



NEMO WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD • 111 E. Monroe • Paris, Missouri 65275 • (660) 327-5127 • Fax (660) 327-5128

NEMO WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 9, 2010

PRESENT:

NEMO WIB MEMBERS

Steve Garner
Kelly Hardcastle
Steve Hines
Terry Hughes
Gordon Ipson
John Liter
Penny Miles
Jo Moncrief
Pat Poepping
Penny Schwartz
Bonnie Seehase
Diane Simbro
John I. Wilson
Clarice Young

WIB STAFF

Mark Fuqua
Casie Baumann
Brandi Glover
Sharon Hillard
Cyndi Johns
Nickie Newell
Kylie Nichols
Linda Studer

CLEOs

Glenn Eagan
Charles Korman
Sean O'Brien
Glenn Turner
Wayne Wilcox

GUESTS

Cathy Collop, DWD
Kim Cull, DWD
Steve Etcher, Boonslick RPC
Mike Gavura, DWD
Patti Meldrum, Gamm Inc.
Elaine Miller, Gamm Inc.
Steve Moore, DWD
Niakia Phillips, DWD
Sheree Prebe, Gamm Inc.
JoAnn Toerper, Boonslick RPC
Lana Vestal, DWD
Wally Waldrop, MO AFL-CIO

NOMINATION OF NEW WIB MEMBER

CLEO Chairperson Glenn Turner said private sector WIB member Mary Dickey representing Monroe County had resigned. Glenn nominated Dan Putrah Executive Vice President and Senior Loan Officer of Paris National Bank in Paris, MO as her replacement.

Charles Korman made a motion to accept the nomination of Dan Putrah as a private sector member of the Workforce Investment Board representing Monroe County. Sean O'Brien seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Vice Chairperson Bonnie Seehase called the March 9, 2010 NEMO Workforce Investment Board (WIB) meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. at the Paris Senior Citizens Center in Paris, Missouri.

Bonnie said Virgil "Sonny" Raines had decided to resign as Chairperson and as a member of the WIB due to personal reasons. She said the Board truly appreciated Sonny's efforts and support over the years, and he would be missed.

ROLL CALL AND SIGNATURE SHEET

Clarice Young took roll call. Fourteen board members were present and a quorum was established.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Gordon Ipson made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Steve Hines seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

NEXT GENERATION CAREER CENTER (NGCC) / RFP

Bonnie said the NGCC RFP was a lengthy discussion at the January WIB meeting. Since then round table discussions had been held around the region to share more information about the topic. Bonnie asked Mark to give an update of the March 2, 2010 Executive Meeting regarding the issue.

Mark said as a result of the round table discussions and other information received, the Executive Committee met at the WIB Office in Paris. The consensus of the Executive Committee was to recommend to the WIB that we extend and modify the current Adult and Dislocated Worker contracts with Gamm, Inc. and Boonslick RPC for one year. Bonnie read the following recommendation from the Executive Committee:

- On March 2, 2010 the Executive Committee of the NEMO Workforce Investment Board met to discuss the Next Generation Career Center (NGCC) Request for Proposal (RFP). It was the consensus of the Executive Committee to recommend to the Workforce Investment Board that we extend and modify the current Adult and Dislocated Worker contracts with Gamm, Inc. and Boonslick Regional Planning Commission for one year. The new contracts will follow the Next Generation Career Center (NGCC) model. We will not RFP service providers or fiscal functions for the Adult and Dislocated Worker programs at this time. It

was stated that the NEMO WIB will RFP the Adult and Dislocated Worker programs the following year.

Sean O'Brien said he didn't recall the Executive Committee making a definite statement about doing a RFP the following year. After further discussion, it was decided that the recommendation should read that it was stated that a RFP would be done at some time in the future.

Mark said the NGCC concept would pertain to the extended and modified contracts, and the financial portion would stay with the subcontractors. He said the NGCC model will require the WIB to obtain staffing information (cost/expenses) for each career center. Under the new model, an allocation will go to each county and that allocation will be given to the career center that would normally serve that county. He said if the Board chooses to pass the Executive Committee's recommendation, we will still have to negotiate with DWD for sharing costs in the career centers on March 22nd. Mark said this is not the perfect agreement everybody wanted, but it does allow us not to RFP our current contracts this year, and the fiscal portion will stay with the contracts.

Bonnie asked if the subcontractors were in agreement with the recommendation. Steve Etcher, Boonslick RPC, said he always heard that a good agreement is when both sides are perfectly happy with the outcome. In this case, he thought it was about as good as it was going to get. He said he hoped the Board continued to stay involved in the process of developing policy for the region. Steve thought Boonslick was currently operating about as lean as possible and said the WIB may see staffing costs go higher with the new model.

Mark said the WIB would have to submit their recommendation to the State and convince them that our process makes sense cost wise. He said it is very important that we have the Board involved in the process. Although there were some issues, we are addressing them the best way we know how and we are moving forward with the State's requirements. He said he knew there would be stumbles but he thought we were headed in the right direction.

Kelly Hardcastle asked if Mark was able to find out what the Federal Law states about whether or not the WIB is required to RFP the Adult and Dislocated Worker programs. Mark said he found that if each career center is a member of a three partner consortium, we are not required to RFP the programs. He said each career center is a member.

Steve Garner asked why some of the other WIB's throughout the state were not voting on this issue. Mark said the only WIB he knew that had not made a decision yet was South Central. Steve said he thought the Northwest WIB was going to wait to see what we did. Mark said as far as he knew the other WIBs were going to go through the RFP process.

Patti Meldrum, Gamm Inc., said she would like to thank the Board for having the courage to step forward and bucking the system. She also thanked the Board for having confidence in the subcontractors.

Bonnie said there was no doubt that this was an important decision for the Board. She said we went into this without really understanding or knowing what the ultimate outcome was supposed to be and the members had worked together to try to figure that out. Bonnie thanked everyone for working together on the issue. She said the ultimate goal is for us to provide quality service to the citizens of Northeast MO, and time will tell if we are making the right decision.

Terry Hughes asked if a copy of the DWD Issuance regarding the NGCC concept was ever sent to the WIB members. Mark said he would send a copy to anyone who would like to receive it.

Gordon Ipson made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Executive Committee. Pat Poepping seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Charlie Korman made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Executive Committee. Wayne Wilcox seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

APPROVAL FOR GRANT SUBMITTAL

Mark said in a previous WIB meeting a question was raised about the proposal submitted by the WIB for a grant through the Department of Labor for a forgiven loan program without prior WIB approval. After that meeting, he spoke with Bonnie and Glenn and it was the consensus that WIB staff was doing what they had been directed to do in the WIB's Strategic Plan. Glenn agreed, and said if the grant is approved, the WIB would then have the opportunity to either accept or reject that grant. Mark said he had learned about three days prior to tonight's meeting that the WIB was denied the grant.

BUSINESS RETENTION UPDATE

Kylie said the last time she presented a Business Retention update to the WIB she talked about Northeast Power's purchase of the e-Synchronist system side for manufacturing and industry. Since then, through interviews and other research conducted, they had discovered the need to purchase the Convention, Retail, Tourism and (local) Service Economy (CRTS) portion of the e-Synchronist system designed for the service community. She said thanks to Gordon's ability to gather the funds, we now have both portions of the e-Synchronist system available to us. Kylie said Northeast MO is comprised of a lot of smaller businesses and the CRTS will help to give the smaller businesses a voice in the regional data as well. Due to weather conditions, she had not used the CRTS yet but she plans to implement it soon.

Kylie said she is planning to start conducting surveys in the Troy area with Kelly Hardcastle as soon as possible. David Gaines in Montgomery City has also stated that he was pleased with the surveys conducted for the Montgomery City area, and has mentioned that he would like to conduct interviews within the county in the next week or two. Kylie said she had issued a press release in the Hannibal newspaper but was unsure of when it was going to run. She was currently talking with individuals in Bowling Green about how to show their partnership and get business interviews conducted in that area. In order to inform communities about the Business Retention program, Kylie said she has been contacting local Kiwanis, Rotary, Lions Clubs and chambers to ask for opportunities to speak. In her emails, she has also listed other programs they may be interested in such as the Rapid Response and Youth programs. Kylie said within the next month, she has been invited to speak at two Rotary meetings and one Kiwanis Club meeting. She hopes this will help to get the Business Retention and Early Warning Program back off the ground so that we are able to build this network we have been trying so hard to build. She stressed the importance of the human network and said it is more than just an email or a letter or a press release. She said it is a person to person network, and we really need to get this human network up and going in order for this Business Retention program to really work.

YOUTH COUNCIL UPDATE

Brandi reviewed the progress of the Youth Council over the last year. She said the Youth Council had devoted several meetings to the development of their Strategic Plan. Then the America Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Summer Youth program hit and was the topic of the Youth Council meetings from about February to fall. In that summer time frame, the Youth Council also conducted the RFP process for the Youth program, evaluated those proposals, and made their recommendation to the Workforce Investment Board. At the last meeting of the Youth Council, the members spent some time reviewing the Strategic Plan's goals, action steps, and time lines to make sure they were achievable. They also talked about the MO State Park Youth Corps Summer Youth program. Brandi said the project will be a combined effort between the Department of National Resources, DWD and the WIB's throughout the state. She said there are going to be a lot of projects for the youth including making trails, working on the Katy Trail, and several other positions that will be housed in the State Parks and Historic Sites across the state. Brandi said all of the parks in our region are participating and will have some positions available. She said information would be provided to the WIB as it was available. The State has a website set up now where youth can apply for positions. She offered to provide that website address to anyone who would like to have it.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mark said in preparation for the NGCC model we have had to work to put together teams with the subcontractor staff and have worked to determine their roles etc. He said this has involved a lot of lengthy meetings. He said after tonight's WIB meeting, members of one of those teams would be going back to the WIB office to finish working on a project they needed to complete. Mark said that Career Center and WIB staff had gone above and beyond their normal duties and everybody had put an enormous amount of time into the process and it has not been easy. He said we are trying to get all the information ready so we can send it off to Jeff City and then we will see what we find out from there.

Bonnie said we will have to put together the Nominating Committee to elect a Chairperson for the Workforce Investment Board. Mark said he would be contacting the committee within the next few days.

CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING DATE & LOCATION

The next NEMO Workforce Investment Board meeting was scheduled for May 17, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. The location will be announced.

ADJOURN

John I. Wilson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Penny Schwartz seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Vahle