



East Cascades Workforce Investment Board

Board Meeting Minutes

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

Location: Columbia Gorge Community College, Bldg. 1, Room 1.162

400 E Scenic Drive, The Dalles, OR 97058

Call-in option: 1.971.337.0147 code 25964248

In person: Wally Corwin (Board Chair), Mark Warne (Vice Chair, secretary/treasurer), Steve Kramer (local elected official), Lisa Farquharson (member), Amy Gibbs (member), Molly Joubert (member), Jennifer Newby (member), Kale Donnelly (OED), Nate Stice (Regional Solutions), Mike Scoggs (CGCC), Heather Ficht (Executive Director), Stefanie Siebold (staff), Cynthia Crossman (staff)

On the phone: Heather Tramp (member), Julie Matthews (member), Lisa Dobey (member), Mike Peterson (member), Shawn Armstrong (member), Larry Lake (Oregon Commission for the Blind), Joe Krenowicz (Madras Chamber of Commerce)

Meeting called to order by Wally Corwin at 11:35 am

Topic	Time	
Welcome and Introductions Wally Corwin, ECWIB Chair	11:40am- 11:55am	<p>Introduction of new private sector members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike Peterson – Earth2O in Jefferson County • Gary North – R&H Construction in Deschutes County • Lisa Dobey – St. Charles Health System in Deschutes County <p>Brad Porterfield term expiring June 30, 2018 Wally thanked Brad for his service as one of the original ECWIB and Executive Board members. Brad has filled the community outreach position for the public sector and represented the Latino community.</p> <p>We are looking to fill Brad’s position and request the help of current Board members to spread the word and make recommendations. Heather Ficht presented an application form for Board feedback. Deadline for applications will be June 30, 2018. Volunteers for the ad hoc committee to select Brad’s replacement: Mark Warne, Jennifer Newby and Julie Matthews.</p> <p>Consent Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting Minutes from January 24, 2018 (vote required). <p>Actions: Quorum was not reached. Minutes for January 14 meeting will be approved at next meeting.</p>



Connecting Talent To Opportunity

<p>Workforce Action Team Updates</p>	<p>11:50am-12:20pm</p>	<p>North - Lisa Farquharson The team decided to use their \$10K to fund middle management training. Mid-Columbia Medical Center has already arranged this training for those in the healthcare industry in the area. The team can use the same program for other industries.</p> <p>Central – Wally Corwin There is an acute labor shortage in Central Oregon, especially in certain industries. This team has allocated their \$10K to create a video presenting the area’s employment opportunities in our target industries – technology, construction, manufacturing and healthcare.</p> <p>South – Julie Matthews and Heather Tramp Labor needs in the South sub-region are in construction and manufacturing. One key factor the team identified is that students and parents don’t know enough about the opportunities in these fields, so may not even consider these as possible careers for youth. Their funds will support career exploration for youth.</p> <p>Wally expressed how pleased he is to see the progress being made by the action teams. These teams were envisioned by the original Board as a key means of connecting businesses and their needs to the East Cascades Works Board and the work we do. Congratulations to all.</p>
<p>Upskill/Backfill Request for Proposals</p>	<p>12:20pm-12:30pm</p>	<p>Stefanie Siebold announced that only two applications were received for this RFP, both from Klamath County, which are currently being reviewed. We were disappointed in the lack of response, and Heather Ficht requested feedback from the Board as to how we can be more effective in getting the word out about our RFPs.</p> <p>The following suggestions came out of the discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider posting announcements in publications such as the Cascades Business News, which is widely read. We need to reach the business community • Dispel the impression that the application process is complicated and time consuming. To remedy this we could: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Prepare a Primer with sample applications ○ Educate Board members about the process at future meeting ○ Have a Bidders’ Conference in each sub-region • Leverage our contacts in Human Resources depts. • Make the application period longer • Use language that resonates with the private sector. The language and terminology we’ve been using is more governmental and understood mainly by those who are familiar with grants. Small businesses especially are unfamiliar with grants and the application process.

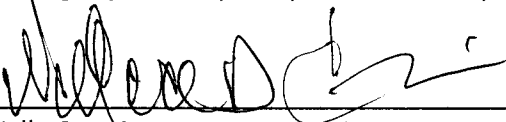
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form a work group to evaluate what we've done in past and changes that need to be made for future. Include education, private sector, OED business services representatives from each sub-region, Chamber of Commerce, Business Oregon. Wally, Lisa Dobey, and Amy Gibbs volunteered to be part of this work group. Leverage Board members' email contacts when we send out notice of RFPs.
		<p>Actions: Heather to convene ad hoc group before next procurement cycle. Board members to forward contacts to Cynthia to add to the EC Works email list</p>
Break for Working Lunch	12:30-12:40pm	
State of the Workforce Report 2018	12:40-1:20pm	Heather Ficht presented East Cascades Works' first State of the Workforce report. She went over the various sections and highlighted key data. She explained that this is simply a snapshot in time of the important factors that affect the economic vitality of our Workforce regions rather than a performance report. Heather will be available to present this report to any interested groups in our regions.
General Updates	1:20-1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Innovation Fund Opportunity We need to bring together various industry groups to determine what their needs are in order to have "shovel-ready projects" on hand for when funds become available to apply for. We'll partner with both business and the education community. Upcoming Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oregon Talent Summit, May 11 in Portland – This event will provide the opportunity for the workforce system to gather industry-based information and data related to the talent needs of Oregon's employers and our current and future workers. Regards to Rural, May 18-19 in Portland – Wally Corwin, Roberto Gutierrez and Heather Ficht will be on a panel Working Together, Sept. 26-27 in Eugene – Oregon Workforce Partnership is sponsoring this. Focus is on innovation and private/public partnership. Diversity & Leadership Series – East Cascades Works is the presenting sponsor. This series of classes will take place every other month (except in the summer) with different topics. We have five free tickets for each and will pay for mileage for any Board members how wish to attend. Contact Cynthia Crossman at admin@ecworks.org if you are interested in any of the classes. Governor Brown's Future Ready Initiative Is focused on a prepared workforce. As the initiative continues to evolve, will we share additional information.



General Discussion	1:30-1:35pm	The East Cascades Works 2018-2019 budget will be ratified at the next Board meeting in July. It will first be reviewed by the Executive Committee and then approved by COWC. We anticipate between a 10%-21% reduction in funds.
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Mark Warne moves to adjourn
Amy Gibbs seconds
Unanimously agreed

Meeting Adjourned by Wally Corwin at 1:35 pm



Wally Corwin
Board Chair

7-31-2018

Date