

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
Board Meeting Minutes
Conservatory at Apple Annie's, Cashmere
November 19, 2010

Shaun Koos called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

Directors Report

Dave reported that Debbie Clark, Administrator, of the Omak Clinic has agreed to serve on the board. Dave will send in a full roster to Olympia once she is officially nominated and approved. Georgia Nelson has sold Brewster Drug Hardware and the new owner will take over in early 2011. The new owner has promoted one of Georgia's long time employees to be store manager and may be a candidate to replace Georgia after she leaves.

Meeting Minutes

Karl Allison was present at the Sept 21 meeting.

On a motion by Mike Bolander and a second by Peggy Gill, the Board approved the September 21, 2010 meeting minutes pending the above mentioned correction.

Amend Okanogan Budget & Retain Main Street Building

The Committee recommended retaining the Brewster building through 06/30/2011. The Brewster School District wants to use the building to retrieve and educate dropouts. If the School District is successful in getting the alternative school off the ground then they would be interested in leasing or possibly purchasing the building. The district indicated a willingness to help pay some of the operating costs such as phone, internet, janitorial and operating supplies.

The extra \$37,000 of ARRA Governors 10% earned will be spent to cover staff, training related, and \$5,000 for computer lab equipment. Lisa clarified that the funding is ARRA Adult and Dislocated Worker so career information, assessment, work readiness, digital literacy, will be provided at this location. Computers purchased can be redeployed if no longer needed in Brewster after 06/30/2011.

On a motion by Roni Holder-Diefenbach and a second by Marcia Henkle, the Board approved retaining the Brewster facility through 06/30/2011 and Okanogan County's budget modification as presented.

Workforce Investment / Wagner-Peyser Local Plan Modification

A copy of the Workforce Investment/Wagner-Peyser Operations Plan Modification 2010-2011 was included in the Board mailing. This is an addendum to our current operations plan. Questions are in black and proposed replies are in blue. The modification will be in a proposed state until mid-December. If there are no significant revisions between now and December this is what we will submit. The newest section is Section II-A, Workforce Development Area and Council. Dave briefly explained how business members are representative of the key economic sectors, employers with highly regarded human resource practices and reflect the community at large in terms of gender, race, and ethnicity and disability. Also discussed was ways the Council engages women, people of color, and individuals with disabilities.

On a motion by Mike Bolander and a second by Terry Brewer, the Board approved the Plan Modification subject to review of any proposed changes during the comment period.

Paul Trausse, Commissioner Employment Security

Paul Trausse, Employment Security Commissioner shared the following:

Unemployment Compensation paid out in 2009 totaled \$4.0B, three times more than in 2008.

There was a 64% increase in number of Unemployment claimants.

The number of customers accessing Employment Security services doubled.

There were 344,000 individuals actively seeking employment.

The number of individuals actively seeking employment peaked at 365,000 during February 2010.

Since then, the number has decreased but part of the reason is that people have become discouraged.

Nationwide the unemployment is around 9% but that does not accurately reflect the problem.

In Washington State 17%-18% are unemployed and actively seeking employment, or discouraged and stopped looking for work, or working part-time involuntarily.

UI benefits are ending faster than people can find work.

Twenty-five thousand (25,000) Washington residents have exhausted their benefits and this will increase as the Federal Government phases out extended long term benefits. The State program of extended benefits is due to trigger off in April or May of 2011. The number of unemployed persons who have exhausted benefits may reach 50-60,000.

Paul feels efforts of the Workforce Board are more important than ever to coordinate and oversee the system.

Paul's four goals are;

1. Help unemployed workers find employment through integrated work search services, training programs, and job search requirements.
2. Strengthen and enhance services provided to the business community by referring qualified candidates to job openings. When candidates show up they know how to interview, have good resumes, have training needed to be part of the business, and are ready to go.
3. Respond to the short term challenges of the recession with the Federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation program ending by reaching out within local communities to other service providers insuring we are all ready as possible to respond to families who find themselves without unemployment benefits and unable to obtain employment. One thing they are looking at is to redesign how they do job search in the Work First Program making it more effective.
4. Promote Workforce Council ability to oversee system by providing assistance, ensuring Council has the performance information needed on all the programs operating within the onestop, enabling the Council to identify areas of shortcomings, express priorities, and ensure all the partners are accountable.

He summed up saying; We have lost more wealth and jobs during the past three years than any other time in history. He acknowledged the dedication and effort put forth by the Council in this effort and pledged Employment Security support to work with the Council to make the contribution as valuable to our local communities as possible.

Shaun Koos, Board Chair

Shaun thanked staff and all the Council members. There has been a very strong collaboration between the Employment Security Department and the Workforce Development Council. Marcia Henkle has

been a Board member for years prior to her present position representing Employment Security on the Council.

Shaun had the opportunity to attend the most recent Chelan/Douglas graduation. He found it gratifying to actually hear the testimonies of the graduates. It put real faces and stories to all the statistics reported quarterly at the Council meetings.

The Executive Committee recently conducted an Executive Director review. He received positive comments from Board members and staff. Dave scored really high across the board. This reflects a quality organization with committed and engaged staff, meeting the challenges and opportunities of the current economy.

Area Wide Performance

Lisa Romine presented the Annual Report to Department of Labor. This data shows long term results for participants who left between 2008 and 2009. Each measure can have a different cohort of people.

A regression model is used to increase or decrease the final target based upon actual demographic, programmatic and economic differences between the State’s twelve Workforce Areas. Also, State and Federal administrators made three significant changes increasing the definition of “meeting target” from 80% to 90%, increasing the Dislocated Worker earnings goal by 37%, and eliminating 5 of the 17 Federal measures that determine overall success of failure. Areas are awarded for meeting and exceeding the Federal targets and may be sanctioned for missing the same one two years in a row. Sanctions may range from getting training and technical assistance to being reorganized.

Overall performance was at 107% of federal targets and 103% of state targets. Our Area exceeded 7, met 6 and missed 2 of the Federal targets.

	Federal Measure	Target	Local Performance	State Average
Adult 111% average	Entered Employment	81%	75%	76%
	Retention	86%	87%	83%
	Average Earnings/mo	\$2287	\$1884	\$2409
	Employed & Credential	43%	55%	59%
Dislocated Worker 120% Overall	Entered Employment	81%	82%	84%
	Retention	87%	87%	87%
	Average Earnings/mo	\$2288	\$2413	\$3122
	Employed & Credential	39%	67%	61%
Older Youth	Entered Employment	73%	71%	71%
	Retention	84%	90%	75%
	Earning Gain	\$3637	\$3466	\$3740
	Credential	35%	16%	40%
Younger Youth	Skill Gain	88%	89%	88%
	Diploma	61%	55%	69%
	Retention	70%	54%	60%

This is the last time we will be reporting 7 youth measures (4 Older & 3 Younger). Common measures take effect this year.

Our area ranked #1 in the state for Dislocated Worker average performance, #2 overall average federal measure performance, #3 Adult average performance, and #5 in Older Youth average performance.

Participants served increased; Adult up 21%, Dislocated Worker up 54%, Older Youth up 64%, and Younger Youth up 10%.

Ten contracted classes were developed cooperatively with the Community Colleges costing \$488,136. Three new programs were developed. We earned \$525,663 in State Incentive that was used to expand the number of individuals on On-the-Job Training and support Vocational Education.

Election of Board Officers

Marcia Henkle announced the candidates:

Dimitri Mandelis, Board Chair

Mike Bolander, Vice Chair

Tom Boyd, Secretary/Treasurer

Roni Holder-Diefenbach asked how subarea representation on the Executive Committee was determined. Dave explained that the Board Chairs traditionally rotate between the three areas but must be a private sector business owner. Georgia Nelson of Brewster Drug was the last private business owner from Okanogan County. With the appointment of John Butler, American Produce Express and nomination of Debbie Clark, Omak Clinic there will be Okanogan County business candidates for future Chair openings.

On a motion by Terry Brewer and a second by Shaun Koos, the Board approved the nominations as presented.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Members Present	Shaun Koos Marcia Henkle Duane Johnson Karl Allison Heidi Myers	Peggy Gill Tom Boyd Barb Dronnen Roni Holder-Diefenbach Mike Bolander	Terry Brewer John Butler Mary Watson for Jim Richardson Sean Osborne for Eric Ercanbrack
Members Absent:	Michelle Price Dimitri Mandelis Georgia Nelson	Roger Thieme Mike Wade Bill Bonaudi	Oscar Garza Armando Lopez Rich McBride
Guests:	Keith Goehner, Chelan County Commissioner Paul Trausse, Employment Security Commissioner		
Staff:	Dave Petersen Lisa Romine	Laura Leavitt Susan Adams	Yolanda Rios Georgene Ford