

**SkillSource Regional Workforce Board**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**March 15, 2024**  
**Confluence Technology Center, Wenatchee**

Zach Williams, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm. Lisa led introductions and oriented the board and attendees to the meeting agenda.

**November 28, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes**

***Sara Thompson Tweedy made a motion, and Tom Legel seconded to approve the minutes for the November 28, 2023 Board Meeting. Motion passed.***

**Director's Report**

Lisa summarized the director's report. She briefly recapped the trip to Olympia last month where SkillSource staff met with legislators to advocate for SHB 2230 which codifies Economic Security for All into law. She presaged the discussion about WorkSource Policy 1015 which has implications for direct delivery of services. She briefly summarized service delivery outcomes versus performance targets, and described the trip that she, Susan, and two board members will take to Washington, DC next week to attend NAWB. She introduced Kelli Martinelli and the new board newsletter. She summarized events over the past four months, including the AJAC apprentice signing night, the Othello hiring event, and the recent Grant/Adams Workforce Collaboration Summit. She invited the board members to the learning center graduations in June happening in Wenatchee, Othello and Omak. The board packet also includes short summaries of tonight's awardees.

**Committee Reports:**

Lisa recapped the committee meetings, which all had similar agendas. In each area, the staff gave an overview of the quarter's performance and an update on the regional plan. In Omak and Moses Lake, the One-Stop Operator gave their annual report; in Wenatchee, Susan reported on the Open Doors program. Each committee also recommended approval of the funds transfer and discussed WorkSource Policy 1015. Roni pointed out that the housing summit will be on March 25, not April 25.

**Funds Transfer Request**

Lisa recapped the request to transfer \$260,000 from Dislocated Worker to Adult. This moves funds to where they are needed.

***Tom Legel made a motion, and Irasema Ortiz-Elizalde seconded to approve the transfer of \$260,000 from Dislocated Worker to Adult. Motion passed.***

**Direct Delivery Request**

Lisa explained that since the inception of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, the SkillSource board and CLEO has requested permission to provide career services to Adults and Dislocated Workers and also deliver youth services. The board, staff, and the Forum of County Commissioners all advocated for adherence to federal regulations that permit direct delivery of youth services without competitive procurement and career services for Adults and Dislocated workers with agreement of the Governor. However, the State Board is currently on course to maintain the more restrictive nature of their previous policy. Lisa outlined the board's ongoing

rationale for direct delivery of services – in short, better performance and outcomes with more efficient use of funds. Lisa asked the board if they were still in favor of direct delivery, to approve this request. Zach and Tom earlier this year rated and selected an independent procurement manager in a failed competition, and this manager is available to run procurement until June, if needed. Sara asked what next steps could be taken; Lisa responded that the news of the intent to maintain policy is very fresh and she is still unsure; she is frustrated by the stated intent to remove administrative barriers from local boards, only to have burdens emplaced through policy. There are no entities who have identified themselves as potential service providers, and SkillSource continues to provide excellent service and performance. Roni suggested further involvement from the board to advocate for these types of actions whenever possible; Lisa appreciates the support of the board. Zach thanked Lisa for her efforts and passion in pursuing this policy.

***Roni Holder-Diefenbach made a motion, and Sara Thompson Tweedy seconded to approve the finalization and submittal of the proposed request for direct delivery for Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth services. Motion passed.***

### **Regional Strategic Plan 2024-2028 (Presentation)**

The board staff presented an executive summary of the draft regional strategic plan, which is currently available for public comment on the SkillSource website. The board was oriented to the structure of the plan and excerpts from the regional analysis. Aaron and Joe discussed the shifting proportions of highly skilled occupations and agricultural occupations, age demographics, the contract between the federal poverty level and other measures of poverty, and the relationship between English proficiency and labor market participation. Joe described the two major sector strategies (technology occupations and the healthcare industry) and the staff’s reasoning for selecting them. Lisa concluded with a description of the plan’s sections on services and performance accountability, as well as the stated strategic goals and objectives. The board thanked the staff for their work on the plan.

***Tom Legel moved and Sara Thompson Tweedy to approve the draft regional plan as presented for submittal to the State Board.***

The meeting was adjourned at 5:49 pm.

**In Attendance:**

Ryan Beebout  
Faimous Harrison  
Tad Hildebrand  
Julie Helligso  
Roni Holder-Diefenbach  
Ken Johnson  
Tom Legel  
Nate Mack  
Irasema Ortiz-Elizalde  
Anthony Popelier  
Michelle Price  
Sara Thompson Tweedy  
Zach Williams  
Todd Wurl

**Not in Attendance:**

Randy Curry  
Crystal Gage  
Augustine Gallegos  
Annette Herup  
Brant Mayo  
Kyle Niehenke  
Pablo Villarreal

**Staff in Attendance:**

Lisa Romine  
Susan Adams  
Laura Leavitt  
Aaron Parrott  
Joe Hauth

**Guests:**

Susan Hauth

**County Commissioners:**

Chris Branch  
Danny Stone