

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

10/4/16

EOWB has a new Controller. When we discussed this at the last meeting the four new board's had set up a time for discussions with Karen Humelbaugh and Debi Welter of Community College Workforce Development (CCWD) for talks on next steps to solve the compliance requirements within the new Boards and WIOA. After some frank conversation, it was agreed that each new Workforce Board should have their own employee.

One of the reasons I initially consented to just one between the four Boards, was I did not believe it was necessary to have the position be full time, and I was willing to see if one could do four. It soon became evident that it was not. With that being said, the State made the commitment to assist the Boards financially with the position.

To that end, we worked with the professional services staff of Oregon Employment Department to advertise for a part time Controller. (A .5 FTE doubles the time one will devote to the needs of EOWB than with the previous arrangement) Susie Cederholm, Erin and I interviewed four candidates. When the smoke cleared, the part time position was offered to Sheri McDonald. Sheri, at one time was a CPA/Auditor with the local firm of Seydel, Lewis, Poe and Moeller and was for nine years the Controller with Training and Employment Consortium. (TEC). She resigned to pursue family interests in Hermiston.

Although she worked on the other side of the ledger her wealth of knowledge with the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) will help her with the transformation to the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Sheri, will perform her accounting duties and guide us and give us counsel, with the rules, regulations, policies and laws while keeping us in compliance with WIOA from her home in Hermiston. As a County Commissioner, I worked with Sheri as a member of the TEC Board. Her knowledge, understanding of the system and her professionalism served her well and I know that will continue as she joins our team. Sheri would have joined us on the 11th but she is at a seminar with many other fiscal experts throughout the United States learning more about WIOA. Oh yeah... the seminar is in the state of Hawaii.

Attached to this report please find the year-end budget to actual report. Please look this over and after a short discussion I will answer your additional questions.

As mentioned in previous reports, for this year, we have with the other three new Boards secured the audit firm of Jones/Roth to conduct the federally mandated audit. The process will start the end of October with reports scheduled the second week of December.

At the end of each year it is the responsibility of the Workforce Board to conduct formal monitoring of the Service Provider's. Because we were not prepared nor did we have the knowledge how to proceed the state preformed these duties. Next year they will again do the monitoring the only difference being the EOWB staff will learn the process and be expected to do it in year three and beyond. According to preliminary reports everything is very good. Congrats to Tara, Eric and their teams.

The Rapid Response protocol is just waiting final approval of all the participants. (And may be complete by the 11th.) As you may remember Rapid Response is what takes place when a business is going

through a layoff or closing. It's the coordination of all the agencies that will come together to serve all the employees with the disruption of their employment. Any time anyone in the agencies hears that there may be a company struggling and may lay off employees or close (even if it is a rumor), the liaison is informed, the owner or manager is contacted by a designated person to offer assistance if needed and ask permission to meet with employees if necessary. Unfortunately, we are seeing a good number of these situations. There is even more assistance possible for the employer and employee if these type situations are reported when the employer is determining what action needs to be taken. Anyone who learns of any possibility of closures or layoffs in your area please contact Erin ASAP.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between all the agencies involved in the Worksource Centers is ready for signatures. Completion date will be prior to November 1st.

The Cost Allocation Plan for all Worksource Centers is now in the discussion stages and the goal is to have the process completed soon.

Decisions on the One Stop Operator will be the next subject to be discussed on our way to compliance of WIOA. I will be attending a seminar on this subject on the 5th, so will have something more to report about on the 11th.

As we continue to comply with WIOA attached you will find more policies that we will ask your approval.

Two of the Advanced Manufacturing sector committees continue to move forward with projects. As previously mentioned thanks to Scott Fairly the Regulatory group meet with Elana Pirtle-Gurney, Assistant to the Governor on Workforce, their three priority issues. Sick leave, overtime and electrical engineers. And although nothing was solved Elana got a better understanding of the struggles manufactures are up against. We did have a discussion on apprenticeships, with a big emphasis on reaching out to employers with new opportunities. Brenda will spearhead this effort

The first planning meeting of the Health Care sector was a success with champions identified to sign the letter that will be sent inviting health care providers the opportunity to join us for the November 16th launch.

For the two days following our Board meeting the team will be participating in a two day Sector Academy in Salem. The purpose will be to help all participants understand their roles moving forward as players in the future identified sectors in each area. Erin and Deb Gargalis will serve in a panel discussion on the advantages of sector strategies.

In the past I have been derelict in not keeping you informed on happenings as often as I should. One of my goals for the future is to rectify that error. My question to you...how would you like to receive this communication? By phone? By email? Or in person?

I am working on more deliverables (other than the one listed above) and will share those goals with you soon

In closing, our goal will be to keep the video conference meeting shorter than the in person meeting but if you have anything you want discussed please let us know so we can get them on the agenda.

Please contact me with any questions, concerns or comments you may have.