

East Cascades Workforce Investment Board

Board Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2017 11:30am-1:30pm

Location: Columbia Gorge Community College- Indian Creek Campus
1730 College Way, Hood River, OR 97031 - Room 310

Members of the board, in person: David Burger, Brad Porterfield, Molly Joubert, Amy Gibbs, Charles Massie (chair), Wallace Corwin (co-chair/treasurer), Mark Warne, Robbie Smith, Steve Kramer (ex-officio), Heather Ficht, Executive Director (staff); Jessica Fitzpatrick (staff), Lauren Arbuckle (staff)

Members of the board, by phone: Kelly McGarva, Brenda Jones, Debbie Hagen, Ellen Craven, Liz Casey (staff)

Members of the public, in person: Todd Nell, Lori Ufford, Lisa Ferguson, Peg Caliendo, Ken Bailey, Andrea Rogers, Anita Iken, Cindy Lathrop, Mike Scroggs, Stephanie Kalez, Dallas Fridley, Nate Stice.

Members of the public, by phone: Brook Rich, Randy Norris, Karen Friend, Elana Pirtle- Guiney, Misha Isaac, Katie Condit, Phil Henderson

Meeting called to order at 11:32am, by Chip Massie
Quorum reached

11:30am - 11:35am

Welcome and Introductions – Chip Massie, ECWIB Chair

Consent Agenda – Meeting Minutes from January 26, 2017 (vote required)

Motion: Brad moves to approve with the change to the title to include “minutes” instead of “agenda”
Amy seconds

Unanimously approved

11:35am – 11:50am

ECWIB Communication and Outreach – Heather Ficht, ECWIB Executive Director

Addition: Proposed changed to the meeting schedule for future meetings.

Discussion: Review of the board outreach material with attention to the updated mission, vision and goals.

- Amy: change the language to “businesses” from “employers”. Chip: the more language we can have to align us with business the better.
- Wally and Molly: proposed changes- dual customer base – “business and customers”
- Would like to keep the original mission, vision and goals in the strategic plan, but use updates for quick talking points
- Would like to have a one pager hand-out that can be used when attending meetings

Proposed meeting dates: Next meeting is in July in Bend. Critical to have quorum. Group agrees to change all future board meetings to the same time on Wednesday, as recommended. Next meeting will now be held on July 26, 2017 at 11:30am.

Action: Heather will reduce to one page and to have it back out to the group for comments.

Business cards for members not present will be mailed.

Updated calendar invites will be sent for all future board meetings, moving them to Wednesdays, rather than Thursdays.

11:50am – 12:05pm

WIOA Title 1 Contractor Changes (vote required) – Heather Ficht, ECWIB Executive Director

Discussion Regarding South Sub-region:

Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC) is currently the provider in the south. Due to reductions from several leveraged funding sources, COIC cannot continue to serve an area outside their core service area and have informed ECWIB staff that they will not continue services in the south in the coming program year. Recommend that the staff enter into negotiations with Klamath Community College (KCC), as the next prevailing bidder. Chip has a conflict of interest and is going to abstain from comment and vote.

Motion: Mark moves to approve this recommendation
Wally seconds

Further discussion:

New contracts will follow the same scope of work and requirement that Adult/Dislocated Worker services be delivered in the WorkSource centers.

Amy Gibbs, Board member: Appreciation to COIC's leadership and staff, who are committed to a smooth transition.

Karen Friend, COIC: COIC is very sad to leave the region and committed to partnering with KCC and ensuring a smooth transition.

Action: Kelly: just learned of this recently. As a community member- would like ECWIB to provide more information to the community. Need some outreach to ensure that the public understands that this is not an abandonment of the services. Heather requested a list of key stakeholders that should be informed from Kelly.

Unanimously Approved

Discussion regarding North sub-region:

Given the limited resources available to support WIOA Youth services, providers need to be able to leverage additional resources to offer an effective program. Unfortunately, Mid-Columbia Council of Governments (MCCOG) is an organization that does not have the infrastructure to support this program, nor do they have the ability to leverage other funds and voted Tuesday to not renew their contract with ECWIB for delivery WIOA Youth services after the end of this program year.

In the northern sub-region, the second prevailing bidder is no longer interested in delivering these services. Therefore, staff propose citing exigent circumstances, which is allowed by the ECWIB policy and the funder, to begin contract negotiations with an alternative provider, such as Columbia Gorge Community College (CGCC), with whom ECWIB staff have had preliminary conversations.

Motion: Wally moves to approve that staff work to identify a replacement provider.
Brad seconds

Further Discussion:

Dave: When would services end? Would there be a transition period? What is the timeline?

Heather: Ideally we would have an overlapping contract. MCCOG is willing to provide services through the spring/summer to allow for a smooth transition.

Unanimously Approved

12:05pm – 12:20pm

Youth Employment Workgroup – Katie Condit, Better Together Director

Discussion: Submitted a grant proposal to fund the implementation of a tool to better coordinate the matching and coordination of youth internships. The Youth Employment Workgroup has identified a tool called LaunchPath that does the matching, tracking and helps to identify opportunities. If the board agrees, the ECWIB would fund the tool, but our partners would all be able to use it and put MOU in place to ensure coordination.

Several members voiced support for the tool and interest in getting a report back on metrics.

Motion: No vote required. Will be approved as part of the budget.

12:20pm – 12:25pm

Break to grab working lunch

12:25pm – 1:10pm

Looming Labor Shortage: The Immigrant Solution – Brad Porterfield, LCA Director and ECWIB Member with support from Dallas Fridley, Regional Economist, OED

Discussion: Brad presented labor market data re: the labor shortage and the idea of activating our non-native born residents as our native born residents are not reproducing at a rate that will keep up with workforce needs in the future.

Ken Bailey (local employer) stated that up to 80-90% of their cherry harvest employees are immigrant or native born but Hispanic populations. “Looming” Labor Shortage is here now! Current H2A visa program (temporary work visa for foreign agricultural workers) is very restrictive and risky for agriculture businesses; gave some very good perspective on effects of current administration policies on movement of agricultural workers-native or not.

Discussion of presentation postponed until the next board meeting due to lack of time.

1:10pm – 1:30pm- **Not part of discussion – agreed to distribute via email.**

Quick Updates

- One Stop Operator Request for Proposals – Jessica Fitzpatrick, ECWIB Director of Programs
- Train Oregon – Jessica Fitzpatrick, ECWIB Director of Programs
- Incumbent Worker Request for Proposals – Dave Burger, UA 290 and ECWIB member
- Cost Sharing MOU – Amy Gibbs, OR Employment Dept. Manager and ECWIB member

- Adult Basic Skills Request for Proposals Evaluation Panel – Heather Ficht, ECWIB Director

Motion: Wally moves to adjourn the meeting and proposes that ECWIB staff provide the remaining agenda item via email.

Amy Seconds.

Unanimously Agreed

Adjourned at 1:35pm

1:30pm

Sector Partnership Spotlight: Visit with AS9100D Training Consortia – Clayton Kuehl, ETI Group

On site – Room 204