

MEETING MINUTES
Forum of County Commissioners
Thursday, December 15, 2022
10:00 AM
via Zoom

Commissioners Present: Chris Branch, Dan Sutton, Tiffany Gering, Danny Stone

1. July 14, 2022 & October 13, 2022 Minutes

Tiffany Gering moved and Danny Stone seconded to approve the July 14, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion passed.

Dan Sutton moved and Tiffany Gering seconded to approve the October 13, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion passed.

2. One-Stop Operator Selection

The SkillSource Board approved the selection of OIC as the fiscal agent for the North Central Workforce Consortium. This consortium will oversee service delivery in the two comprehensive One-Stop Centers in Moses Lake and Omak. The agreement is for \$70,000 per year, renewable up to three years. Lisa explained that the One-Stop Operator is responsible for customer experience and ensuring partners abide by the Memorandum of Understanding and Infrastructure Funding Agreement. This is the first consortium OSO SkillSource has engaged, but this model is used in several WDAs around the state. Commissioner Stone asked if a one-stop operator is required; Lisa responded that the law requires the appointment, but local areas determine the exact duties for their operators.

Danny Stone moved and Dan Sutton seconded to approve the selection of the North Central Workforce Consortium, fiscal agent OIC, as the One-Stop Operator. Motion passed.

3. One-Stop Firewall Agreement

Statute requires that a firewall agreement be approved by the Forum when the One Stop Operator also fulfills other functions. Lisa explained that this agreement is set forth in federal law for the Forum of County Commissioners to approve. It spells out what the consortium must and may not do to avoid conflicts of interest. Commissioner Sutton asked if the agreement has been reviewed by legal counsel. Lisa replied that it was reviewed by the State monitoring team, so she is confident that the agreement meets all requirements. Commissioner Branch mentioned that in the MOU, dispute resolution is directed at the lowest possible level.

Dan Sutton moved and Tiffany Gering seconded to approve the One-Stop Operator firewall agreement as proposed. Motion passed.

4. Revisions to MOU/IFA

During SkillSource's last state monitoring visit, the monitors required revisions to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Infrastructure Funding Agreement (IFA). Since these are substantial changes, all parties, including the county commissioners, must resign the documents. Lisa briefly explained that infrastructure costs for shared facilities are calculated based on occupied square footage, or representative space for non-tenants. Lisa oriented the commissioners to the services and partners offered in each of the three labor market areas in the region.

Danny Stone moved and Dan Sutton seconded to approve the revised Memorandum of Understanding and Infrastructure Funding Agreement as presented. Motion passed.

5. Board Member Nomination

With Alberto Isiordia's promotion within ESD, Todd Wurl has been selected as Interim Regional Director and nominated by Commissioner Feek to serve on the local board. This appointment would be for a time period commensurate with his interim position as Regional Director.

Danny Stone moved and Tiffany Gering seconded to accept Todd Wurl's nomination to serve on the local board. Motion passed.

6. Board Reappointments

Five board members' terms expire December 31, 2022. Lisa reached out to all five members to gauge interest in serving another term. Four of the five have indicated they would like to continue serving. Dimitri Mandelis has not yet responded. Lisa also informed the forum that Karl Reuther has resigned his membership. Members may be nominated by chambers of commerce, economic development councils, or other community agencies. Commissioners Sutton and Stone suggested reappointing Peggy Vines, Annette Herup, Crystal Gage and Pablo Villarreal, and waiting to hear back from Dimitri Mandelis.

Dan Sutton moved and Danny Stone seconded to approve reappointment of Peggy Vines, Annette Herup, Crystal Gage and Pablo Villarreal, and to postpone decision on Dimitri Mandelis. Motion passed.

7. SkillSource Bylaws

The SkillSource bylaws have been amended and approved by the board. Lisa briefly reviewed the changes to the bylaws, including the removal of designated alternates and the change of the executive director title to CEO. Commissioner Stone asked if the Forum of County Commissioners requires bylaws; Lisa responded that the Forum does not require bylaws if the Joint Powers Agreement, Interlocal Agreement or board bylaws sufficiently cover those duties and roles.

8. Program Year 2022 Performance Report

Lisa invited Aaron Parrott, performance manager for SkillSource, to briefly recap WIOA Title I service delivery performance for the program year which ended on June 30, 2022. Among the 12 workforce development areas in the State, SkillSource placed first in meeting or exceeding federal performance standards.