

WORKFORCE ESCAROSA, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JANUARY 24, 2013
MINUTES

Members Present: Jay Overman (Chairperson), Robert Ephraim, Joshua Durst (Secretary/Treasurer), Van Mansker, Robin Punyko, Randy Fleming, Gracie Parker, Lesa Morgan, Dana Mullins, Amber McCool, Brenda Moorer, Ferd Salomon, and Randy Ramos

Members Participating via Teleconference/Webinar: Scott Ginnetti (Vice-Chairperson), Tracy Allen, Ildi Hosman, Bill Lawson, Reagan McDaniel, Joel Paul, Jr., and Dr. Harold White

Ex-Officio Member Participating via Teleconference/Webinar: Sheila Harris

Members Not Present/Participating: Dan Busse, Becky Decesare, Gretchen Clarke, Michele Hynes, Kelly Reeser, Tina Stewart, and Sandy Whitaker

Others Present: Carla Jones – Escambia Board of County Commissioners, Kathy Karshna, Janet Summers, Maggie Thomas, Susan Nelms, and Janay Sims – Workforce Escarosa, Inc.

Chairperson Jay Overman called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m., at Workforce Escarosa's administrative office.

The membership roll was called for attendance/participation.

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were noted.

MINUTES – OCTOBER 18, 2012

The minutes were reviewed.

Action Taken: Motion by Jay Overman, and seconded by Robert Ephraim to approve the October 18, 2012 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

READING OF PUBLIC DISCLOSURES

No public disclosures were noted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FY 2012-2013

Staff has not been contacted by WFI regarding local performance standards as tracked by USDOL. No new information is available.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP WAIVER REQUEST

Workforce Escarosa, Inc., submitted a Board Membership waiver request to the Office of the Governor on September 11, 2012. A response to this request was received on January 23, 2013, and was presented to the Board at the January 24th meeting. It was stated in the response that the responsibility remains with local chief elected officials to appoint to the regional workforce board the representatives required (referring to the local school district), and may request gubernatorial approval for any additional members. The Governor has the authority to approve additional members beyond the minimum membership required by federal law. Mrs. Nelms informed all that she has communicated with those applicable to this situation. The two school district representatives, Escambia and Santa Rosa, were in agreement with rotating their appointment on the Board. The request for the University of West Florida (UWF) representative on the board was not addressed by the Office of the Governor in their response to Escarosa's request. It was noted UWF's representation on the board would create unequal representation. Should the UWF representative resign from the Board it would bring Escarosa's membership requirement into compliance. Dr. Harold White, who represents UWF on the Board, requested discussion with Mrs. Nelms at a later time. Mrs. Nelms informed all only one other regional workforce board requested a waiver.

BRANDING INITIATIVES

Several Board members (e.g., Van Mansker, Ferd Salomon, Dan Busse, Lesa Morgan and Cheryl Smith) and Shannon Ogletree – Economic Development for Santa Rosa County, attended a branding session in Crestview on December 13th. Several sessions are being held around the state by IDEAS, the contractor to recommend the branding plan, to make the final report to WFI later in this fiscal year. Those who attended reported they were asked several questions, and issues of potential problems were addressed. It was felt that nothing definitive came out of the meeting. The meeting was basically to gather information. There was some discussion among the Board regarding concern of the Regions' identity as a result of branding.

GOVERNOR'S GOALS – CY 2013

The Governor has challenged the twenty-four (24) regional workforce boards to place 1,613 individuals per day for the month of January (based on a 31 day period). If calculated on the number of workdays available in January (21 for most RWBs), the amount per day would equal 2,381. Through January 15th, the RWBs have assisted 19,278 individuals with employment. Based upon projections through January 15th to meet the 50,000, the RWBs are currently behind by 4,916. The Month-to-Date Placements for January 2013 was presented.

SENATE BILL 222

A copy of Senate Bill 222 was made available to the membership. The Bill provides for Regional Workforce Boards to become the unemployment compensation Appeals Review Panel composed of two RWB Board of Director members and a General Counsel to be located at the office of the Executive Director. The two RWB Board members will be appointed by the Board chair and would become employees of the State. There were some concerns with this bill, as it would put the Board in the middle of taking sides. It was felt that the Appeals Review Panel should be made up of outside entities.

ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR YOUTH SERVICES CONTRACT – SANTA ROSA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Santa Rosa County School District has requested an increase to their current Youth Service contract. They are requesting an additional \$85,000 to support work experience for an additional nine (9) students. Staff made inquiry to the other two youth service providers, Escambia County School District and Children's Home Society, regarding the need for additional dollars. No request was received from them.

Action Taken: Motion by Randy Fleming, and seconded by Lesa Morgan to approve an additional \$85,000 to support Santa Rosa County School District's current youth service contract. Motion carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2012

Escarosa's Summary of Expenditures, Required Rates, and Service Provider Contracts report for period ended November 30, 2012 were made available to the membership. The following was noted:

Workforce Investment Act

The PY 2012-2013 budget was budgeted for a 30% transfer of Dislocated Worker funds to Adult. Due to a 3 to 1 ration of WIA Adult clients in training compared to WIA Dislocated Workers, 50% (the maximum allowable amount) was transferred.

The November 30, 2012 financial statements include tuition and books for the first semester of PY 2012-2013 year, which resulted in a greater than required percentage for the State ITA requirement of 40%. A decrease is expected in the next few months. It appears there will be no problem making the required 40%.

Youth program expenditures are understated due to the Escambia County School District inadvertently charging the summer youth program to the PY 2012-2013 year round contract. Steps are being taken to correct this problem. Corrected invoices are expected in January's financial statements.

Wagner Peyser

Staff received \$117,723 of incentive funds earned from performance in the PY 2010-2011 Wagner Peyser program. These funds will expire on June 30, 2013, and will be used for the Wagner Peyser program.

Transition Assistance Program

The program ended December 31, 2012, and has not affected staffing level in the Veterans program.

PSC EF Healthcare Contract

Pensacola State College has extended the consulting agreement for another year and the funding level has increased to 100% of the Business Service Representative.

Welfare Transition Program

The Welfare Transition Program has experienced a large increase in the number of new clients. Some reductions to budgeted line items are needed to allow a temporary case manager until June 30. The budget will support additional temporary staff.

Action Taken: Motion by Gracie Parker, and seconded by Robin Punyko to approve the Financial Statements and related summaries for the period ended November 30, 2012. Motion carried.

WRITE-OFF OF EQUIPMENT/INVENTORY

A list of old equipment that Escarosa would like to write off was made available to the membership. Most of the equipment is either broken or obsolete computers. They are currently in a storage unit. Some old computers are kept for parts, but as new computers are purchased, storage for the old computers becomes a problem. The equipment will be given to non-profit organizations.

The computers on the list purchased during 2009 were all destroyed in the June 2012 flood at the Pensacola Career Center.

Randy Fleming inquired about the monitors that were used with the damaged 2009 computers, as his organization could use the monitors. Staff will research this.

Action Taken: Motion Randy Fleming, and seconded by Gracie Parker to approve writing off the list of old equipment as requested. Motion carried.

BUSINESS COMPETITIVENESS COUNCIL

FUNDING OF WORKFORCE SERVICES POSITION – GREATER PENSACOLA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Greater Pensacola Chamber is requesting financial assistance with a Director of Workforce Development position to assist with talent development and educational initiatives. This position would assist with the Next Generation Learning Council and the Advisory Councils associated with the program. NGLC is an initiative that links business leadership with educational programs to develop curriculum to better meet the needs of having a trained workforce for our employers. In addition, the position will assist with Career Academies and Career Academy University and also will promote Workforce Escarosa services and provide contacts for our Business Services Representatives. The Job Description was made available to the membership.

The Chamber is asking for \$12,500 for the remainder of our current fiscal year (June 30, 2013) and \$25,000 for FY 2013 – 2014, for a total of \$37,500 over 18 months.

The Chamber will hire for the position, and the position will provide monthly reports on business contacts. WIA Adult dollars will be used to reimburse the Chamber for the position.

Action Taken: Motion by Randy Fleming, and seconded by Robert Ephraim to approve funding in the amount of \$37,500 to the Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce for the Director of Workforce Development position, to begin January 1, 2013 and end on June 30, 2014. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

SURVEY RESULTS – BOARD MEETING DATE

The survey results indicated a tie for keeping the meeting date on the third Thursday and changing it to the third Wednesday of the month. It was decided to have the next meeting, in April, on the third Wednesday of the month to determine a set meeting day.

EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 extends Extension of Emergency Unemployment Compensation/Reemployment Services. Region 1 will receive additional dollars to support temporary staff for these services.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.



Joshua Durst, Secretary/Treasurer
Workforce Escarosa, Inc.