

Highlights from the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) Executive Committee Meeting

January 22, 2013, 8:00 a.m.

1520 Market St., Courthouse Conference Room, St. Louis, MO 63103

Executive Committee Members present: Len Toenjes, Ed Hamilton, Donny Carroll, Pat Coleman, Kevin Schaedler, Kathy Joslin, Lydia Padilla, and Jeff Taylor Ex Officio.

Technical Advisor: Kelley Bernardi.

WIB Director and LEO Designee: Michael Holmes.

SLATE staff: Frank Alaniz, Kim Neske, Sherry Vogel.

Len Toenjes, newly elected WIB Chair called the meeting to order and requested that all Board members tell what they would hope to get this year from the Executive Committee. What our biggest challenge is as the Executive Committee moves forward.

- Ed Hamilton is the labor liaison for the SLATE commission. Ed sees resurgent of activity on this Board. Our need is always greater than our ability to perform. We have to take a piece at a time. Hopes are to get things done. Ed is the representative of a hotel employees union that hires a lot of people but doesn't pay much. Retirement is good but to get there you have to work.
- Kathy Joslin is with Bethesda Health Group, she is the new kid on the executive committee so her expectations are open. But overall she looks at the group as being able to increase more people being employed. Bethesda is using the OJT program. Making people aware of what SLATE and the Workforce Investment Board does.
- Lydia Padilla is thanked by the Chair and Committee for being the interim chair and running the WIB for the last six months or so. Lydia's goal of what she would like to see is two parts. From feedback received from Board as members we get frustrated that there is a lot of government in what we do. There is also not a lot of change we can make. The law is the law. The budget is the budget there are a lot of parts that don't move it is the structure. The Board's only recourse would be to write letters when needed. Maybe separating some of the work that can really be done in the community and making a better impact in developing partnerships. Push programs through that we are doing and doing well.
- Kevin Schaedler, an owner of Habitata Building Products. Kevin doesn't have any expectations at this point this being his first meeting. SLATE has contributed so much to his company that they are pretty much a yes to anything. Habitata is willing to contribute in any way they can. No preconceived ideas of what the Executive Committee does. Habitata Building products is basically a building material supply company and Halcyon Shades was purchased from a former division brought back from Mexico. The shade is a green building product it is a heat reflecting shade you can see through it but it rejects 80%+ of the radiant heat coming into a business/home.
- Pat Coleman, has been with SLATE quite some time Pat's expectations is for the Exec Comm to continue what we do which is serve. Help people get work, training and development. Pat is the newly appointed President/CEO of Behavioral Health Response, Inc. known as BHR. We are the crisis access for the eastern region. Crisis hotline 24/7 and main goal is to divert people from hospitals. Really big on mental health first aid. Looking forward to working with the Exec Comm.
- Jeffrey Taylor, Ex Officio, a business community liaison for the St. Louis Job Corp Center. We are an employment training program under the DOL. Currently have about 600 students. Training in 15 different career fields. Ages 16 and 24 or disability upon entry. It is strictly income based. Looks forward to coordinating and use the St. Louis Job Corp Center as an asset for the community. Career paths are CNA, CMA, pharmacy tech, material handling, two culinary sections, homeland security,

retail sales, office administrative, brick laying, welding, painting, carpentry, plastering, cement, building/apartment maintenance, and transportation communication.

- Len Toenjes, has been involved with SLATE for many years, President of Associated General Contractors (AGC), does association work for large commercial contractors in town, we provide governmental advocacy, training, social and networking opportunities; and professional development. AGC works with apprenticeship programs for the construction trades. Len was also on the State Council for Vocational Education. Len came from the training side of things, School to Work Transition board, currently on the Missouri State Workforce Investment Board. It is an honor to serve as chair.

Len stated we have our mission on the agenda to develop a quality workforce that meets the economic and labor market needs of the region by providing leadership and promoting collaboration among public, private and elected official partners.

Len believes the keys works are **leadership and collaboration**. This is really where we are trying to go as a board; within the parameters stated by Lydia. We need to understand what SLATE's capacity is. We need to understand as a group where the boundaries are and bring into our discussions. Convey our own personal knowledge of our industries. Thirdly Len thinks we need to understand what the conflicts of interest are and make sure we are all doing the right thing as a Board. Including not taking advantage personally of anything we are learning here at the Board.

Budget report...Kim stated they are always trying to find a fine line between spending as much as the State requires us to without overspending. Hard to plan out when you have to spend 80% and 85% respectfully of the different pots. Budgets will be sent out before the meetings for members to review. A question was asked "what percent of this budget in broad numbers are the percent of youth, adult, and dislocated youth. Kim will include this in reports along with what concerns of spending should the Executive Committee be apprehensive; red and yellow are concerns. Kim stated that sometimes it looks like a non-expenditure but has been expended but has not shown up from the comptroller's office yet.

WIB by-Laws... A process did come forward by having a nominating committee. Time frame of the election of officers is off according to the make up of the by-laws. It is in the by-laws when the elections should happen we just have to make sure we stay on track. Between now and the next meeting Ed, Herman, and Len will take another look at that policy to make sure that it is in alignment with the by-laws; flows well. Discussion was held of who should be on the Executive Committee; suggested chairs of committees are on Executive Committee and previous chair to remain on Executive Committee for one year following elections. Kelley to draft some proposed language and bring to the next meeting. Nominating committee could be a task force.

EUC...(Extended/Emergency Unemployment Compensation) Congress agreed in December that those that were on extended benefits ended December 29th. Congress came back January 14th and stated it would start up again for a year. Congress dictates to us by federal law what we are going to do. Review of the PO-84 report showing how benefits can be cut. SLATE/CWE had to hire six part-time employees to work on this program exclusively.

Kelley reported that in the week of January 14th the local plan was submitted to the State of Missouri.

- A local plan is due to the State every five years. Every year in between the plan needs to be modified. Kelley and some others write and put the plan together. A link to the Local Plan will be sent to all Board Members; link is also on WEB site. If you want to know how SLATE operates this is our bible.

- The State has to do a local plan for the Feds.

Updates on Reports.

- The performance has not changed since the December WIB Meeting which was as of December 9th. We wait on the State to send these performance measures.

Outreach reported by Frank Alaniz.

- Very strong outreach to the community through Show Me Hero's: Missouri's program for engaging employers/veterans. This program has been presented around the area and the Conference of Mayors.
- Our Bounce Back Group which is one our vendors has had two events.
- Last week our Nitty Gritty series which is a workshop for professionals had 58 participants. We are currently collaborating with Kansas City to do a program there with 35 employers to get their engagement and involvement; will be going to other locations to complete our outreach.
- We are gearing up for military downsizing. ½ million nationwide within the next three years. Probably have partnered with a dozen programs also partnered with Webster University; taking to every educational institution statewide.
- No ear marked money for vets put there are pots for OJT (On the job training) \$50,000. Wegner Peyser funds are serving veterans too.
- Key indicators are the Board's dash board. Basically created by the Executive Committee. Shows in a snapshot what is happening at SLATE/CWE.

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- Mr. Holmes reported that at the February WIB meeting Roger Baugher, our statistician for the State, will go over performance. The Board can really get an understanding about what these reports mean and how we are govern by these reports.
 - Kelley reported RFP's (request for proposals) for all of our staffing contracts are up for bid this year. The RFP committee will be resurrected. The staffing contracts will be for Business Service, Next Generation Career Center (NGCC), Youth Services Staffing, Missouri Work Assistance (MAW) (TANF) program. Review and rating the contracts helps you learn about vendors participating. Great idea to have Board members on the sub-committees reviewing the RFP's linked to their committees.
 - Len asked about Blue Ribbon Communities. Rural communities want to market for Economic Development it has been lead by Chambers of Commerce, Community Colleges, the WIBs are part been a part but not leaders. RCGA would have to coordinate the whole region. We are participating by learning and trying to see what the advantages are. Len feels we should be aware of it. Might be informative when talking to business to relocate to the St. Louis area.

Ed Hamilton made a motion to adjourn. Donny Carroll seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:28 am.

Next WIB meeting February 20, 2013, 8:00 am at CWE.

Next WIB Executive Committee meeting March 20, 2013.