



PLANNING COMMITTEE

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS: James Hill (*Chairperson*), *Joel Arnold*, Patricia Balacek, *Dan Hanson*, *John Kriesel*, Marcia Jagodzinske, Nancy Jacques, Bill Lenardson and *Mason Quackenbush*

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Monday, January 11, 2010

12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Lunda Center

Logistics Health Room

Lunch Provided

Western Technical College Campus

400 7th Street North

La Crosse, Wisconsin

Please **RSVP** your attendance to Heather Johnson at 608-789-5499 or johnsonh@workforceconnections.org.

Agenda Item	Page(s)	Action
I. CONSENT ITEMS		
<i>ACTION STATEMENT – Chairperson calls meeting to order and provides announcements, if any.</i>		
A. Call to Order		
B. Announcements		
C. Opportunity to Comment on WIA Plan and Service		
II. ORDER OF BUSINESS		
<i>ACTION STATEMENT – Review and approve meeting minutes, WIA financial and program performance report and 2009-10 committee work plan. Report all corrections to the Chairperson.</i>		
A. Meeting Minutes of August 31, 2009	Pages 1-5	X
B. WIA Development Outlook		
1. Reauthorization and Future Allocations		
2. Sector Initiatives and Stimulus		
C. WIA Reporting		
1. Performance Negotiations		Page 6-7

2. Program Reports (financial and performance)	Pages 8-10 X
a. Adult	Page 8
b. Dislocated Worker	Page 9
c. Disability Navigator Program	Page 10
D. Planning Committee Work Plan	Handout
1. Review Work Plan	
E. Funding Initiatives	Handout
1. Approved Grants	
• Opportunity Grant (\$78,750)	
• Retraining Grant (\$87,615)	
• Special Response Grant (\$111,253)	
• Energy Sector Grant (\$25,000)	
2. Additional Grants Update	
F. Taskforce Report-Out	
None	
G. Unfinished Business	
H. New Business	
III. ADJOURN	
A. Motion to Adjourn.....X	
Next Meeting: Monday, April 19, 2009 / 12:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. / TBD	

Western Wisconsin Workforce Development Board, Inc.
PLANNING COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
August 31, 2009

ATTENDANCE – Page 5

I. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Call to Order and Introductions

B. Announcements

• **WIA Reauthorization**

The WIA program is up for reauthorization. We expect to learn more about the direction this program will take over the 2009-10 program year. We could possibly expect to see a few changes to the structure of workforce development boards; specifically to board size.

II. ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Meeting Minutes

Motion made (Jagodzinske/Balacek) to approve the June 15, 2009 meeting minutes.
Motion carried unanimously.

B. 2009-10 WDB Meeting Schedule

Heather Johnson distributed the 2009-10 WDB meeting schedule.

C. Economic Trends and Roundtable Update

The July national unemployment rate was 9.2 percent. The WDB service counties combine for a total unemployment rate of 7.4 percent; with Crawford and Juneau County as high as 9.5 percent. This rate is not expected to improve by great measures anytime soon.

- **DVR:** providing incentive to employers, as part of their ARRA funding, for on the job training to DVR participants. DVR will pay 50% of wages, including fringe benefits, for up to 90 days.
- **Walker Stainless Equipment:** currently no backlog which is uncommon.
- **Western Technical College:** enrollment is at a record high.
- **Riverfront, Inc.:** part-time work is just not available anymore.
- **LADCO:** Economic Forum with Cap & Trade focus to be held last week of October.

D. WIA Reporting

1. Program Performance Report

Ms. Johnson presented the July, 2009 adult, dislocated worker, youth, summer youth and disability navigator program reports. Planned enrollment numbers for the WIA programs are still pending with the start of the new program year. The Summer Youth Program completion rate and performance measurements will not be available until the programs end in September.

2. Grant Status Report

Ms. Johnson provided a July 2009, grant status report out. All open program grants will be expended before accessing new grant dollars. All program grants are on target. All ARRA grants are to be expended by June 2010. The State has yet to provide funding information for the Disability Program Navigator project.

Motion made (Jagodzinske/Balacek) to approve the program performance and grant status reports. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Other Initiatives

1. ITA – Carpenters Union

It was decided that the Carpenter's Union ITA will be approved with the contingency that the Commercial Carpentry Interior Systems program be open for any eligible WIA participant to enroll.

Motion made (Balacek/Jacques) to approve the Carpenter's Union ITA with the contingency that the Commercial Carpentry Interior Systems program be open for any eligible WIA participant to enroll. Motion objections (Jagodzinske and Grotzke).

2. 2009 7 Rivers Region Exemplary Employer Award

Ms. Johnson presented the nominations for the 2009 7 Rivers Region Exemplary Employer Award. They include: Badger Mining – Taylor, WI; Viroqua Food Cooperative – Viroqua, WI; D&S Manufacturing – Black River Falls, WI; and Atlas Resin Proppants – Taylor, WI. Chairperson, Dan Braund, asked for volunteers to review and evaluate the 2009 applicants. Marcia Jagodzinske, Patti Balacek and Nancy Jacques volunteered to serve in that role.

3. Workforce Development Month

Workforce Development Month will be scaled back this year due to the increased workload of the administrative and Job Center staff. Ms. Johnson shared the following activities scheduled for the month of September:

- Participation in the Labor Day Parade
- Participation in CareerFest at the La Crosse Center
- Production of 4 E-Newsletters on Emerging Industries
- Distribution of Emerging Industry Information in the Job Centers

4. State of the Workforce

Ms. Johnson presented an overview of the 2009 State of the Workforce Report. This year's report will focus on regionalism – the benefits of a regional approach to workforce and economic development. The report will also include summarized information from the RIG project AIM2WIN and other RIG or WIRED grant initiatives in our tri-state area.

5. Annual Meeting

Ms. Johnson provided an update on the October 19, 2009 Annual Meeting. This year's event will be held at the Radisson Hotel instead of at the Radisson Center. The meeting activities will include a morning business meeting at which the State of the Workforce report will be presented. The afternoon session will include a panel discussion with our 2009 7 Rivers Region Exemplary Employer Award recipients and we will hear from a youth, adult and dislocated worker program participant.

6. Diversity Council

Ms. Johnson provided an update on the website development and marketing assistance she is providing to the Diversity Council as a leveraged resource. All projects are still in development mode.

F. Funding Initiatives

Ms. Johnson presented an overview of the following funding initiatives:

1. Governor's Discretionary Grants

a. Sector Grants

• **HealthCare – \$70,464**

To work with the UW-L Extension on leadership training for direct care supervisors, a gerontology certificate training for direct care workers; Franciscan Skemp for computer training for medical records; and Riverfront to institute training in the health care field for those with developmental disabilities.

• **EMMA – \$44,139**

To fund LEAN training for members of EMMA.

• **Bio Composites/Plastics - \$15,305**

To help with the formation of an Industry Cluster in Bio Composites and to develop a career ladder.

• **FRAN - \$15,793**

To assist the Food Resource and Agricultural Network with cluster formation.

b. MSSC - \$21,250

To certify job seekers in the MSSC Quality and/or Safety Modules and to introduce employers to the MSSC Credentials.

- c. **Emerging Skills - \$100,000**
To assess skill needs in the Bio-Industry and Bio-technology; assess the skills lacking in the current workforce; to finalize a career pathway model; and deliver entry level training.
- d. **Opportunity Grant - \$78,750**
To assist employed or unemployed short-term dislocated workers, who fall 200 percent below the poverty line, with a \$1,000 voucher towards a 2 year post-secondary education.

2. **ARRA Funding – Local**

a. **Skills Institutes**

Specialized short-term training programs for dislocated workers.

- Roofing/Framing
- Residential Building/Weatherization
- Basic Auto Maintenance
- CNA – five more taking place between now and June '10

3. **ARRA Funding – National**

a. **Healthcare Sector Grant**

Western Technical College and partners are applying for a grant for career ladder training in health care careers including nursing, allied health, Information technology and long term care careers.

b. **Pathways Out of Poverty**

Funding amount to be determined but estimation is around \$2 million. The grant will focus on organics and green construction and have a transitional jobs element.

c. **Energy Grant**

The State will be submitting a grant on renewable energy which will focus on career laddering with in the industry.

4. **Other Funding**

a. **Regional Innovation Grant**

The proposal with education and health care providers in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa will focus on Health Information Management and Health Information Technology. Career ladders and training from certificate level through bachelor degree is being planned. The final report can be viewed online at www.wvjobcenter.org.

G. **Taskforce Report-Out**

1. **7 Rivers Eco-Devo and Industry Clusters**

No report out due to meeting postponement to a later date.

2. Healthcare Taskforce / LMHSC

Ms. Johnson provided an update on the Healthcare Taskforce/LMHSC projects. Ms. Johnson is assisting in the design and development of the Retirement and Departure Intentions Report resulting from the Retirement and Departure Intention survey distributed to healthcare organizations in western Wisconsin during 2007. The report will be presented to the LMHSC Board on October 6, 2009.

G. Unfinished Business

None

H. New Business

None

III. ADJOURN

Motion made (Hill/Hanson) to adjourn.

Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Patricia Balacek, Western Technical College
Amy Grotzke, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Jim Hill, La Crosse Area Development Corporation
Nancy Jacques, Walker Stainless Equipment
Marcia Jagodzinske, Riverfront, Inc.

EXCUSED

Ken LeMieux, Ho-Chunk Nation
Bill Lenardson, River Valley Newspaper
Karen Long, Organic Valley

OTHERS PRESENT

Jerry Hanoski, Workforce Connections, Inc.
Heather Johnson, Workforce Development Board



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December 30, 2009

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Dianne Reynolds
Employment and Training Division
Department of Workforce Development
P.O. Box 7972
Madison, WI 53707-7972

Dear Ms. Reynolds:

The Western Wisconsin Workforce Development Board, Inc. (WDB) has received the PY2009 proposed standards. Although the Western WDA typically performs at higher levels than the State's negotiated levels, we do not believe that the PY08 performance levels can be maintained. The WDB would like to propose the State negotiated goals as performance standards.

The following are the reasons for the lower proposed standards:

- **Overall** – Western Wisconsin's economy is heavily based on manufacturing. Typically manufacturing is one of the last industries to show improvement after a recession. The area was hit hard with layoffs beginning in January 2009 and has yet to see minimal job recovery. The period for which performance will be measured (April 2008-September 2009) occurs while the economy is in the depths of a recession. The unemployment rate rose from 3.9% in April of 2008 to 6.5% in September 2009. Two (2) counties were higher than the State average of 7.7% as of September 2009. These counties include Crawford (8.2%) and Juneau (8.5%).
- **Adult Standards** – Since many dislocated workers are in the job market, the adults with poor job history or skills are at a severe disadvantage. Dislocated workers will be the first to be hired as the economy picks up. Job placement and wage gains for adults will be difficult to attain. We do not foresee being able to maintain past performance of 80% placement (First quarter 2009 was 25%) or the \$12,990 average wage gain. We propose the following:
 - Entered Employment 72% (State Goal)
 - Employment Retention 86% (Goal stated in plan)
 - Average Earnings \$9,800 (State goal and PY08 Negotiated Standard)
- **Dislocated Worker Standards** – Our past performance of 95% entered employment, and 96% retention occurred while the economy was still good. In the recession, we believe that maintaining this high performance will be difficult. Entered employment

achievement in PY08 was 96.1% although PY09 first quarter was 15.8%. We would like propose the following:

- Entered Employment 84% (State Goal)
 - Employment retention 93% (State Goal)
 - Average Earnings \$14,400 (State Goal and PY08 Negotiated Standard)
- **Youth Standards** – Actual PY performance plus 5% as proposed by the State will put the Western WDA into performance levels in the 90th percentile. In PY2008, the youth program was redesigned by the Youth Council. At that time, many youth who had not made performance, and who were not cooperative with the program were exited as non-positive. The Youth Council accepted the fact that these non-exits would affect PY09 performance, but wanted to start anew with performance of the redesign, to be able to more effectively evaluate the changes. We propose the following:
 - Youth Placement in Employment or Education 72% (State Goal)
 - Youth Attainment of Degree or Credential 75% (State Goal)
 - Literacy and Numeracy Gains 30% (State Goal)

As always, the Western WDA will strive to exceed performance. Thank you for the opportunity to negotiate the standards.

Sincerely,



Gerald S. Hanoski
Executive Director

GSH/BS/rg
cc: Contract File

WIA **ADULT** PROGRAM and **ADULT ARRA**

ENROLLMENT	ACTUAL (11-30-09)	PLANNED (6-30-10)
Program Year 2009	212	246
Program Year 2008	128	197
Program Year 2007	138	175

ARRA ACTUAL (11-30-09)	ARRA PLANNED (6-30-10)
34	56
-	-
-	-

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	STANDARD	PY09 QUARTER 1	STATUS
Entered Employment	neg.	25.00%	EXCEED
Employment Retention	neg.	77.30%	EXCEED
Average Earnings Gained (6 mo.)	neg.	\$ 9,259.00	EXCEED
Employment and Credential	neg.	56.30%	Waived

**Service provider must be at 80% of the standard in order to meet that standard.*

NOTES:

2009-10 Performance Standards are in negotiation process. See attached letter for our proposed standards.

This quarter's report seems to have some conflicting information. Calls were made to the State with no response.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	STANDARD	PY08 QUARTER 1
Entered Employment	79.90%	81.80%
Employment Retention	88.00%	75.00%
Average Earnings (6 mo.)	\$ 9,800.00	\$ 10,069.00
Employment and Credential	72.60%	85.70%

**Service provider must be at 80% of the standard in order to meet that standard.*

GRANT STATUS	118 (10-31-09)	804 (10-31-09)	119 - ARRA (10-31-09)
Grant Period	7/08 - 6/10	7/09 - 6/11	2/09 - 6/10
Grant Available	\$ 492,169.00	\$ 375,477.00	\$ 271,799.00
Total Expenditures (total)	\$ 492,169.00	\$ 138,531.00	\$ 98,484.00
Total Expenditures (fiscal)	\$ 73,429.00	\$ 138,531.00	\$ 90,872.00
Grant BALANCE	\$ -	\$ 236,946.00	\$ 173,315.00

WIA DISLOCATED WORKER PROGRAM, SPECIAL RESPONSE and DW ARRA

REGULAR ENROLLMENT	ACTUAL (11-30-09)	PLANNED (6-30-10)
Program Year 2009	374	339
Program Year 2008	251	233
Program Year 2007	141	176

SPECIAL RESPONSE ACTUAL (11-30-09)	SPECIAL RESPONSE PLANNED (06-30-10)
214	299
-	-
-	-

ARRA ACTUAL (11-30-09)	ARRA PLANNED (6-30-10)
184	225
-	-
-	-

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	STANDARD	PY09 QUARTER 1	STATUS
Entered Employment	neg.	15.80%	EXCEED
Employment Retention	neg.	78.80%	EXCEED
Average Earnings Gained (6 mo.)	neg.	\$ 14,620.00	EXCEED
Employment and Credential	neg.	65.20%	Waived

*Service provider must be at 80% of the standard in order to meet that standard.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	STANDARD	PY08 QUARTER 1
Entered Employment	90.20%	92.00%
Employment Retention	95.70%	100.00%
Average Earnings (6 mo.)	\$ 14,400.00	\$ 13,476.00
Employment and Credential	77.60%	80.00%

*Service provider must be at 80% of the standard in order to meet that standard.

NOTES:

2009-10 Performance Standards are in negotiation process. See attached letter for our proposed standards.

This quarter's report seems to have some conflicting information. Calls were made to the State with no response.

GRANT STATUS	138 (10-31-09)	805 (10-31-09)	798 - SRR (10-31-09)	139 - ARRA (10-31-09)
Grant Period	7/08 - 6/10	7/09 - 6/11	7/09 - 6/10	2/09 - 6-10
Grant Available	\$ 568,823.00	\$ 332,064.00	\$ 253,949.00	\$ 364,472.00
Total Expenditures (total)	\$ 568,823.00	\$ 186,586.00	\$ 121,380.00	\$ 201,302.00
Total Expenditures (fiscal)	\$ 568,823.00	\$ 186,586.00	\$ 121,380.00	\$ 166,504.00
Grant BALANCE	-	\$ 145,478.00	\$ 132,569.00	\$ 163,170.00

DISABILITY PROGRAM NAVIGATOR REPORT

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contacts by County	November
Buffalo	
Crawford	
Jackson	
Juneau	
La Crosse	2
Monroe	
Trempealeau	
Vernon	
Others (outside WDA9)	1
Total Contacts	
PY08 Cumulative Contacts	

PROGRAM SUCCESS STORY

No story at this time.

GRANT STATUS	790/791/792 (10-31-09)	816 (10-31-09)
Grant Period	7/03 - 9/09	7/09 - 6/10
Grant Available	\$ 374,699.00	\$ 50,000.00
Total Expenditures (total)	\$ 373,689.00	\$ 827.00
Total Expenditures (fiscal)	\$ 12,104.00	\$ 827.00
Grant BALANCE	\$ 1,010.00	\$ 49,173.00