

**NEMO WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

May 18, 2009

PRESENT:

NEMO WIB MEMBERS

Mary Dickey
Emmett Garner
Steve Hines
Terry Hughes
Gordon Ipson
Terri Jones
Penny Miles
Pat Poepping
Sonny Raines
Janice Robinson
Annette Sweet
Fred Vahle
Clarice Young

WIB STAFF

Mark Fuqua
Casie Baumann
Brandi Glover
Amy Hodges
Cyndi Johns
Nickie Newell
Linda Studer

CLEOs

Paul Allen
Glenn Eagan
Charles Korman
Steven Whitaker
Wayne Wilcox

GUESTS

Cathy Collop, DWD
Steve Etcher, Boonslick RPC
Mike Gavura, DWD
Barbara Peavler, Gamm, Inc.
Sheree Prebe, Gamm, Inc.
Lana Vestal, DWD
Roger Sedore, Clark County Commissioner
Jerry Neyens, Clark County Commissioner

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairperson Sonny Raines called the May 18, 2009 NEMO Workforce Investment Board (WIB) meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. at the Paris Senior Citizens Center in Paris, Missouri.

ROLL CALL AND SIGNATURE SHEET

Fred Vahle, NEMO Workforce Investment Board Secretary/Treasurer, took roll call. Twelve board members were present and a quorum was established.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Gordon Ipson made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Pat Poepping seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING UPDATE

Mark said the Summer Youth Program is being promoted through various types of media across the state and is getting off to a good start. Career center staff is working very hard to make this their number one priority and we are currently number three as far as enrollments. He said we did have some of the 15 percent funds contributed by the Governor rescinded due to the Chrysler cutbacks and the need there. However, he felt the Northeast's Summer Youth Program would rate highly throughout the state.

- **ARRA Allocations**

Mark said it was mentioned at the last board meeting that we may need to have an Executive Committee meeting in order to keep business going. He said we had an Executive Committee Conference Call meeting April 10 to approve the funding allocations for the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) stimulus funding that our region received and those funding allocations were approved.

- **Increased Training Cap**

Mark said the Executive Committee also voted to increase the dislocated worker training cap. He said that due to the increasing cost of training and the increased availability of funds we asked that the maximum amount of training funds available to dislocated workers through WIA local funds be increased from \$5,000 to \$15,000 annually for training expenses per individual.

NORTHEAST CLEO CONSORTIUM ELECTIONS

In the absence of CLEO Chairperson Glenn Turner, 1st Vice-Chairperson Sean O'Brien and 2nd Vice-Chairperson Gary Jones, Commissioner Glenn Eagan presided over the voting procedures for the Chief Local Elected Officials (CLEO) for this meeting.

Because the CLEO Chairperson was not present at the meeting the Chief Local Elected Officials decided to postpone their consortium elections until the next WIB meeting.

Steven Whitaker made a motion to approve Wayne Wilcox as a member of the CLEO Consortium. Paul Allen seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD NOMINEE SELECTION

Mark thanked everyone for participating in the selection of the Individual Achievement Award Nominee to represent the Northeast Region at the Governor's Conference in September. He announced that the individual chosen to represent the region was Melissa Stacks from the Warrenton Career Center. Steve Etcher said Melissa was one of Warrenton's more outstanding participants; she was a super individual and worthy of the recognition. Mark congratulated Melissa and all the Individual Achievement Award Nominees.

Mark said the Governor's Conference would be held September 9 through 11 in St. Louis and he invited members that were interested in attending to contact WIB staff as quickly as possible so registrations could be made and information could be sent to them.

Sonny thanked the career center staff for the terrific summaries of their Individual Award Nominees. He said realizing that the work they do touches the lives of individuals to help them make positive changes in their lives, is one of the things that keeps him in this business. He thanked the career center staff for what they do and the good use of resources.

NEXT-GENERATION JOBS TEAM

Brandi said the WIB received the Recovery Act funding to enhance the youth program and she provided a handout containing more information regarding Missouri's Summer Youth Employment program called "Next-Generation Jobs Team." She gave a general overview of the program and said we are basically trying to get youth out in the workforce to do career exploration, to gain interest in the workforce and to provide them with some work experience. Brandi asked that everyone encourage youth that are interested in summer employment or businesses that are interested in having youth at their site, to contact the local career center or to register on the web at <http://www.summerjobs.mo.gov/>.

- **Update on Executive Committee's Approval of Service Providers for Summer Youth Program**

Brandi said there has been a rush to expedite our process for a recommendation for sub contractors to operate our Summer Youth program. Therefore our Youth Council recommended, via email, Gamm, Inc. as our program operator for our Summer Youth program for the Mark Twain and NEMO sub regions and Boonslick RPC as our program operator for our Summer Youth program for the Boonslick sub region. Brandi said the Executive Committee then met on April 10 and voted to approve the recommendation of the Youth Council.

YOUTH COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION TO EXTEND YOUTH PROVIDER CONTACTS FOR PY 09

Brandi said the Youth Council met on April 24, 2009 and voted to recommend the extension of the Youth Contracts for an additional year. However since that time, the WIB has learned that our existing waiver with the Department of Labor (DOL) is only effective through September 30. Currently we are waiting for DOL's approval of the states waiver to extend contracts beyond that date. She explained that even though the Youth Council's recommendation was to extend the contracts for the entire year, right now we can only extend those contracts through September.

Youth Council Chairperson Penny Miles said the Youth Council would like to recommend the extension of contracts for the youth providers through September 30, 2009 extending Gamm, Inc. contract to provide youth services in the Mark Twain and NEMO sub regions of the Northeast Region. The Youth Council would also like to recommend extending the contract of

Boonslick RPC through September 30, 2009 to provide youth services in the Boonslick sub region of the Northeast Region.

Steve Hines made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Youth Council to extend the contracts of Gamm, Inc and Boonslick RPC to provide youth services for the Northeast Region. Gordon Ipson seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Steven Whitaker made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Youth Council to extend the contracts of Gamm, Inc and Boonslick RPC to provide youth services for the Northeast Region. Charlie Korman seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Mark said he met with Sue Sieg at DWD Friday and we are currently up to date on all waivers. He said at one time there was a waiver that allowed the rural regions not to have to go through the entire procurement process and this is what the state is currently requesting. However we are not sure when we will get that response. At this time no Request for Proposals (RFP) are required. If we get that waiver from DOL we can go ahead and look at extending our existing contracts. If that waiver request is not approved, we will have to submit a Request for Proposal. He said we would let everyone know as quickly as possible.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mark said May is Workforce Development Professionals Month and we have already had celebrations and presentations at the Moberly and Kirksville Career Centers. Tomorrow we are scheduled to be at the Warrenton Career Center and we will be in Hannibal on May 28. He said we have a resolution establishing May as Workforce Development Professionals Month that was voted on by the Executive Committee and signed by Glenn and Sonny that we are presenting to the career center staff. He encouraged everyone to attend the celebrations to recognize the staff and thank them for their efforts.

Mark said due to the stimulus funds the region is going to have some extra dollars for training. They felt it was important to meet with regional employers to gain their opinion on their needs as far as future training for our workforce. They are currently working with the Vo Tech Center, Chambers of Commerce and Moberly Area Community College (MACC) to gather that information. In addition, he and Sonny attended a MEC meeting in Kirksville and met with employers there two weeks ago. After all the information is gathered, they plan to put a report together to let the Board know the outcome of their findings. He asked that Board members refer any local businesses that would like to provide any input regarding this issue to him or the local career centers.

Gordon Ipson asked how Amy was coming along in her work with local economic developers on the e-Synchronist and business retention. Mark said Amy and the local economic developer had finished surveying the businesses in Shelby County. However because there were very few businesses that fit the criteria for the e-Synchronist survey, Amy and the local economic developer developed another business survey to use. Shelby County Commissioner Glenn Eagan said Amy gave a report at their last economic development meeting about two weeks ago and everything went very well. One of the main issues was that they didn't have a lot of industries for e-Synchronist. Glenn said it was a nice report, it turned out really well and they were well pleased with it. Mark said Amy is beginning the surveys in Macon and Montgomery Counties which do not have a lot of businesses for e-Synchronist either. So they will be conducting both the e-Synchronist survey and the survey developed for the smaller businesses so the economic

developers can gain that input. He said Amy is progressing and continuing to work her way through the counties.

Gordon asked what is being offered to the employees of the companies that have recently announced that they are closing in Monroe City and Louisiana. Nickie said she has been working to put informational packets together for the dislocated workers and they will be having meetings with the workers this Wednesday afternoon, May 20. They are also meeting with the Mayor of Monroe City and a community group that he has put together that evening to discuss options for these dislocated workers. She said DWD Rapid Response Coordinator Jackie Johnson met with the employer of Pace last week (the day the closing was announced) to arrange this meeting with the workers. Gordon asked if the workers would be eligible for any state or federal programs. Nickie said they will be eligible for dislocated worker services as long as they stay until their job ends. She said they plan to emphasize the current training opportunities with all the stimulus money and they are going to try to encourage people to take advantage of this. She said with factors like the extensions in UI that will give them some kind of income while they are in school, they are hoping that more people will take advantage of this opportunity.

Gordon asked if the WIB could look to see if there was any training about providing a program in the area for people who might be interested in starting their own business. Mark said with a minimum of 10 applicants the University Extension will provide a workshop regarding the Fast Track program. Nickie said information about the Fast Track program is provided in the informational packet that is provided to all dislocated workers.

Terry Hughes asked if any meetings are going to be held outside the location of the companies to allow dislocated workers to listen to persons talk about potential benefits and resources. Nickie said she didn't know of anything at this time but that may be discussed at the community meeting on Wednesday.

Terry said MACC just opened up an entrepreneurship and business development center in Moberly to help people who want to start their own business. He said they are offering a variety of services and many of them are free right now. They have a score counseling group, referral services and print and other types of materials. People can come in and get help with business and marketing plans. They have one office incubator space that they are currently writing the plans and the criteria for to select an applicant that would be able to use that office incubator space to help start their business. They also have some room to bring in other partners that offer services to persons that want to start a business. Terry said in the past year they have worked with people that were not yet ready for counseling, they just wanted to explore avenues on particular businesses and they were able to help them as well. He said interested persons can contact MACC and they would be happy to work with them.

Mark said Casie had an additional handout for everyone regarding the allocations. He said with the change in administration and fiscal officers the state is running a little late on this. Casie reviewed the information and explained that the highlighted portion was for the Northeast Region WIA formula funds that will be effective July 1. She noted that the increase in allocations for the year was about \$200,000. She explained that the WIB received this information Thursday and we typically receive it earlier so that the Board can vote on some of the financial information at the May meeting and the budget can be approved in June. She said this will put us in a crunch to do allocations, contracts to sub contractors and the budget next month. Casie said we may have to ask the Executive Committee to meet, after we have the additional information necessary, so we can have a budget for the Board at the June meeting.

Mark said that the annual meeting of Northeast Missouri Development Partnership was scheduled for June 17, 2009 in Shelbina at 6:00 p.m. at the Father Buhman Center.

Terry Hughes said MACC will be hosting their Brown Bag Entrepreneurship Series May 19, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. free of charge. He said a speaker will be coming in that will help people in gaining government contracts for their businesses.

CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING DATE & LOCATION

The next NEMO Workforce Investment Board meeting was scheduled for June 22, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. The location will be announced.

ADJOURN

Gordon Ipson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Pat Poepping seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Vahle