

**North Central Workforce Development Board
Board Meeting Minutes
September 29, 2020
Via Web Video Conference
Moses Lake, Wenatchee & Omak, plus other locations**

Ken Johnson, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. He thanked everyone for attending.

Director's Report:

Dave introduced board members and staff in attendance and summarized the agenda. He updated board members on vacancies and departures, and asked members to consider nominating business and community leaders.

Dave informed the board members that the planning retreat postponed last spring is rescheduled for April, 2021.

July 21, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes

Jim Richardson moved and Pablo Villareal seconded to approve the minutes from the July 21 meeting. The motion carried.

Committee Reports

Okanogan: Dave asked that the usual multi-year memorandum of understanding (MOU) and infrastructure funding agreement (IFA) be approved for only one year. However, at the recent partner planning meeting Dave erred saying that providing applicable career services at the one-stop was optional. Instead federal policy requires partners provide applicable career services on-site or via direct linkage. Federal policy does not mandate providing such services exclusively at or through the Center, but rather a reasonable portion. For that reason, Dave asked that this action be amended to be subject to a follow-up meeting with partners to clarify their obligation. Alberto endorsed the MOU and IFA subject to that amendment. He pointed out that TEGE 17-16 sets forth a process to resolve disputes over the MOU or IFA. Peggy Vines asked if county commissioner approval for this agreement will be delayed by impending elections. Bob Bugert stated that with partner and board endorsement, he sees no reason that the agreement would not be voted on and approved.

Alberto Isiordia moved and Stephen McFadden seconded to approve the 2020-21 Okanogan MOU and IFA as proposed, pending partner approval. Motion carried.

Grant/Adams: Dave said that the Grant/Adams MOU and IFA was recommended by the committee. The same amendment for follow-up meetings with partners to clarify obligations would apply to this MOU and IFA.

Stephen McFadden moved and Michelle Price seconded to approve the 2020-21 Grant/Adams MOU and IFA as proposed, pending partner approval. Motion carried.

Chelan/Douglas: Dave clarified that without the financial agreement, no further meeting with the partners is required for passage of the Chelan/Douglas MOU.

Michelle Price moved and Jim Richardson seconded to approve the 2020-21 Chelan/Douglas MOU as proposed. Motion carried.

19-20 State Monitoring Report

Dave referred the board to the State's virtual monitoring report which was covered at the committee meetings. SkillSource had no findings or areas of concern, and was commended for local policy and case management practices. State monitoring is good preparation for the annual audit which begins next week.

19-20 Annual Performance Report

Lisa presented the annual performance report, covering July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. This report measures the long term results of persons exited from Workforce Investment training (including employment after exit, wages earned, and credentials received) against performance targets negotiated with the State and the federal Department of Labor. North Central receives about 6% of the state allocation for federal Title I-B programs, and overall was 2nd place in the State for net performance against target.

The Workforce Investment Adult program averaged 120% of targets, with highest rates of employment after exit and credential rates in the state and a 66% increase in median earnings two quarters after exit. The Dislocated Worker program achieved 110% of goal, missing employment targets (which are the highest in the state) but exceeding earnings and credential targets. Youth performance exceeded targets in employment or enrollment in post-secondary education, and fell just short of credential targets, resulting in an average of 102% performance against target. Lisa said the data for Youth credential rate is unclear, but that to count for this measure Youth must receive their secondary credential AND obtain employment or enroll in post-secondary education.

Data about resource utilization showed North Central led the State last year. Dave explained that normally WDCs must utilize at least 70% of funds in the year the grant is received, but that requirement was waived this year due to the COVID-19. North Central was tied for second place in the state for adult expenditures, first in the state for dislocated worker expenditures, second in the state for incumbent worker training expenditures, and first in the state for youth expenditures and youth work experience expenditures. Tad asked about the budget for incumbent worker training. Managers reported the amounts approved for this purpose. Lisa completed her report with a summary of ongoing and future initiatives including COVID-19 relief and recovery, work readiness workshops, pre-employment transition services, manufacturing pathway development, and apprenticeship expansion. The board members commended the staff for their work.

Roni Holder-Diefenbach asked for information on the COVID-19 relief and recovery funds. Aaron recapped the grant budgets (which are included in the annual budgets) and Lisa briefly explained the temporary positions that will be funded in each subarea using the formula. Dave explained that this type of grant is normally used after natural disasters such as floods or hurricanes, not long duration crises like a pandemic.

Announcements:

Stephen McFadden announced that he will be leaving Adams County in October for a new job in Franklin County. He plans to advocate his replacement as a board member. Dave thanked him for his service to the board.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 pm.

In Attendance:

Roni Holder-Diefenbach
Tad Hildebrand
Alberto Isiordia
Ken Johnson
Daneen Berry-Guerin (Alt)
Stephen McFadden
Heidi Myers
Michelle Price
Jim Richardson
Pablo Villareal
Peggy Vines
Bob Bugert

Not In Attendance:

Decorah Anderson
John Butler
Crystal Gage
Dimitri Mandelis
Brant Mayo
Irasema Ortiz-Elizalde
Danny Robbins
Lavonne Roy
Karl Ruether
Teresa Stokes

Staff In Attendance:

Dave Petersen
Lisa Romine
Laura Leavitt
Aaron Parrott
Susan Adams
Emily Anderson
Yolanda Rios
Mary Hinger