

MINUTES
CITY OF ST. LOUIS
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD MEETING
October 16, 2013
SLATE Missouri Career Center – Central West End

Members Present: Kelley Bernardi, Donny Carroll, Kevin Schaedler, Katherine Joslin, Rhonda Garrett, Michael Walter, Lydia Padilla, Ed Hamilton, Gregory Hill, Steve Johnson, Cheryl Lovell, Timothy Murrell, John Reed, Jane Kerlagon, Robert Wasserman, John Beatty, Lynn Beauchaine, Jeff Cartnal, Pat Coleman, Michelle Darden, Eddie Davis and James Skain.

Michael Holmes, WIB Director and LEO Designee.

Members Apologies Sent: Herman Noah, Sherry Lappe, Frank Lamm Jr., Jerry Sagona, David Walker Jr., Patrick Bannister, Jeather Smith, Leonard Toenjes, Mick Williams, Darryl Chatman, Cindy Hess and Russell Illy.

Not Present: Reginald Young

SLATE Staff: Kim Neske, Frank Alaniz and Martin Payne.

Guests: Jeffrey Taylor, Job Corps.

Pat Coleman called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the SLATE Missouri Career Center-Central West End, 4811 Delmar.

- WIB Introductions: Roll call completed.
- Consent Agenda: Questions and/or discussions, additions, changes to the August 21, 2013 (Full Board) meeting minutes as written, September 18, 2013, Executive Committee highlights included were deferred until the next full board meeting of December 11, 2013.
- Updates on Current Activities: Mr. Holmes explained that because of the government shutdown on October 1st, SLATE had to furlough some staff. He said at this point the center is not able to do any WIA adult or dislocated worker funded service. WIA Youth, construction programs and EUC do continue. He went on to explain that if the debt ceiling agreement isn't reached, SLATE would be okay for operations until November 9th/11th. After that, will have to go back to look at budget and see what can be done. Also, on September 30th, SLATE did receive a grant of \$300,000+ through the Department of Justice to work with youth. John Reed asked how much of the staff was affected. Mr. Holmes and Kelley explained it was a cut over each section: business services, skills team, jobs team, fiscal, grants/communications, WIB/data. Pat asked how many total and was told 13 people total furloughed. James Skain also noted that due to the number of federal employees being laid off, the Department of Employment Security has extended their hours of operation. He said that there is a 3rd tier of unemployment insurance as well.

Regarding the Central West End location: Mr. Holmes said at the next board meeting should know something definite. Lydia asked what were the steps or the delays to closing. Mr. Holmes said it's a state owned building and the staff that are there are assigned to only work there. He said the state would have to reassign. Mr. Holmes asked that the building be put on special session to discuss closing, but it was not.

Mr. Holmes also discussed two awards that were recently awarded to SLATE staff, Martin Payne and Frank Alaniz. Both awards were for working with veterans through outreach programs. Martin received from the Employee Support of the Guard and Reserve the Above and Beyond Award. Frank received the Seven Seals Award for Leadership and Initiative in support of Men and Women who serve America in the National Guard.

- Overview of Budget: Mr. Holmes said there's really nothing to add about the budget until the government makes a decision regarding the default deadline.
- Other Updates: Pre-apprenticeship project: In the St. Louis region there are 23 unions and SLATE is working to meet with each individually. So far 7 have been met with. He said SLATE did have a meeting with all the pre-apprenticeship programs. Mr. Holmes said they are trying to get those programs to be "feeders" for the union programs. Rob Wasserman asked what is the #1 reason people are not following through with the Union applications. Mr. Holmes sited the reason he has been given by the unions is work ethics. Lydia questioned why put so much staff effort and time if another reason is the background and drug test not being passed. If the unions can't solve the issue, how can SLATE. Mr. Holmes said we just have to do it. We have to see why there isn't more diversity. Lydia also stated as a board member she would like to see the efforts being put in, metrics and outcomes, how to improve, etc. Rob stated that the work ethics isn't a localized issued. Mr. Holmes said in working with the pre-apprenticeship programs, the question is if the individuals aren't being fed into the union programs then why. Rhonda Garrett asked if we could get demographic data. Mr. Holmes said the unions keep that and we have been working with PRIDE. Mike Walter stated that SLATE shouldn't give up on their efforts. SLATE will essentially save the unions money by doing the pre-evaluations. It would also be a win for SLATE because they would be getting individuals into jobs with a union. Eddie Davis suggested that Mr. Holmes get in touch with the St. Louis Council of Construction Consumers. Rhonda said that we do need to build strategies to find out what attracts people to the union.

The motion to adjourn the WIB meeting was made by Rhonda Garrett, with Lydia Padilla seconding the motion. All board members were in favor, motion carried. The meeting ended at 9:10 am. Next meeting is December 11, 2013 at 8:00 am.

Signed,



..... **Donny J. Carroll, WIB Secretary**

..... **February 19, 2014**

Date