

## Director's Report

4/17/18

I almost put today's date (Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>) on the heading rather than the date of the meeting. As I am later than I wanted to be in preparing this message I took no chances and listed Tuesday's date so to be assured of its competition.

Brenda has put together a diverse agenda for the meeting with the plan to help us to understand better the different programs under the workforce umbrella. (Please see the attached agenda)

Let us begin this conversation with something you have heard me talk about before. MOU/IFA. We have been informed that the Oregon Department of Justice has rejected the summited MOU's and IFA'S. Moving forward we will learn if EOWB's was rejected totally or partially. But from what I understand all nine workforce Boards are in the same predicament. I am sure we will start to hear more details leading up to a scheduled meeting on April 26<sup>th</sup>. It's disappointing because of all the time the entire staff spent putting these documents together. We went from being called "Rock Stars" suggesting we had done what we thought was right to now maybe having to scrape all our work. Stay tuned...

Sheri, Farideh and Brenda have completed the monitoring of CAPECO and TEC with very positive results. We appreciate both staff's in their willingness to work with us to complete the monitoring process in a timely manner. With that theme in mind, the state will return the end of this month to monitor EOWB's fiscal and program ledgers.

More on the housekeeping, the remodeling of the Worksource office in La Grande is complete and the Training and Employment Consortium (TEC) has transitioned into the expanded space. (Thanks to both staffs for all their hard work in making it happen) We are almost there...

The Federal Department of Justice is questioning procedures of all nine workforce Boards in connection with One Stop Operators. We have until the middle of May to respond to those inquires.

Recently you received a PDF of 23 policies that Brenda worked to bring current. We will ask that you review them and ask questions if there are any during the consent agenda. I would like to commend Brenda for her due diligence in completing this project. She did a lot of research and just plan reading.

Steve Lyon, Chairman of the Eastern Oregon Manufacturing Partnership has once again asked the members to come together to air new or ongoing concerns about their industry and discuss ideas in establishing priorities. The meeting will be held in the new conference room in the La Grande Worksource center on Adams Avenue on the afternoon of May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please share with staff a telephone number or email address of anyone who you feel maybe interested in

attending, so we can contact them. Or better yet please contact them and tell them of the meeting.

As previously mentioned EOWB co-sponsored what was dubbed the Oregon Manufacturing Extension Partnership's Roadshow, where Manufacturer's listened to a presentation by John Valachovic. The Roadshow made stops in Pendleton and Boardman and traveled to Wallowa County to meet with David and Jesse Schmidt. The participation was not as robust as was hoped but I know anyone who listened to John left more knowledgeable than when they got there.

Shalee Hodgson now among other duties the Initiative Manager, for the Governor's initiative "Future Ready Oregon" compiled the Assessment of EOWB. The Officers committee met in person and returned comments of the Assessment to Shalee. Once the process is complete the Assessment will be shared with the entire Board. The Officers also meet and responded to a letter from Commissioner Murdock, of Umatilla County at which time he requested a sum of money from EOWB for Umatilla County for the role the County played in the formation of EOWB.

In this packet is the overview of the fore mentioned Future Ready Plan. In the early stages I'm sure we will hear much more of this soon.

At the Oregon Workforce Partners meeting the other day we had a discussion with the Oregon Economic Development Association which will help us in our partnership with local Economic Development Directors. We also heard a presentation on a Virtual WorkSource Office. Something that is intriguing when it comes to Eastern Oregon.

A meeting of the Regional Solutions team, Business Oregon, ODOT, Port of Morrow Workforce Training Coordinator WorkSource and EOWB was held to learn of projects and to discuss how we can work together to better achieve our goals.

I recently attended the annual meeting of the Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation (GEODC). John Huffman former State Legislator and the newly appointed state Director of the USDA was the keynote speaker.

I also attended the meeting of the newly formed Boarder Board in Malheur County which is tasked with researching the differences in doing business and living in Oregon compared to Idaho. A collaborative may be formed between our two organizations as we share many of the same issues and concerns.

I will leave you with an invite to put on your calendar the first annual Oregon Workforce Conference in Eugene September 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. More details to come in the following weeks including registration forms.

Look forward to seeing you Tuesday... THANK YOU for your time and service to EOWB.

Bill