



East Cascades Works' Board

Board Meeting Minutes

July 25, 2018 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

*Location: Central Oregon Community College Redmond Campus, Tech Center Room 209
2030 SE College Loop, Redmond, OR 97756*

Call-in option: 1.971.337.0147 code 73537355

11:30am-11:45am

Welcome and Introductions – Wally Corwin, EC Works Chair

- Welcome new EC Works Board member – Martin Campos-Davis, Oregon Human Development Corp.
- Consent Agenda
 - Meeting Minutes from January 24 and April 25, 2018 - *vote required - approved*
 - Ratify East Cascades Works 2018-2019 Budget - *vote required - approved*
 - Elect new Executive Committee members
Gary North, R&H Construction and Lisa Dobey, St. Charles Health System were nominated and then unanimously approved.
- Conflict of Interest forms

11:45am-12:05pm

Workforce Action Teams Update

- Regional Health Care – Lisa Dobey, St. Charles
This committee is focused on recruiting students to existing Health Care pathways at COCC as they are not being filled, causing pipeline shortage in our area.
- Klamath & Lake County Construction & Manufacturing – Julie Matthews, KCEDA
The team's focus is on career exploration. Met with employers in Manufacturing field who decided to conduct facility tours and have hands-on demonstrations on Oct. 9, which coincides with National Manufacturing Day. Also met with employers in the Construction industry who plan to leverage the Klamath Basin Home Builders' expo next spring to provide career info and hands-on demonstrations.
- "Central Oregon is Hiring" video premier – Michelle Alvarado, Wahoo Films! & Kip Barrett, EDCO
This was funded by the Central Workforce Action team to highlight the job opportunities in Central Oregon. There is also a video focused on tech jobs in this area. Both will have optimized internet releases in mid-August and will be made available to the business community and local organizations.

12:05pm-12:15pm

Break for networking lunch

Wally pointed out that we have given the board members a contact list and encouraged them to network with each other as well as with businesses in their communities.

12:15-12:55pm

Why WorkSource? – Stefanie Siebold, Program Director for East Cascades Works

One of the functions of EC Works board is to support and oversee the WorkSource system, so it is important that the board members understand how it works. This presentation is designed to dispel common myths about WorkSource.

- *Amy Gibbs, Oregon Employment Department*
Myth: *WorkSource serves only those who receive or are applying to receive Unemployment Benefits.*
This hasn't been the case for many years – that work shifted to call centers. WorkSource exists to support both job seekers and businesses. In addition to connecting job seekers to open positions, they provide access to training programs for both job seekers and businesses, tax credits for training expenses and a wide range of other options that businesses and job seekers can take advantage of.
- *Molly Joubert, Vocational Rehabilitation*
Myth: *It's too expensive to hire a disabled person*
Employers can benefit from tax incentives, funded training, assistance with on-the-job training, etc. This agency also provides many different options to help disabled individuals find and keep jobs through training, special equipment, etc.
- *Rena Gibney, Dept. of Human Services, Self-Sufficiency programs*
Myth: *People on public assistance don't want to work because they can live off their benefit checks.*
Rena explained that the amount people receive in the form of TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) and SNAP (Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program) is minimal and not enough for a family to live on. She also pointed out that TANF recipients are required to work a minimum of 20 hrs/week or they lose a portion of their benefits.
- *Molly James, Oregon Commission for the Blind*
Myth: *People who are legally blind or visually impaired see nothing at all.*
Only 10-15% of those who are legally blind have total blindness. There are a variety of jobs available based on the type of blindness and support is available monetarily to the degree of their disability. For employers the agency provides on-the-job training, tax incentives, specialized equipment, etc.
- *Penny Newton, Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council*
Myth: *WorkSource training is only for low-skilled workers*
There are all types of training available, not just for entry-level workers. The most popular classroom training program is for Commercial Truck Drivers. Often these trainees have a job waiting for them when they graduate. WorkSource also offers on-the-job training programs for companies. Employers are reimbursed for half the wages they pay to their employee while in he/she is training, up to \$5,000. Only positions that pay \$2/hr. above minimum wage qualify.
- *Jenny Newby, Central Oregon Community College*
Myth: *Community Colleges are not part of workforce development*
COCC is one of the few community colleges who have staff and training on site at the Bend and Redmond WorkSource offices. Their regular curriculum supports workforce development with over 30 career and technical education programs, including health care, tech, construction and manufacturing. They also offer customized training on-site for employers, and robust GED programs.
- *Stefanie Siebold, East Cascades Works*
Stefanie added that in the Bend WorkSource office alone, they had 16,000 job listings in 2017 with salaries that ranged from \$9/hr. - \$100/hr. She also praised the staff stating they are some of the most committed, passionate group of people she's ever worked with.

12:55pm-1:15pm

Oregon Manufacturing Extension Partnership - Kendall Lenhares

This was postponed until the next ECW Board meeting due to lack of time. Heather pointed out that it is an important presentation, because OMEP was hired to make sure we are consistently implementing the WorkSource Standards and EC Works Board vision across the .

1:15pm – 1:25pm

Upcoming Events – Heather Ficht, Executive Director

- Endless Summer Nights – Sept. 8 in Bend – East Cascades Works will be the beneficiary of this fund-raising event put on by R&H Construction.
- Second Chance Summit – Sept. 11 in Bend – conference will present information and ideas regarding the benefits of hiring ex-offenders
- WORKing Together – Sept. 26-27 in Eugene – presented by the nine Oregon Workforce Boards, bringing together key workforce stakeholders and leaders including: business and industry, elected officials, education, economic development and community-based organizations. EC Works will pay for the registration of board members and other partners, as well as per diem reimbursement for board members.

1:25-1:30pm

Call to Action – Heather Ficht

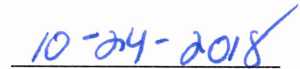
Before next board meeting, each board member should visit their local WorkSource center and learn more about how they operate. We want feedback on how to improve the system. As proof, take a selfie of yourself with a WorkSource staff member and send to Heather at 541-904-5070. There will be prizes!!!

1:30pm

Adjourned



s/Mark Warne
Secretary/Treasurer



Date

