowledge of the RFP process and how it works because if DOL or DETR calls out WC, the LEOs with the fiscal oversight, will be called upon to get involved, not the Board.

***A motion was made by Commissioner Butch Borasky and seconded by Commissioner Varlin Higbee to approve the Board's decision to award a contract to Goodwill of Southern Nevada as a One-Stop Affiliate Site – East to deliver WIOA employment and training services to adults and dislocated workers in an amount not to exceed \$700,000 and WIOA Youth services in an amount not to exceed \$960,000. The total funding amount shall not exceed \$1,660,000. The contract period shall be a period of two years beginning July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018 with annual funding based on Workforce Connections grant allocation. Motion carried.***

## **7. INFORMATION: LEO Consortium member comments**

None

## **8. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION**

Chair Weekly opened the floor to public comment.

**Steve Chartrand, Goodwill of Southern Nevada** stated that what he hears is amazing passion and love for the community by everybody in the room and agreed with Commissioner Weekly that no one wants to leave here today with any feelings of us versus them. Goodwill is most thankful for the grant and will do its absolute best to partner and meet the needs of the clients and show up at all future meetings.

**April Guinsler, Easter Seals Nevada** stated that she personally has no hard feelings and if she gave the impression that it is us versus them, it is not because at the end of the day the clients are the number one priority and getting them back to work and self-sufficient. Ms. Guinsler thanked her staff, Trnee Stephenson, LaNan Pasion, without them the program would have never been so successful. Six months ago, Easter Seals was not even half way to its enrollment goal, they were behind and had some staff turnover, then these two ladies came in with a can-do attitude, they were innovative and willing to try different things, and managed to get the program caught up in record time and have employed a lot

of individuals in the last 60 days. Ms. Guinsler said thanks for a great program and giving Easter Seals the opportunity and hopes to be back proposing another program very soon.

Hearing no other comments, Chair Weekly closed the Public Comment Session.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 2:11 p.m.