

**AGENDA**

**WORKFORCE ESCAROSA, INC.**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**APRIL 17, 2013**

**11:00 a.m.**

- I. Call Meeting to Order ..... Jay Overman
- II. Approval of Minutes – January 24, 2013
- III. Items for Consideration:
  - Action Item  
ITA Amount Increase – Summer School Only
  
  - Information Items  
Update on 2013 Legislative Session  
NAWB Conference
- IV. New Business
- V. Other Business

**WORKFORCE ESCAROSA, INC.  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 24, 2013  
MINUTES**

**Members Present/Participating:** Jay Overman (Chairperson), Robert Ephraim, Joshua Durst, Van Mansker, and Scott Ginnetti (via teleconference)

**Others Present:** Kathy Karshna, Maggie Thomas, Janet Summers, Susan Nelms, and Janay Sims – Workforce Escarosa, Inc.

Chairperson Jay Overman called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m., at Workforce Escarosa’s administrative office.

**MINUTES – OCTOBER 18, 2012**

The minutes were reviewed.

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

**PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FY 2012-2013**

Staff have not been contacted by the 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 Executive Committee at the January 24<sup>th</sup> 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. Mrs. Nelms recommend Region I comply with what’s necessary to bring Board membership into compliance, as required by state law and WFI policy.

**BRANDING INITIATIVE**

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 13<sup>th</sup>. 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.

Van Mansker gave an update on the session he attended. There was some discussion of fear of other regions not complying, and 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 15<sup>th</sup>, the RWBs have assisted 19,278 individuals with employment. Based upon projections through January 15<sup>th</sup> 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

Senate Bill 222 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. A copy of Senate Bill 222 was presented. 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.

### OTHERS BUSINESS

#### 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.

**Action Taken: Motion by Van Mansker, and seconded by Robert Ephraim to approve an additional \$85,000 to support Santa Rosa County School District's current youth service contract. Motion carried.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Janay Sims  
Recording Secretary

**WORKFORCE ESCAROSA, INC.  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
ACTION ITEM**

**Summer School Only – Increase in Individual Training Account (ITA)**

**Date:** April 17, 2013

**Committee Members:** Jay Overman, Scott Ginnetti, Robert Ephriam, Josh Durst and Van Mansker.

**Item for Discussion:**

It has come to our attention that for some participants who need to attend school during the summer months, may come close to exceeding the current \$5,000 ITA cap for tuition assistance and therefore, would not be provided financial assistance through Workforce Escarosa under WIA. This mainly centers on participants who are attending school through private for-profit training vendors such as, but is not necessarily limited to, Fortis and Virginia College. As funding is available under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and the increase would allow the participants to finish their program of study in a shorter timeframe, staff are asking for an increase in the ITA amount of up to \$7,500 for **ONLY** those students who are able and/or required to attend school during the summer months. This normally includes the months of May – July. Participants who attend the regular school year, normally 9 months out of the year, will only be eligible for \$5,000 as is the current ITA cap. Staff who work on a daily basis with Escarosa’s training vendors and understand how courses are delivered, will make the determination as to whether or not the program is eligible as a “summer” course.

**Recommendation:**

To approve increasing the ITA amount to \$7,500 for **ONLY** those participants who attend school during the summer months as determined and approved by Workforce Escarosa staff.